



ORGANISMO INTERNACIONAL REGIONAL DE SANIDAD AGROPECUARIA  
\* MÉXICO \* GUATEMALA \* BELICE \* EL SALVADOR \* HONDURAS \* NICARAGUA \* COSTA RICA \* PANAMÁ \* REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA \*

*Representación OIRSA Belize*

**Fax Ref.: 09-1/099-15**  
**9<sup>th</sup> July, 2015**

**Ing. Efraín Medina**  
Director Ejecutivo  
OIRSA Sede  
San Salvador

Estimado **Ing. Medina:**

Lo siguiente es para proporcionarle el Acuerdo firmado entre el Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA), Universidad de Belize (UB), Asociación Citrícola de Belize (CGA), Grupo Adhoc de Trabajadores Viveristas, la Autoridad de Sanidad Agropecuaria de Belize (BAHA) y el Ministerio de Recursos Naturales y Agricultura (MNRA) para el control de Huanglongbing a través de la tecnología de "Shoot Tip Grafting" Micro injerto de yemas, implementándose en Belize bajo el proyecto de control de HLB OIRSA/ICDF Taiwán.

Sin otro particular al presente reciba un cordial saludo.

Atentamente,

**Ing. Fermin Blanco**  
Representante  
OIRSA Belize



Cc. Ing. Santiago Huang – Gerente de Proyecto HLB, ICDF/OIRSA  
**Ing. Xavier Euceda – Gerente de proyecto HLB OIRSA ICDF-Taiwán**  
Ing. Jose Cocom – Coordinador Nacional HLB, OIRSA Belize  
Ing. Orlando Li – Experto en Plantas Sanas, ICDF/OIRSA

1953-2013  
*Seis décadas salvaguardando la sanidad agropecuaria regional*

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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred as to **“the MoU”** is undersigned and set forth this 29th day April, 2015, by and among the **International Regional Organization for Plant and Animal Health (OIRSA)/Ministry of Natural Resources and Agriculture (MNRA)/Belize Agricultural Health Authority (BAHA)** (hereinafter referred to the **“Leading Organizations”**); and in collaboration with **University of Belize (UB), Citrus Growers Association, Citrus Research and Education Institute (CGA/CREI), and Ad-hoc Committee of Citrus Nurserymen** (hereinafter referred as to **“the collaborators”**).

This MoU describes the responsibilities agreed and it’s a voluntary arrangement. Therefore it doesn’t impose any legal obligation on any Organization or collaborator.

**PREAMBLE**

**WHEREAS**

**OIRSA** is an International Regional Organization for Health in Agriculture which provides assistance to its member’s countries to develop their plant and animal health and strengthening the quarantine systems to prevent plant disease; along with the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF-Taiwan) to work for the control and management of Huanglungbing.

**IN COUNTERPART WITH ICDF** will be providing technical support to OIRSA-HLB Campaign to Strengthen the control of Huanglongbing on citrus through Shoot Tip Grafting (hereinafter referred to as **“STG”**) under the OIRSA/ICDF Project.

**AND THROUGH MNRA** which is legally in charge of Natural Resources and Agriculture section which also includes the agricultural health component of Belize known as **BAHA**, Belize Agricultural Health Authority, which is responsible in providing professional services in Food Safety, Quarantine, Plant and Animal Health to safeguard the health of the nation.

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*





## IN COLLABORATION WITH

UB which is a national, autonomous and multi-location institution committed to excellence in higher education, research and service for national development.

AND CREI is the research arm of the Citrus Growers Association, a tertiary level institution, delegated the responsibility by the Belize Agricultural Health Authority (BAHA) to manage the Belize Citrus Certification Programme (BCCP).

## WHEREBY THE LEADING ORGANIZATIONS AND COLLABORATORS

Agree to establish an STG Laboratory, to remove citrus graft transmissible diseases from selected citrus cultivars for use by the citrus industry as part of the national HLB control campaign. These activities include:

- (1) The transfer of STG technology to UB with the objective to produce and preserve specific citrus line or plant individuals with good horticulture characteristics for the ad-hoc of Citrus Nurserymen Group or any certified BCCP nursery.
- (2) To support the CGA/CREI in re-grafting technology to complete their STG program within the BCCP.

IT IS THEREFORE, UNDERSTOOD among the parties as follows:

### 1. OBLIGATIONS OF OIRSA/ICDF

OIRSA/ICDF agrees on the following deliverables:

- a. To provide a proposal for STG technology transfer as part of the OIRSA-ICDF, HLB control campaign in Belize.
- b. To provide a protocol to develop the STG technology in UB laboratory.
- c. To receive all STG plants for acclimatization before its release to BCCP for disease screening
- d. To provide an operating procedures of re-grafting technology at CGA.
- e. To assign a technical advisor for the STG technology transfer to the UB laboratory.
- f. To train the technical person in STG technology.



