

Last updated: July 20, 2019

©MD & ILS

APPENDIX H

Glossary of Abbreviations and Terms

This glossary has been adapted from the Glossary of the ICNCP (9th edition, 2016).

For glossaries providing greater detail see:

Hawksworth, D. L. (ed.), *A draft glossary of terms used in bionomenclature*, IUBS Monograph No. 9, International Union of Biological Sciences, Paris, 1994.

Kiger, R.W., and D.M. Porter, *Categorical Glossary for the Flora of North America Project* (2001),

<http://huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu/HIBD/Departments/DB-INTRO/IntroFNA.shtml> [May 11, 2008].

accepted name

the earliest name for a cultivar, Group, grex, or graft-chimaeric genus that must be adopted except in specified circumstances (ICNCP Art. 11.1)

addition sign (+)

in nomenclature, the symbol used to indicate a graft-chimaera.

Article

a specific element of a Code which must be followed.

author

the individual to whom a name or publication is attributed.

author abbreviation

an abbreviation of the name of an author used in an author citation. For names governed by the ICN these are standardized (see www.ipni.org/ipni/authorsearchpage.do).

ca

circa; at, in, or of approximately.

chimera (or chimaera)

an individual composed of two or more genetically different tissues in intimate association (ICNCP Art. 2.10 & Art. 5). See also: **graft-chimaera**, **mutation-chimaera**

clone

two or more individuals, originally derived from one plant by asexual propagation, which remain genetically identical (ICNCP Art. 2.5).

clonotype - See: **ortet**

Code

one of the international codes of nomenclature, generally referring to its most recent edition.

code-name

an epithet that is not readily understandable that is made up of a sequence of connected letters and/or numerals (ICNCP Art. 21.25).

cognomen - (plural: **cognomina** or **cognomens**)

("name known by" in English) a distinguishing nickname or epithet, including numbers or not, acquired through usage over a period, used to label material of uncertain identity.

colchicine

an alkaloid (C₂₂H₂₅O₆N) obtained from *Colchicum autumnale* L. which influences mitosis and tissue metabolism.

commercial synonym - See: **trade designation****COPF**

Canadian Ornamental Plant Foundation - See Appendix E, Introduction, footnote.

cross

to hybridize one plant with another (verb); the product of hybridization (noun).

cultivar

an assemblage of plants that has been selected for a particular character or combination of characters and that is clearly distinct, uniform, and stable in these characters and that when propagated by appropriate means retains those characters (ICNCP Art. 2.3).

cultivar epithet

the defining part of a name that denotes the cultivar, usually following a genus name, a binary combination or the common name equivalent.

cultivar group

a taxon of cultivated plants that denotes an assemblage of similar named cultivars.

cultivated plants

a deliberately selected plant that may have arisen by intentional or accidental hybridization in cultivation, by selection from existing cultivated stocks, or from variants within wild populations that is maintained as a recognizable entity solely by continued propagation or from genetically modified plants.

culton (plural: **culta**)

a systematic group of cultivated plants, which is based upon one or more user criteria: a term equivalent to taxon but based on a classification philosophy different from that used for taxa in general.

denomination class (cultivar class)

the assemblage of taxa in which cultivar, Group and grex epithets may not be duplicated except in special circumstances (ICNCP Art. 6.1). This is not recognized as a formal category under the ICNCP.

diacritical mark

a sign such as an accent or dieresis connected with a letter, used to indicate correct pronunciation.

DUS

the criteria of Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability by which a new cultivar is tested for statutory purposes such as for the granting of Plant Breeders' Rights or the addition to a National List.

endemic

restricted to a certain region, or part of a region.

ephemeral

of publications, those not intended for long-term reference, such as newspapers and advertisements, which usually become obsolete soon after they are issued.

epithet

the final word, combination of words or element in a name that denotes an individual taxon. See also: **cultivar epithet**

established name

one that meets the criteria laid out in the ICNCP (Art. 27)

establishment

a prime principle of nomenclature whereby certain criteria must have been fulfilled before an epithet is considered acceptable for use (ICNCP Art. 27).

extant

of a taxon, having living representatives.

extinct

of a taxon, having no living representatives.

family (*familia*)

the principal category in the nomenclatural hierarchy between order and genus (ICN Art. 3.1).

form (*forma*)

the principal category in the botanical nomenclatural hierarchy below the rank of variety (ICN Art. 4.1).

genotype

the genetic make-up of an individual or population.

genus (*genus*)

the principal category in the nomenclatural hierarchy between family and species.

