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ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE: (ACAN) # 01B68-19-0150

The crop profiles are web-based documents that provide crop production and pest management information for a specified crop or crops. National in scope, they identify gaps in pest management and issues faced by Canadian growers. This information is time-sensitive and crop profiles must be updated every three years to ensure that growers, grower groups, provinces, industries and government agencies have up-to-date information to make strategic decisions.

The collection of pest management data and grower issues is required to update 21 horticultural crop profiles. Under this contract, data will be collected to update 6 to 8 profiles / year that will complete the next cycle of updates (2020 - 2023) for the horticultural crop profiles. Work of this nature is conducted on a continual 3 year basis; this will be the fourth cycle of updates for the crop profiles.

OBJECTIVES

- To collect Canadian crop pest and pest management data for 24 pre-selected horticultural crops (outlined in Annex A) on a provincial and national basis
- To compile national crop pest management / pesticide risk reduction issues for each of the horticultural crops
- To coordinate industry review of crop production information in each profile
- To provide the above information and data to AAFC-PMC in required format to facilitate the updating of 21 national horticultural crop profiles covering 24 crops

SCOPE OF WORK

The contractor will:

- Coordinate the collection of data from key provinces of production for each of 6 to 8 horticultural crops per year as specified by AAFC-PMC: crops, provinces for each crop and years for data collection are outlined in Annex A of this document;
- Identify and engage individuals knowledgeable in pest management in crop producing provinces who will serve as provincial coordinators for data collection for each crop (a data collection system, customized by crop, will be provided by AAFC-PMC for the collection of the required data);
- Liaise with provincial coordinators to ensure:
 - consultations with a sufficient number of key individuals knowledgeable about crop production and pest management are conducted in each pre-selected reporting province;
- Coordinate project financial resources to facilitate consultation and data collection in producing provinces;
- Submit data for all crops and required provinces to the AAFC-PMC Project Authority;
- Designate a provincial representative to compile provincial pest management issues to provide a consolidated, up-to-date national list for each crop to the PMC coordinator;
- Receive from AAFC-PMC the production sections of the crop profiles and send out to industry for review, and return original provincial revisions back to PMC;
- Provide feedback and make recommendations for improvements to the data collection process and forms.

ESTIMATE OF COSTS

Contract will commence at contract award to the 31st day of March, 2023. The estimated total value of the contract is **\$240,845.00** CAD (plus applicable taxes).

- Year 1 – (Fiscal Year 2020-21): \$80,560 + applicable taxes

- Year 2 – (Fiscal Year 2021-22): \$78,815 + applicable taxes
- Year 3 – (Fiscal Year 2022-23): \$81,470 + applicable taxes

For each fiscal year, payment to be as follows:

- 30% upon receipt and acceptance of deliverable #1
- 30% upon receipt and acceptance of deliverable #2
- 40% upon receipt and acceptance of deliverable #3

MINIMUM ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that he has the capacity to provide the same services listed in the scope of work listed above, and

- possess an established grower networks
- has the capacity to identify suitable grower collaborators within a reasonable distance for sharing of equipment.

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

This is continual, ongoing work. In 2011, 2014 and 2017, AAFC awarded through an ACAN contracts to the Canadian Horticultural Council (CHC) to collect pest management data sets for 24 horticultural crops which were used to update 21 national crop profiles. The new contract aims to collect pest management data sets for the same 24 horticultural crops to be used for the next cycle of updates of the 21 national crop profiles.

CHC is the only organization of its kind that can provide the connections and information to meet the national scope of this project. The CHC is regarded as the authoritative source of objective information for the Canadian horticultural industry and is uniquely placed to facilitate discussions required for the collection of the needed information relating to the diverse crops produced in Canada. The CHC is a non-profit national umbrella organization for provincial and regional horticultural grower organizations across Canada, with full access to their respective networks and expertise (120 provincial and regional horticultural commodity organizations representing more than 20,000 producers).

As such, CHC has the unique opportunity to liaise with all the required sub-sectors of the horticulture industry to collect the necessary pest related information on behalf of AAFC's Pest Management Centre. In addition, CHC has a dedicated group of members who meet annually under the auspices of the Crop Protection Committee to discuss crop protection management policies, programs and grower needs, information that is invaluable to ensuring the crop profiles reflect the Canadian horticultural landscape.

CHC possesses the credibility to facilitate industry consultations, and in turn, compile and articulate national pest management issues, taking into account issues raised at a provincial or regional level. In addition, the CHC has an in-depth understanding of the nature of the data required as well as

demonstrated experience to provide the service in an efficient and timely manner, with a minimal learning curve.

With already established networks, the CHC will be able to accomplish the required work efficiently by engaging appropriate stakeholders in each province while saving months of cost and project time. There are no other suppliers that could accomplish this work. In the event the CHC wasn't awarded this contract or were no longer able to deliver this service, PMC would need to establish and manage contracts with more than 50 consultants over the course of the contract period, a task that is unmanageable based on current resources.

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 15, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Daylight Savings Time)

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

Email: bassam.el-daya2@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.

Annex A

Crop profile list and provincial data sets for collection

Year of Contract	Group	Crop Profile	Year of data collection	Provinces for data collection	
				Complete data package (Pest Occurrence + IPM + issues)	Partial data package (Pest Occurrence + issues)
Year 1	Group 1	Blueberry (highbush)	2020	1 (BC)	1 (QC)
		Blueberry (lowbush)		4 (QC, NB, NS, PE)	0
		Potato		6 (AB, MB, ON, QC, NB, PE)	0
	Group 2	Cucumber – GH		3 (BC, ON, AB)	0
		Lettuce – GH		2 (ON, QC)	0
		Pepper – GH		2 (BC, ON)	0
		Tomato – GH		3 (BC, ON, QC)	0
Year 2	Group 3	Asparagus	2021	2 (ON, QC)	0
		Allium crops - dry onion		2 (ON, QC)	0
		Allium crops - leek		2 (ON, QC)	0
		Rutabaga		3 (ON, QC, PE)	0
	Group 4	Corn (sweet)		2 (ON, QC)	2 (BC, AB)
		Brassica crops - broccoli		2 (ON, QC)	1 (BC)
		Brassica crops - cabbage		2 (ON, QC)	1 (BC)
		Carrot		3 (ON, QC, NS)	1 (PE)
Year 3	Group 5	Strawberry	2022	2 (ON, QC)	2 (BC, NS)
		Cherry (sweet & sour)		3 (ON sweet & sour, BC sweet)	0
		Raspberry		3 (BC, ON, QC)	0
		Peach		2 (BC, ON)	0
	Group 6	Cranberry		2 (BC, QC)	0
		Apple		4 (BC, ON, QC, NS)	0
		Grape		2 (BC, ON)	2 (QC, NS)
		Pear		2 (BC, ON)	0

Total no. of Data Packages

59

10