



CONTRACT

No. K4447

**FOR
RESEARCH OF WA ASPARAGUS**

By and Between

WASHINGTON ASPARAGUS COMMISSION

and

**AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT GROUP, INC.
2621 RINGOLD RD.
ELTOPIA, WA 99330
PHONE: (509) 266-4348
EMAIL: ASCHREIB@CENTURYTEL.NET
UBI: 601-840-556**

Dated: TBD

CONTRACT

No. K4447

WASHINGTON ASPARAGUS COMMISSION

AND

AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT GROUP, INC.

This Contract ("Contract") is made and entered into by and between the State of Washington acting by and through the Washington Asparagus Commission ("WAC"), a Washington State governmental agency and Agriculture Development Group, Inc, ("Contractor") and is dated and effective as of TBD.

RECITALS

- A. The provisions of Chapter 39.26 RCW require the agency to file this sole source contract with the Department of Enterprise Services (DES) for approval. The effective date of this contract is upon DES approval of the contract, the tenth (10th) working day after it is filed with DES, or as agreed between the parties, whichever is later.
- B. Washington Asparagus Commission has determined that entering into this Contract will meet the identified needs and be in the best interest of the State of Washington.

AGREEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, and conditions set forth herein, the parties hereby agree as follows:

- 1. Term.** The term of this Contract commences on date of signing and ends December 31, 2026; unless terminated sooner.
- 2. SCOPE – INCLUDED SERVICES AND PRICE.**

- 2.1. **CONTRACT SCOPE.** Pursuant to this Contract, Contractor is authorized to provide only those services set forth below and in *Exhibit A – Research Program* and not to exceed the amount of \$80,000.

CONTRACTOR shall carry out research as described in "2023 Asparagus Research Proposal" attached hereto as Exhibit A, which is incorporated into this Contract, and hereafter referred to as the "Research Program"

CONTRACTOR shall as necessary, obtain and manage land for purposes of carrying out the Research Program. The Washington Asparagus Commission shall not be deemed to be an owner or lessor of the land utilized for the Research Program. The Contractor shall be solely liable for any claims arising out of use of the land in conjunction with the Research Program and shall be responsible for obtaining insurance required by the owner of the land.

CONTRACTOR shall perform ground preparation, planting, growing, management, and harvesting asparagus for purposes of carrying out the Research Program.

CONTRACTOR shall provide an annual report to the Commission reporting on work performed and results of the Research Program.

CONTRACTOR shall provide periodic (no less than monthly) written or verbal reports and updates to the Contract Manager and the Washington Asparagus Commission board.

- 2.2. STATE'S ABILITY TO MODIFY SCOPE OF CONTRACT. Subject to mutual agreement between the parties, WAC reserves the right to modify the services included in this Contract; *Provided*, however, that any such modification shall be effective only upon ten (10) days advance written notice; and *Provided further*, that any such modification must be within the scope of this Contract.
 - 2.3. COMPENSATION. Although Contractor may offer lower prices to WAC, during the term of this Contract, Contractor guarantees to provide the Services as indicated in exhibit A and under section 2.1 Contract Scope, at no greater than \$80,000.
- 3. CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.** Contractor makes each of the following representations and warranties as of the effective date of this Contract and at the time of performance pursuant to this Contract. If, at the time of performance, Contractor cannot make such representations and warranties, Contractor shall not perform and shall, within three (3) business days notify WAC, in writing, of such breach.
- 3.1. QUALIFIED TO DO BUSINESS. Contractor represents and warrants that it is in good standing and qualified to do business in the State of Washington, that it is registered with the Washington State Department of Revenue and the Washington Secretary of State, that it possesses and shall keep current all required licenses and/or approvals, and that it is current, in full compliance, and has paid all applicable taxes owed to the State of Washington.
 - 3.2. SUSPENSION & DEBARMENT. Contractor represents and warrants that neither it nor its principals or affiliates presently are debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in any governmental Contract by any governmental department or agency within the United States.
 - 3.3. PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES. Contractor represents and warrants that in performing this Contract, Contractor shall
 - (a) Perform its obligations in a timely, professional, and workmanlike manner consistent with standards in the profession;
 - (b) Meet or exceed the performance and operational standards and specifications in this Contract;
 - (c) Provide all contractual requirements in good quality with no material defects;
 - (d) Not interfere with the State's operations;
 - (e) Obtain and maintain all necessary licenses, certifications, permits, or other authorizations necessary for the performance of the Contract;
 - (f) Cooperate with WAC to achieve the objectives of the Contract;
 - (g) Return to WAC any agency-furnished equipment or other resources in the same condition as when provided when no longer required for the Contract;

