

PIAF

Planning-, Information- and Analysis-System for Field Trials

GREGOR ZINK UND HARALD SCHLÜTER
pro_Plant GmbH, Münster

Abstract

PIAF is a program system for the administration of arbitrary factorial trials in the fields of crop farming and plant protection.

The development of PIAF is based upon a model project of the BML (Federal Ministry for Agriculture of Germany) that was carried out by the Institute of Agrarinformatik at the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Muenster, together with representatives of individual states of Germany and the BSA (Bundessortenamt). In the context of this model, a standard analysis system for the analysis of single and serial trials was developed.

In phase II of the project, a planning and data recording module will be developed. Contained in this module, are interfaces to the industry and the BSA, reporting capabilities and an analysis module for simple standard trials. The PIAF database contains codes and standards on the basis of the EPPO guidelines and the specifications of the BSA. Phase II is to be concluded in September 1999.

In phase III, the analysis system PIAF 1.1, developed in the model project, will be coupled with the planning and data recording program. Beyond this, a scheduling module on the basis of SAS, an interface for mobile data recording and a module for the harmonization and administration of analysis series will be developed.

The central module of PIAF is the planning and data recording program and the underlying database. Data can be imported, for example, from mobile data recording and exported via interfaces into other systems. In the area of analysis, emphasis was put on the interface to SAS. With the help of PIAF, SAS datasets for single and serial trials can be produced, which can then also be analysed using custom analysis routines.