



Mr John Fennessy  
Inspector  
Forest Service  
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food  
Ag House 4 West  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

19 January 2012

**Re: New Proposals for Project Funding during 2012 in relation to Conservation  
of Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture**

Dear Mr Fennessy

The Advisory Committee on Genetic Resources will meet early in 2012 to consider funding applications in respect of suitable projects relating to the Conservation of Genetic Resources for Food & Agriculture.

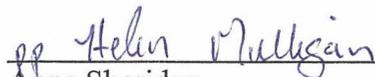
You are invited to submit an appropriate project for consideration by the Committee relating to the collection, conservation, characterisation, and utilisation of Ireland's genetic resources for food and agriculture. Projects approved for support under this scheme should conclude within a twelve to eighteen month time-period and cover one or more of the primary policy objectives as set out in the attached list of conditions.

The attached application form should be used when submitting your project. Full details of this scheme, including an electronic version of this form, is available on the Departments website at: <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie> [at "Farmers Schemes & Payments" click on "more"].

Proposals should be submitted to the undersigned by 17 February 2012 at the address stated below.

Please bring this letter to the attention of colleagues who may be interested in either co-ordinating or participating in a project on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

Yours sincerely,

  
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## Genetic Resources Project Conditions (2012)

1. Projects approved for support under this measure should ideally conclude within a twelve to eighteen month time period.
2. Projects must cover one or more of the following primary policy objectives:
  - the identification, evaluation and conservation of unique Irish genetic resources whose survival is being threatened or endangered;
  - the development and utilisation of genetic resources to increase national food security;
  - the promotion of public awareness and support for genetic resource conservation management strategies.
3. Priority will be given to projects with an integrated and co-ordinated approach to the conservation of plant and /or animal genetic resources. Applicants should also be cognisant of the strategic priorities and actions as set out in the FAO's Global Plans of Action for both Animal and Plant Genetic Resources:
  - Plant: [http://www.fao.org/agriculture/crops/core-themes/theme/seeds-pgr/gpa/gpa\\_update/en/](http://www.fao.org/agriculture/crops/core-themes/theme/seeds-pgr/gpa/gpa_update/en/)
  - Animal: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/a1404e/a1404e00.htm>
4. The project must be carried out as specified in the project proposal approval.
5. The project must be carried out in accordance with the time scale set out in the proposal. Expenditures incurred after that will not be eligible for assistance unless an extension of the time scale has been granted in writing by the Department in advance of the original approval expiring.
6. The beneficiary must maintain separate records for all transactions relating to the grant-aided project and must make this and all supporting documents, including in particular records of expenditure and of staff time, available as required by officers of this Department.
7. In the event that the actual costs fall short of the amount awarded the balance will revert to the Department.
8. Progress on projects will be subject to ongoing monitoring by the Department. For this purpose progress reports must be furnished promptly whenever requested.
9. Notwithstanding point 8. above, progress reports on the project will be requested in September and February of each year for the duration of the project. A final report and short executive summary must be provided when the project is completed. The executive summary should be a maximum of 200 words in length and written in simple and easily understandable terms as it is intended to make this summary publicly available on the Department website. It should be noted that the project coordinator's full contact details will be included with the project summary when it is uploaded to the website.
10. Officers of this Department must be allowed access to the beneficiary's premises at all reasonable times for the purpose of assessing the progress of the project and examining of financial records pertaining to it. It should also be noted that officers of the Comptroller and Auditor General's Office have a function in the auditing of records pertaining to expenditures of public monies.
11. Records of expenditure must be maintained and will be subject to inspection. Tax Clearance Certificates must be submitted with the application.
12. In the event of failure by a beneficiary to comply with any or all of the foregoing conditions, payment of aid may be suspended, reduced or cancelled.
13. The grant award may be revoked or reduced if any of the following events should occur:
  - a) The beneficiary abandons the project or reduces the scale of the project provided for without prior written agreement from the Department.
  - b) It is found that the aid has not been properly spent for the purpose for which it was intended under the approved grant application.
  - c) The project financed by the aid has not been properly carried out or irregularities in relation to the aid have occurred.
14. In the event that payment of aid is subsequently reduced, suspended, cancelled, or where grant-aid is revoked, following the payment of a moiety, the beneficiary will be required to repay the relevant amount of paid grant-aid to this Department.