

# Request for Genetic Material

## Overview

The National Plant Genetic Resources Unit in the Department of Agricultural Research of the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food Security collects and conserves seeds of cultivated crops, their wild relatives and other useful wild plant species. The conserved plant genetic resources provide raw material (traits) for present and future use to improve the quality and productivity of crops. This also serves as a backup for any incidental loss of species due to wild fires, indiscriminate harvesting and harsh environmental conditions. Researchers, farmers and academics or anyone interested in acquiring conserved genetic material can make a request for genetic material.

## Who is eligible?

- Any person interested in acquiring conserved genetic material
- Researchers and academics
- Farmers

## How do I get this service?

- Submit letter addressed to the Gene Bank Manager of the National Plant Genetic Resources Centre (NPGRC) of the Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food Security making a request for genetic material.
- If the material is available, a sample is prepared, and the applicant is contacted to collect the sample from NPGRC.

## What supporting documents are required?

- A certified copy of National Identity Card (Omang) for citizens.
- A certified copy of a Passport.

## How long will this service take?

Two to Seven (2-7) working days, depending on the proximity of the applicant to the NPGRC.

## How much does it cost?

No cost.

## Where can I obtain this service?

Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food Security

Opening hours: 07:30 to 12:45 and 13:45 to 16:30, Monday to Friday, except public holidays.

## Where can I get more information on this Service

Gene Bank Manager

National Plant Genetic Resources Centre (NPGRC)

Department of Agricultural Research

Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food Security

Content Farm, Sebele

Private Bag 0033

Gaborone

Botswana

Tel. (+267) 3668100 ext. 8180

Fax (+267) 3190783 or (+267) 3928965

Call Centre: 17755

Email. [moa17755@gov.bw](mailto:moa17755@gov.bw)