

## ACAN - Evaluating Breeding Wheat and Oat Lines

### **BACKGROUND :**

Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) desires to develop early maturing oat cultivars suitable for production in the eastern rust-prone areas of the prairies and early maturing spring wheat cultivars suitable for production in the Peace River and Parkland production areas of Western Canada. AAFC is a Cooperative Test Coordinator with the Prairie Recommending Committee for Oat and Barley and coordinates the evaluation of candidate oat cultivars and wheat cultivars in a series of cooperative pre-registration trials.

AAFC requires candidate early maturing oat cultivar lines (Oat Lines) and early maturing spring wheat cultivar lines (Wheat Lines) grown and evaluated at the Dawson Creek and/or Fort St. John, British Columbia locations as part of the cooperative pre-registration trials and AAFC Parkland wheat breeding program. Collaboration with the BC Grain Producers Association (BCGPA) at the Dawson Creek and Fort St. John, British Columbia sites is essential because the BCGPA has the location access and equipment, as well as the scientific and technical resources to perform the work according to AAFC work plan and protocol. The Dawson Creek and Fort St. John locations are important because they provide the extremely short growing season required for breeding wheat and oat varieties adapted to the Parkland and Peace River production areas.

### **REQUIREMENT:**

Provide land requirements (test plots as well as well properly maintained and drained land), equipment and scientific and technical resources to perform the work as specified by the AAFC Project Authorities.

Plant the seed as early as possible as per specified trial design outlined by the AAFC Project Authority, in a fashion acceptable to standard agricultural and research practices. This includes fertilizing of each plot as needed at planting via deep banding of granular fertilizer if considered needed by the Contractor's Manager via experience and/or soil tests. Variance from protocols by the Contractor shall be done in consultation with the AAFC Project Authority.

Sow, manage (including but not limited to application of weed, bird and insect control), and identifying plots (with stakes or loop labels) throughout the growing season. On a case by case basis, the contractor shall provide and apply fungicides, if and where requested by the AAFC Project Authority, for the control of foliar and seed borne diseases. These applications should be timed so as not to interfere with the selection for genetic resistance to diseases of economic interest.

Provide AAFC staff round-the-clock, 7-day access to the nursery site if requested.

Ensure the security of AAFC nurseries against acts of theft or vandalism.

Evaluate the plots in season as requested by AAFC Project Authority. Evaluation will include observations regarding heading date, maturity, height and lodging.

Harvest plots in a timely manner when crop is ripe using well maintained harvest equipment taking care to minimize harvest losses and/or mistakes, and as weather at harvest permits.

Weigh and record plot yields and return such data to AAFC Brandon Research Centre along with other data recorded in season, as soon as practical for post-harvest analysis by the AAFC Project Authority.

Retain all harvested/collected grain until the end of February of each crop year as requested by the AAFC Project Authorities and if requested, forward the seed from the entire trial or part of the trial to the Brandon Research Centre (BRC) in accordance with instructions specified. At the end of February, ensure all material not selected for harvest by AAFC in AAFC nurseries (not returned to the BRC) is not used for further unauthorized multiplication and is disposed of by either a) working into the soil and fallowing to destroy volunteer plants or b) harvest and disposal by use in animal feed rations or by incineration. The Contractor shall retain the salvage value of seed harvested and disposed of by use as animal feed.

Provide AAFC-BRC with a report on activities by November 15 of each crop year. Report will include information on disease resistance, heading date, maturity, height, lodging and yield for its early maturing oat and wheat cultivars and/or lines. The report shall also include dates of receipt of seed, dates of planting, dates of other field operations, other data listed above or any other data, if requested by the AAFC Project Authority.

**CONTRACT PERIOD :**

The contract period will be from April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016.

Estimated Value : \$ 70,000.00 (Plus Taxes)

**PROPOSED CONTRACTOR :**

B.C. Grain Producers Association  
401 114 Ave  
Dawson Creek, BC  
V1G 2Z7

## **SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION :**

There is no other company in the area that can provide these resources and the required standard of service. BCGPA is the only supplier in the area that can provide the test locations, the small plot research equipment, as well as the scientific and technical expertise to perform the work according to AAFC work plan and protocol.

AAFC requires early maturing spring wheat cultivar lines and early maturing oat cultivar lines grown and evaluated at the Dawson Creek and/or Fort St. John, British Columbia locations as part of the Cooperative Pre-registration Trials and AAFC Parkland Wheat Breeding Program. Collaboration with the BCGPA at the Dawson Creek and Fort St. John British Columbia sites is essential because the BCGPA is the only supplier in the immediate area that can provide the test locations, the small plot research equipment, as well as the scientific and technical expertise to perform the work according to AAFC work plan and protocol.

There is a possibility for a contract requirement in 2016 – 2017, however we are investigating eventually moving these plots to the AAFC experimental farm at Beaverlodge if staffing and funding allows it.

## **ACAN NOTICE :**

You are hereby notified that the government intends to negotiate with one firm only as identified above. Should you have any questions concerning this requirement, contact the Contracting Authority.

An Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) allows departments and agencies to post a notice, for no less than fifteen (15) calendar days, indicating to the supplier community that it intends to award a good, service or construction contract to a pre-identified contractor. If no other supplier submits, on or before the closing date, a Statement of Capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, the Contracting Authority may then proceed with the award. However, should a Statement of Capabilities be found to meet the requirements set out in the ACAN, then the Contracting Authority will proceed to a full tendering process.

### **Inquiries on Submission of Statement of Capabilities**

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the services/goods described herein, may submit a statement of capabilities in writing, either via letter, facsimile or Email to the contact person identified in this Notice on or before the closing date of this notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

The Solicitation Number, Name of Contracting Authority and closing date of the ACAN must appear within your Statement of Capabilities in block letters.

The Crown retains the right to negotiate with suppliers on any procurement.