- g. To make available budwood material from Central Farm budwood multiplication block to any certified BCCP Nursery and to any other nursery growers from the OIRSA Region who are under the OIRSA/ICDF project.

## 2. OBLIGATIONS OF MNRA

MNRA agrees on the following deliverables in conjunction with The Belize Agriculture Health Authority (BAHA):

- a. To review and agree with the proposal of STG technology for OIRSA-ICDF Project as a component in the HLB control campaign in Belize.
- b. To assign a person for the skill building of STG technology.
- c. To recommend and approve collaborators for the technology transfer.
- d. To offer the screen house for accommodating the micro-grafted plants before the plants are indexed for Citrus Graft Transmissible Pathogens (CGTPs).
- e. To assist in the evaluation of the STG technology transfer and implementation for the OIRSA-ICDF, HLB control campaign in Belize.
- f. Upon expiration of this MoU the MNRA will undertake the management of the budwood MB and the acclimatization facility.

## 3. OBLIGATIONS OF UB

UB agrees on the following deliverables:

- a. To review and agree with the protocol of STG technology transfer.
- b. To provide all laboratory equipment (except microscope) and materials (not to exceed \$2,000 per year) needed for developing STG technology.
- c. A maximum of 100 Plants per year produced during the period of this MoU will be given to OIRSA/ICDF for hardening/acclimatization.
- d. Once expertise has been developed at UB to successfully produce STG plants, to assist in training on STG, as funded and requested by OIRSA locally and in the OIRSA region.
- e. Upon expiration of this MoU UB will undertake to continue produce STG plants on an agreed price for the BCCP and any other nursery grower from the OIRSA Region.





#### **4. OBLIGATIONS OF CGA**

Contingent to the BCCP being managed by CGA/CREI, CGA/CREI agrees on the following deliverables:

- a. To review and agree to the operating procedures for the Re-grafting method technology.
- b. To provide all laboratory equipment and materials needed for developing the re-grafted method technology.
- c. To provide citrus plants produced through the STG technology periodically to the Belize Citrus Industry.
- d. To facilitate index work to the STG plants produced by the collaborators as required by BCCP regulation at a cost recovery principle.

#### **5. OBLIGATIONS OF AD-HOC COMMITTEE OF CITRUS NURSERYMEN**

- a. To provide general information of their Nursery such as location, nursery capacity, contact number.
- b. To collaborate on the implementation of STG technology and re-grafting method.
- c. To ensure that all BCCP compliant nursery under the project benefit from the STG plants provided under the project.

#### **6. VALIDITY AND DURATION:**

This MoU is designed for the period of the OIRSA-ICDF project 2014-2017 and is effective from the date signed by duly authorized representatives. In addition, the MoU shall be reviewed and renewed on a yearly basis between leading organizations and collaborators for any mutually agreed amendment.

#### **7. COMMUNICATION**

Leading organizations and collaborators agree to share any information relevant to the project and cooperate together in order to achieve the maximum benefit to the Belize Citrus Industry, the OIRSA/ICDF project, CREI/CGA HLB management project, the Belize Citrus Certification Programme and the enhancement of HLB management in Belize.



## 8. AMENDMENTS

Once accepted and signed the MoU shall not be modified or changed without written consent of all parties to the MOU. In case of any dispute arising between leading organizations and collaborators relating to the interpretation or application of the MoU, these disputes shall be resolved by mutual negotiation, signed by the authorized signatories, which then shall be attached to the original MoU.

## TERMINATION

This MoU is a nonbinding agreement and if any of the leading organization or collaborator wishes to disassociate can do so without liability. However, a written notice must be sent sixty (60) days prior to the disassociation specifying the reason(s) of such.

## 9. ACCEPTANCE

We the undersigned, as authorized signatories have read and understand this MoU and agree to all its terms and conditions stated herein.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the authorized representatives affix their signatures below:



F:   
 Ing. Efrain Medina Guerra

Executive Director-OIRSA, San Salvador, El Salvador, C.A.

F:   
 Hon. Gaspar Vega

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Natural Resource and Agriculture, Belize

F: 

Mr. Alan Slusher  
 The President  
 University of Belize

F: 

Mr. Henry N. Anderson  
 Chief Executive Officer  
 Belize Citrus Growers Association.

F: 

Mr. Emir Cruz  
 Managing Director  
 Belize Agricultural Health Authority

F: 

Mr. Anthony Chanona  
 Chairman  
 ad-Hoc Nurserymen Committee