



27<sup>th</sup> January 2023

VL/PBR 1/2023

## **UK DUS and VCU trial work.**

Dear applicant,

Due to pressure on public sector resources and an unprecedented number of DUS vegetable applications received by SASA for Year 1 testing in 2023, Year 1 DUS testing at SASA will not be available for the following crop species in 2023: broad bean, carrot, celery, onion, parsnip, radish, runner bean, shallot, turnip, beetroot, sprouting broccoli/calabrese, Brussels sprout, celeriac, kale, leek, and watercress. We ask for your understanding as we make every effort to prevent impacts on the sector.

Exceptionally for candidates entered this year from these species for Year 1 DUS testing, the Animal and Plant Health Agency will purchase DUS reports from CPVO-entrusted centres, where available and where applicants have indicated they are content for this to happen on the application form. Applicants affected will be charged the appropriate fee.

Applicants with candidates for this year which are not currently submitted to the CPVO will be contacted by APHA to discuss alternative arrangements. If testing needs to be commissioned, and this costs more than at SASA, SASA may be able to cover additional costs.

The purchase of DUS reports for these vegetable species entered for Year 1 testing in 2023 is an exceptional measure designed to mitigate impacts on the sector in the short term. The Plant Varieties and Seeds Committee, while prioritising arrangements for the current season, will confirm arrangements for the 2024 season as quickly as possible.

Year 1 DUS testing for other crops, DUS testing for all crops in Year 2 and Year 3, and VCU testing are all unaffected.

Please do not hesitate to contact APHA ([pvs.helpdesk@apha.gov.uk](mailto:pvs.helpdesk@apha.gov.uk)) with any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Michael

Michel Brown,  
Head of Plant Varieties and Seeds.