Gp

standard contraction for Group.

graft-chimera

a plant consisting of tissue from two or more different taxa in intimate association, originated by grafting (ICNCP Art. 2.10 & Art. 5.1).

graft-hybrid - See: **graft-chimera**.

grafting

the (usually deliberate) fusion of tissues from two or more different plants.

Group

a formal category denoting an assemblage of cultivars, individual plants, or assemblages of plants on the basis of defined similarity (ICNCP Art. 3.1).

hierarchy: see: **nomenclatural hierarchy**

hose-in-hose double

lilac florets where there are two or more corollas but fully functional reproductive parts.

hybrid

the result of a cross between differing plants or taxa. See also: **natural hybrid** and **artificial hybrid**

hybrid binomen

a collective name covering all the progeny of a particular nothospecies.

hybrid formula

the names of the parent taxa of a hybrid linked with a multiplication sign (×).

ICBN – obsolete; meant **International Code of Botanical Nomenclature**; see ICN

ICN - See: **International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants**

ICNCP - See: **International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants**

ICRA - See: **International Cultivar Registration Authority**

ILS - See: **International Lilac Society**

indigenous

growing naturally in a given region.

inflorescence

the basic architectural unit of the flower-producing portion of a plant.

in litt.

in litteris - in a letter (also: personal communication).

International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (Botanical Code or *ICBN*)

Obsolete; the former book containing the international set of rules that provides for the formation and use of the scientific names of plants in Latin. Now termed the ICN.

International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants (ICN)

the set of international rules that provides for the formation and use of the scientific names in Latin of organisms treated as algae, fungi or plants (<http://www.iapt-taxon.org/nomen/main.php>).

International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (Cultivated Plant Code or *ICNCP*)

the book containing the international set of rules that provides for the formation and use of the scientific names of cultivated plants using either Latin or fancy names.

International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants

a body promoted by the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS) that formulates the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (ICNCP).

International Lilac Society (ILS)

publisher of: *Newsletter, Lilacs - Proceedings, Lilacs - Quarterly Journal, and Pipeline.*

International Registrar

the person appointed by an International Cultivar Registration Authority to carry out registration activity on its behalf.

International Cultivar Registration Authority (ICRA)

the organization appointed by the ISHS International Commission for Nomenclature and Registration as being responsible for registering cultivar and cultivar-group epithets within defined taxa.

International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS)

the organization (a scientific member of the International Union of Biological Sciences) established to promote the science of horticulture.

International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS)

an organization promoted by UNESCO to promote all disciplines within life science.

intraspecific

pertaining to the progeny of two or more individuals of the same species.

introducer

of a cultivar, the person who first distributes the cultivar.

IUBS - See: International Union of Biological Sciences

multipetaled – See: radial double

multiplication sign (×)

in nomenclature, the symbol used to indicate a hybrid.

mutation (also, see: sport)

a spontaneous or engineered change in the genotype which may alter the phenotype.

name

in the sense of a Code, one that is established or validly published under the rules whether or not it is an accepted or correct name. See also: epithet

nomen dubium

a name of unknown or doubtful application

nomenclatural hierarchy

the categories of taxa arranged in order according to their rank. Under the ICN a lower taxon cannot belong to more than one taxon in the rank above; however, the ICNCP does allow for the inclusion of a cultivar in more than one Group in contrast to the principle of strict inclusivity enshrined in the ICN.

nomenclatural standard (standard)

a specimen, printed photograph or other illustration to which the name of a cultivar or Group is permanently attached.

nomenclatural type (type)

the type of a name at the rank of species or below is a specimen, or in some cases an illustration, to which the name of a taxon is permanently attached. The nomenclatural type is not necessarily the most typical or representative element of a taxon (ICN Art. 7.2). The type of a name above the rank of species is the name of a taxon at the next principal rank below.

nomenclature

a system of names and provisions for their formation and use.

nomen nudum

a "name only", i.e. published without a description, diagnosis or illustration.

non-statutory registration

approval and publication of plant names by any organization, agency, or individual entrusted with this duty. See also: ICRA

non visi

not seen, not observed

notho

used as a prefix, from *nothos*, Greek for hybrid.

nothospecies

a name at species level for a hybrid between two or more species, customarily preceded by a multiplication sign (×).

nothotaxon

a taxon resulting from hybridization between two or more different taxa. examples include nothogenus and nothospecies; infraspecific nothotaxa are also described.

original spelling

the spelling employed when a name was established.

originator

of a cultivar, the breeder, hybridizer, raiser or discoverer who recognizes the potential attributes of a plant or group of plants.

ortet

the original single plant from which a clone ultimately derives (the term **clonotype** has been used occasionally in North America) (See also "ramet").

orthographic error

an unintentional error in spelling or use of characters.

phenotype

the sum of all the characteristics of an individual plant: the physical expression of the genotype.

