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**ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE: (ACAN) # 01B68-19-0052**

The Department of Agriculture and Agri-food Canada (AAFC) has a requirement for the conduct of research field trials to determine the residue of pesticides in crops under the requirements of Good Laboratory Practices (GLP), located in residue zone 7A (southern Alberta).

The purpose of this Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) is to signal the government's intention to award a contract for these services to Ag-Quest Inc., Box 144, Minto, MB R0K 1M0.

Before awarding a contract, however, the government provides other suppliers with the opportunity to demonstrate that they are capable of satisfying the requirements set out in this Notice, by submitting a statement of capabilities during the fifteen calendar day posting period.

If other potential suppliers submit a statement of capabilities during the fifteen calendar day posting period that meet the requirements set out in the ACAN, the government will proceed to a full tendering process on either the government's electronic tendering service or through traditional means, in order to award the contract.

If no other supplier submits, on or before the closing date, a statement of capabilities meeting the requirements set out in the ACAN, a contract will be awarded to the pre-selected supplier.

**OBJECTIVE**

To conduct Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) research field trials to determine the residue of pesticides in crops.

**SCOPE OF WORK**

- The designated trials must be conducted in Residue Zone 7A (southern Alberta).
- The contractor must conduct the specified trials in compliance with GLP and follow the trial specific study protocol provided by AAFC.
- Quality Assurance (QA) must be provided for each trial, including critical phase and Raw Data Field Notebook (RDFN) audits.
- Crop samples collected from each trial are to be shipped to an identified GLP compliant laboratory.

**ESTIMATE OF COSTS**

Contract will commence at contract award to March 31, 2020 with two(2) option years. The estimated value of the contract is \$500,000 (taxes included) for all contract periods, if exercised.

2019-2020	\$200,000
Option period#1	\$150,000
Option period#2	\$150,000

**MINIMUM ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that it has the capacity to provide the same services listed in the support plan listed above; and

- Proof of GLP accreditation by the Standards Council of Canada; and

- Field site located within Residue Zone 7A (as designated by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency).

### **GOVERNMENT OF CANADA REGULATIONS EXCEPTION**

The Treasury Board's Government Contract Regulations, Part 10.2.1 Section 6 states there are four exceptions that permit the contracting authority to set aside the requirement to solicit bids. This includes:

- d. "only one supplier person or firm is capable of performing the contract."

### **LIMITED TENDERING PROVISIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TRADE AGREEMENTS**

The North American Free Trade Agreement, the World Trade Organization - Agreement on Government Procurement, and the Agreement on Internal Trade permit the contracting authority to set aside the requirement to solicit bids under the following condition:

- b) "For works of art, reasons connected with protecting patents, copyrights, other exclusive rights, or proprietary information or where there is an absence for technical reasons, the goods or services can be supplied by a particular supplier and no reasonable alternative or substitute exists"

### **JUSTIFICATION FOR THE PRE-SELECTED SUPPLIER**

Ag-Quest Inc., is the only contractor capable of performing the contract. Contractors must be recognized by the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) as compliant with OECD Good Laboratory Practices (GLP) to conduct field research trials for the determination of pesticide residues and be able to conduct the required trials within the North American Crop Field Trial Region 7A, as specified by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency.

### **SUPPLIERS RIGHT TO SUBMIT A STATEMENT OF CAPABILITIES**

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to meet the specified requirements may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the Contracting Authority 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 closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is April 26, 2019 at 2:00 p.m**

Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be directed via email to:

**Email:** [andre.gravelle@canada.ca](mailto:andre.gravelle@canada.ca)

Statements of capabilities must be sent on or before the closing date/time. Statement of capabilities received on or before the closing date will be considered solely for the purpose of deciding whether or not to conduct a more extensive tendering process. Information provided will be used by the Crown for technical evaluation purposes only with respect to a decision to proceed to a further competitive process.

Suppliers that have submitted a statement of capabilities will be notified in writing of AAFC's decision to proceed to award the contract without a further additional tendering process.

Should you have any questions concerning this requirement, contact the contracting officer identified above. The AAFC file number, the contracting officer's name and the closing date of the ACAN must appear on the outside of the envelope in block letters or, in the case of facsimile transmission, on the covering page.

The Crown retains the right to negotiate with suppliers on any procurement. Documents may be submitted in either official language of Canada.