- (h) Comply with all Washington State physical and IT security policies and standards which will be made available upon request; and
- (i) Provide WAC priority in performance of this Contract except as mandated by federal disaster response requirements.

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, any breach under this paragraph is considered a material breach.

- 3.4. WAGE VIOLATIONS. Contractor represents and warrants that neither it nor its principals or affiliates presently are determined, by a final order of the Washington Department of Labor and Industries or a Court, to be in willful violation of state wage laws.
- 3.5. TOOLS, EQUIPMENT, PERSONNEL, & SUPPLIES. Contractor represents and warrants, as previously certified in Contractor's Bidder Certification, that Contractor possess all necessary personnel to fulfill the roles outlined in the solicitation.
- 3.6. EXECUTIVE ORDER 18-03 – WORKERS' RIGHTS [IF APPLICABLE]. Contractor represents and warrants, that Contractor does NOT require its employees, as a condition of employment, to sign or agree to mandatory individual arbitration clauses or class or collective action waivers. Contractor further represents and warrants that, during the term of this Contract, Contractor shall not, as a condition of employment, require its employees to sign or agree to mandatory individual arbitration clauses or class or collective action waivers.
- 3.7. WASHINGTON SMALL BUSINESS. Contractor represents and warrants, that Contractor qualifies as a Washington Small Business pursuant to RCW 39.26.010.
- 3.8. PROCUREMENT ETHICS & PROHIBITION ON GIFTS. Contractor represents and warrants that it complies fully with all applicable procurement ethics restrictions including, but not limited to, restrictions against Contractor providing gifts or anything of economic value, directly or indirectly, to State employees.
- 3.9. WASHINGTON'S ELECTRONIC BUSINESS SOLUTION (WEBS). Contractor represents and warrants that it is registered in Washington's Electronic Business Solution (WEBS), Washington's Contract registration system and that, all of its information therein is current and accurate and that throughout the term of this Contract, Contractor shall maintain an accurate profile in WEBS.
- 3.10. STATEWIDE PAYEE DESK. Contractor represents and warrants that it is registered with the Statewide Payee Desk, which registration is a condition to payment.
- 3.11. ADVERTISING AND ENDORSEMENT. Contractor understands and acknowledges that neither the WAC nor the State of Washington are endorsing Contractor's services or suggesting that such services are the best or only solution to their needs. Accordingly, Contractor represents and warrants that it shall make no reference to WAC or the State of Washington in any promotional material without the prior written consent of the WAC.
- 3.12. CONTRACT TRANSITION. Contractor represents and warrants that, in the event this Contract is transitioned to another contractor (e.g., Contract expiration or termination), Contractor shall use commercially reasonable efforts to assist the WAC for a period of sixty (60) days to effectuate a smooth transition to another contractor to minimize disruption of service and/or costs to the State of Washington.

4. PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES.

- 4.1 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS. Contractor must ensure that its services are performed as required by this Contract, including, without limitation, the requirements set forth in *Exhibit A*.
- 4.2 TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT AND ACCESS. Contractor is responsible for providing all equipment and access required to perform services as defined in this contract, including but not limited to video conferencing ability using platforms such as Microsoft Teams and Zoom.
- 4.3 ON SITE REQUIREMENTS. Contractor, its agents, employees, or subcontractors shall comply, in all respects, with the physical, fire, access, safety, and security requirements of all locations while representing WAC.
- 4.4 OWNERSHIP OF DELIVERABLES. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the parties understand and agree that WAC shall own all rights to any plans, reports, or other deliverables provided to WAC pursuant to this Contract. The copyright in all works of authorship created pursuant to this Contract shall be owned by the State of Washington. All such works or portions of works created by the Contractor are hereby agreed to be "works made for hire" within the meaning of 17 U.S.C. § 201. If, however, the State of Washington is not able to obtain copyright ownership under the statutory provisions for "works made for hire," then Contractor hereby assigns to State of Washington all right, title, and interest in: (a) the copyright to Contractor's work of authorship ("Work") and contribution to any such Work ("Contribution"); (b) any registrations and copyright applications, along with any renewals and extensions thereof, relating to the Contribution or the Work; (c) all works based upon, derived from, or incorporating the Contribution or the Work; (d) all income, royalties, damages, claims and payments now or hereafter due or payable with respect to the Contribution or the Work; (e) all causes of action, either in law or in equity, for past, present, or future infringement of copyright related to the Contribution or the Work, and all rights corresponding to any of the foregoing, throughout the world. In addition, to the extent any applicable law or treaty prohibits the transfer or assignment of any moral rights or rights of restraint the Contractor has in the Contribution or the Work, the Contractor waives those rights as to State of Washington, its successors, licensees, and assigns.
- 4.5 CONTRACTOR KEY STAFF CHANGES. Except in the case of a leave of absence, sickness, death, termination of employment or unpaid or paid leave of absence, agreed upon Key Staff must not be changed during the term of this contract. Otherwise, any change in Key Staff must be agreed in writing between the parties. During the term of the Contract, WAC reserves the right to approve or disapprove of Contractor and Subcontractor Key Staff assigned to perform services as required by this contract, or to require the removal or reassignment of any Contractor or Subcontractor Key Staff found unacceptable by WAC, subject to WAC's compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Contractor must provide WAC with a resume of any member of its Key Staff or a Subcontractor's Key Staff assigned to or proposed for any aspect of performance under this Contract prior to commencing any Services.

In the event that proposed Contractor resources are unavailable to deliver the work, Contractor must staff the project with resources with equal or greater skills and capabilities, subject to approval from WAC.

WAC must be notified of any change in Contractor Key Staff as soon as practicable but in no event less than five (5) working days after removal of such staff from their duties in support of this Contract. Contractor must provide resumes and describe the roles and responsibilities

of any replacement staff to WAC as soon as practicable but in no event less than five (5) working days prior to the date that such staff begin work under this Contract. WAC reserves the right, in its sole judgement, to approve or reject such replacement staff. WAC's approval of such staff will not be unreasonably withheld.

5. INVOICING & PAYMENT.

5.1 CONTRACTOR INVOICE. Contractor shall submit to WAC's designated invoicing contact properly itemized invoices on a monthly basis. Such invoices shall itemize the following:

- a) Contract No. K4447;
- b) Contractor name, address, telephone number, and email address for billing issues (i.e., Contractor Customer Service Representative);
- c) Contractor's Federal Tax Identification Number;
- d) Description of Services and Deliverables provided;
- e) Net invoice Price for each Service or Deliverables;
- f) Applicable taxes;
- g) Total invoice amount; and
- h) Payment terms, including any available prompt payment discounts.

Contractor's invoices for payment shall reflect accurate Contract prices. Invoices will not be processed for payment until receipt of a complete invoice as specified herein. WAC shall have no obligation to pay Contractor for any services that do not comply with this Contract.

5.2 PAYMENT. Payment is the sole responsibility of, and will be made by, WAC. Payment is due within thirty (30) days of invoice. If WAC fails to make timely payment(s), Contractor may invoice WAC in the amount of one percent (1%) per month on the amount overdue or a minimum of \$1. Payment will not be considered late if a check or warrant is mailed within the time specified.

