

Agenzia regionale per lo sviluppo rurale ERSA

PUBLIC NOTICE

CALL FOR MANIFESTATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ACQUIRING MULTIPLICATION AND COMMERCIALISATION LICENCES OF THE SOYBEAN VARIETY NAMED "ATON"

Objectives

The Agenzia regionale per lo sviluppo rurale, ERSA (Regional agency for rural development) is a functional body of the Friuli Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region, established by Regional Law n. 8 of 24th March 2004, whose purpose is, among others, to carry out agricultural research and experimentation activities. The Agency has developed a new variety of medium maturing soybean named "ATON" intends to assign one or more exclusive licences for worldwide multiplication and commercialisation of the seed or alternatively to assign single area licences.

The technical features of the variety are detailed in the Annex A-1 attached to this notice together with experimentation results obtained in Italy (Annex A-4).

All interested parties are invited to send an expression of interest according to the following rules.

How to apply

Applications must be submitted in written form by registered letter with advice of delivery. The letters must be received by ERSA **no later than 12:00 noon of March 1st, 2024**. Applications that are received after the term will not be accepted. The delivery date applied by ERSA's protocol office will be held as proof while the post office stamp date will not be considered.

All documents must be sent in a sealed envelope to the following address: *Agenzia regionale per lo sviluppo rurale ERSA – Servizio fitosanitario e chimico-agrario, ricerca, sperimentazione e assistenza tecnica – Via Sabbatini n. 5 - 33050 Pozzuolo del Friuli (Udine) – Italy*. The outside of the envelope must bear the following writing **"Manifestazione di interesse per l'acquisizione di licenze per la varietà di soia ATON"**.

The manifestation of interest must be written in Italian or English by using the Annex A-2 form attached to this notice. **It must be undersigned by a legal representative of the Company and sent together with a copy of a valid document of identification of the signer.**

The manifestation of interest must contain the following information:

- 1) identification data of the Company and its legal representative;
- 2) description of the Company's operating sector;
- 3) description of the Company's production and commercial activities;
- 4) total yearly turnover;
- 5) description of the Company's development plan for the variety ATON along with the forecasted amount of seed (in tons) sold yearly in the countries for which the authorization is being requested, amount of royalties per ton of pre-base seed for first multiplication and of commercially sold R2 seed (fill in Annex A-3);
- 6) financial bid showing the price for the "Breeder's seed nucleus";
- 7) list of all the actions including promotional activities, activities aimed at increasing the value of the variety and control activities that the company intends to carry out;
- 8) declaration in which the Company states that it will bear all expenses and procedures related to the import of base material, quarantine and patent protection of the variety carrying ERSA's name in all the countries in which the company intends to operate, bearing all costs and procedures (only for Companies who intend to sell the seed abroad);
- 9) declaration stating that the Company has not been declared bankrupt nor it is being wound up, that it is not having its affairs administered by the courts, that it has not entered into arrangement with creditors, that it has not suspended its business activities, that is not the subject of proceedings concerning these matters, as well as not having incurred in interdictory measures such as the disqualification from contracting with the

Public Administration in accordance with the legal provisions of the Countries in which it is established, that the Company has fulfilled all its obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions in accordance with the legal provisions of the Country in which it is established.

Procedure for the selection of the Companies

Manifestations of interest will be evaluated by a commission nominated with a decree by ERSA's Director Service. In case of comparable tenders the following factors will be taken into consideration in order to guarantee impartiality and transparency: most profitable offer and most promising and well-grounded development plans, provided that an adequate level of partner's reliability is assured, with reference to the information given in the manifestation of interest. The contracts will be awarded with the selected companies.

Should the elements contained in the manifestations of interest not be sufficient to deal with a single partner or in case it is convenient to issue more than one licence for different Countries, ERSA reserves the right to start negotiations with more than one subject.

The reception of a manifestation of interest by an interested party does not bind ERSA in any way to start a negotiation procedure neither to sign a contract with the aforementioned party.

Conditions of the agreement

ERSA reserves the right not to take into consideration bids offering a royalty of less than 30,00 € per ton for commercially used seed and 60,00 € for pre-base seed for initial multiplication.

When the negotiation procedure starts, the offers contained in the manifestation of interest will be regarded as a basis for the negotiation and therefore can be further negotiated. All other terms of a possible licence contract will be an issue of negotiation between the parties.

Information notice about data protection

Information about the treatment of personal data in compliance with UE Regulation 2016/679 and leg. Dec. 196/2003 can be found in Annex 5.

Further information

For further information please contact Thomas Lazzarin (cell. +39 3346564528; thomas.lazzarin@ersa.fvg.it).

Pozzuolo del Friuli, February 05th, 2024

Il Direttore del Servizio fitosanitario e chimico
ricerca, sperimentazione e assistenza tecnica
(ing. Paolo Tonello)

Procedure responsible: Paolo Tonello (paolo.tonello@ersa.fvg.it – phone +39 0432 – 529260)

Office operator: Thomas Lazzarin (thomas.lazzarin@ersa.fvg.it – mobile +39 334 6564528)