

**Grafting services for the rejuvenation of the apple germplasm collection maintained at the Canadian Clonal Genebank**

This ACAN is a public notice indicating to the supplier community that Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) intends to award a service contract to a pre-identified supplier, thereby allowing other suppliers to signal their interest in bidding, by submitting a Statement of Capabilities. If no supplier submits a statement of capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, on or before the closing date stated in this ACAN, the contracting officer may then proceed with the award to the pre-identified supplier.

**REQUIREMENT:**

Grafting and planting services for the regeneration and rejuvenation of the Apple Germplasm Collection at the CCGB, using certified virus and disease resistant GENEVA® 11 and GENEVA® 41 apple rootstock.

Spring 2023: Grafting and planting services for 3,000 dormant bud-wood from CCGB orchards.

Summer and Fall 2023: Grafting and planting services for 2,000 active growing bud-wood of grafted accessions, difficult or weak and sensitive apple trees varieties.

In subsequent years, the same steps will be repeated, and deliverables are estimated to be 2,800 rootstock and 2,800 grafts and planted trees for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, and 2,800 rootstock and 2,800 grafts and planted trees for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

**CONTRACT PERIOD:**

Start date: May 1, 2023, End date: March 30th, 2026.

**ESTIMATED VALUE:**

\$81,837.50 CAD (+taxes)

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| FY 23-24 Grafting & Planting | \$26,837.50 |
| FY 24-25 Rootstock G@11/41   | \$10,000.00 |
| FY 24-25 Grafting & Planting | \$15,000.00 |
| FY 25-26 Rootstock G@11/41   | \$15,000.00 |
| FY 25-26 Grafting & Planting | \$15,000.00 |

**PRE-IDENTIFIED SUPPLIER:**

Upper Canada Growers Ltd.  
921 Concession 2 Road  
Niagara on the Lake ON L0S 1J0

**SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION:**

The UCG is the sole licensed contractor in Canada to grow and distribute GENEVA® 11 and GENEVA® 41 apple rootstock. The CCGB requires this specific rootstock for its dwarfing, virus free and disease-resistance properties.

UCG is located in proximity of CCGB (4.5km) for effective and safe transportation of the material, and is the sole contractor able to collect fresh calibrated size scion-wood of the 1,460 accessions from five orchards at the CCGB.

Grafting has a much higher success rate for both rootstock and scion-wood when the transportation time is reduced to a minimum. The rootstock will be already on the UCG location. It would increase the contamination possibility and decrease scion viability and grafting success significantly if we were to ship it to another location for the grafting process.

**CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT OF THE STATEMENT OF CAPABILITIES :**

- Contractor must provide proof that they are licensed to grow and distribute GENEVA® 11 and GENEVA® 41 apple rootstock in Canada.
- Contractor must provide proof of performing bench-grafting in their facility.
- Contractor must provide proof of performing micro-grafting techniques and have facilities where rootstock and micro-grafted trees will be grown for two months.
- Contractor must provide planting ellipots and proof of safe transportation platforms for the grafted trees back to the CCGB-ACAN.

**SUBMISSION OF STATEMENT OF CAPABILITIES CLOSING DATE AND TIME:**

The closing date and time for accepting Statement of Capabilities is **April 26, 2023 at 2:00 pm EDT.**

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the goods, services or construction services described in the ACAN, may submit a statement of capabilities in writing 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.

**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 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.

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.

ACAN # 01B46-23-019

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.