Plant Breeders' Rights (PBR)

the are intellectual property rights granted to the breeder of a new variety of plant, also known as Plant Variety Rights (PVR).

plant patent

a grant of right, available in certain countries, which provides a means of control over a new plant's propagation and sale for a given period.

PLPBR

the statutory plant registration authority in Poland.

polyploid

having more than two sets of chromosomes. Examples include triploid (3 sets), tetraploid (4 sets), pentaploid (5 sets), hexaploid (6 sets) and decaploid (10 sets).

provenance

the known geographic origin of plants or seeds. Used by foresters to describe worthwhile selections from indigenous populations, and in plant conservation.

® - See: **registered trademark**

rachis (or rhachis; plural rachides or rachises)

axis bearing flowers or leaflets.

radial double

lilac florets that have more than the basic number of corolla lobes and fully functional reproductive parts; also referred to as multipetaled.

ramet

an individual member of a clone (See also “ortet”).

registered name

one which is submitted to an ICRA for registration, meets the requirements of the ICNCP and is published by the Registrar (ICNCP Division IV.1 Note 1).

registered trademark

a trademark which has been formally accepted by a statutory trademark authority, distinguished by the international symbol ®. See also: **trademark**

registration

the act of recording a new name or epithet by a registration authority.

See also: **non-statutory registration** and **statutory registration**.

reject

to set aside a name of a taxon in favor of another.

rejected name

one that is not to be used either as a result of failure to comply with certain Rules (ICNCP Art. 31.1) or by ruling of the International Commission for Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants and formally listed in ICNCP Appendix VI.

rootstock or **understock**

the living material upon which a scion is grafted.

rules

regulations (often set out as Articles) in a *Code* which must be followed.

scientific name

the name of a taxon formed and maintained under the rules of the international codes of nomenclature.

scion

the vegetative bud or shoot containing buds that is used for grafting.

Series

a device usually used to associate a number of cultivars. They may differ from each other only in one character, often flower colour.

series

a category in the botanical nomenclatural hierarchy between the rank of genus and species (ICN Art. 4.1).

species (singular and plural)

the basic category in the nomenclatural hierarchy.

sport

an apparent mutation which has occurred on part of a plant.

staminode double

lilac florets where reproductive parts turned petaloid in some degree, but only one corolla.

starting point

the date on which establishment of names in a particular taxon begins.

statutory epithet

an epithet recognized and listed by a statutory plant registration authority.

statutory plant registration authority (SPRA)

an organization established by legal enactment of a particular country or by a legal treaty between countries entrusted with the task of establishing plant variety denominations in relation to Plant Breeders' Rights.

statutory registration

approval and listing by a statutory plant registration authority.

subspecies (subsp.)

the category in the nomenclatural hierarchy between species (*species*) and variety (*varietas*).

synonym (syn.)

an established (validly published) name for a particular taxon that is not the accepted (correct) name (ICNCP Art. 11.2).

synonymy (syn.)

a list of names considered to apply to a given taxon other than its accepted name.

taxon (plural: **taxa**)

a group into which a number of similar organisms may be classified.

taxonomy

the study of the general principles of scientific classification.

TM - See: **trademark**

thyrse (plural: thyrses)

a type of inflorescence in which an elongate, indeterminate main axis bearing numerous lateral branches, each the principal axis of a cymose subdivision; the typical inflorescence of lilac and horse chestnut.

topovariant

a distinguishable group of plants grown from seed from a given provenance (ICNCP Art. 2.13).

trade designation (formerly: commercial synonym)

a device that is used to market a plant in place of, or in addition to, an accepted or adopted name (ICNCP Art. 13.1).

trademark

any sign (usually made from words, letters, numbers or other devices such as logotypes) that individualizes the goods of a given enterprise and distinguishes them from the goods of its competitors. Trademarks established by usage are often distinguished by the international symbol TM. See also: **registered trademark**

translation

the rendering of words from one language to another.

transliteration

the rendering of words in one alphabetic script to another alphabetic script.

transcription

to copy verbatim from one written work to another; the rendering in written form of sounds of human speech, especially of languages employing non-alphabetic or phonetic characters.

typographical error

an error introduced by a printer.

UNESCO

the acronym for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

valid publication - See: **establishment****validly published epithet/name** - See: **epithet/name****variety**

term used in some national and international legislation for a clearly distinguishable taxon below the rank of species; generally, in legislative texts, a term equivalent to cultivar. See also: cultivar and variety (*varietas*)

variety (*varietas*, *var.*)

the principal category in the botanical nomenclatural hierarchy between species and form (*forma*).