5.3 OVERPAYMENTS. Contractor promptly shall refund to WAC the full amount of any erroneous payment or overpayment. Such refunds shall occur within thirty (30) days of written notice to Contractor; *Provided*, however, that WAC shall have the right to elect to have either direct payments or written credit memos issued. If Contractor fails to make timely payment(s) or issuance of such credit memos, WAC may impose a one percent (1%) per month on the amount overdue thirty (30) days after notice to the Contractor.

5.4 NO ADVANCE PAYMENT. No advance payments shall be made for any products or services furnished by Contractor pursuant to this Contract.

5.5 NO ADDITIONAL CHARGES. Unless otherwise specified herein, Contractor shall not include or impose any additional charges including, but not limited to, charges for shipping, handling, or payment processing.

5.6 TAXES/FEES. Contractor promptly shall pay all applicable taxes on its operations and activities pertaining to this Contract. Failure to do so shall constitute breach of this Contract. Unless otherwise agreed, WAC shall pay applicable sales tax imposed by the State of Washington on purchased services. Contractor, however, shall not make any charge for federal excise taxes and WAC agrees to furnish Contractor with an exemption certificate where appropriate.

6. CONTRACT MANAGEMENT.

6.1 CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION & NOTICES. Except for legal notices, the parties hereby designate the following contract administrators as the respective single points of contact for purposes of contract administration for this Contract. WAC's contract administrator shall provide contract administrative oversight. Contractor's contract administrator shall be Contractor's principal contact for invoice/billing activities under this Contract. The parties may change contract administrators by written notice as set forth below.

Any notices required or desired shall be in writing and sent by U.S. mail, postage prepaid, or sent via email, and shall be sent to the respective addressee at the respective address or email address set forth below or to such other address or email address as the parties may specify in writing:

Washington Asparagus Commission

Attn: Jim Middleton, Chair

1441 Pasco Kahlotus Rd.

Pasco, WA 99301

Tel: (509) 727-0019

Email: jemiddle@yahoo.com

Contractor

Attn: Alan Schreiber

ADG Management Services

2621 Ringold Road

Etopia, WA 99330

Tel: (509) 266-4303

Email: aschreib@centurytel.net

Notices shall be deemed effective upon the earlier of receipt, if mailed, or, if emailed, upon transmission to the designated email address of said addressee.

6.2 CONTRACTOR CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE. Contractor shall designate a customer service representative (and inform WAC of the same) who shall be responsible for addressing WAC's issues pertaining to this Contract

6.3 LEGAL NOTICES. Any legal notices required or desired shall be in writing and delivered by U.S. certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, or sent via email, and shall be sent to the respective addressee at the respective address or email address set forth below or to such other address or email address as the parties may specify in writing:

Washington Asparagus Commission

Attn: Jim Middleton, Chair

1441 Pasco Kahlotus Rd.

Pasco, WA 99301

Email: jemiddle@yahoo.com

Contractor

Attn: Alan Schreiber

ADG Management Services

2621 Ringold Road

Eloptia, WA 99330

Email: aschreib@centurytel.net

Notices shall be deemed effective upon the earlier of receipt when delivered, or, if mailed, upon return receipt, or, if emailed, upon transmission to the designated email address of said addressee.

7. RECORDS RETENTION & AUDITS.

- 7.1 RECORDS RETENTION. Contractor shall maintain books, records, documents, and other evidence pertaining to this Contract to the extent and in such detail as shall adequately reflect performance and administration of payments and fees. Contractor shall retain such records for a period of six (6) years following expiration or termination of this Contract or final payment, whichever is later; *Provided*, however, that if any litigation, claim, or audit is commenced prior to the expiration of this period, such period shall extend until all such litigation, claims, or audits have been resolved.
- 7.2 AUDIT. WAC reserves the right to audit, or have a designated third-party audit, applicable records to ensure that Contractor has properly invoiced WAC. Accordingly, Contractor shall permit WAC and any other duly authorized agent of a governmental agency, to audit, inspect, examine, copy and/or transcribe Contractor's books, documents, papers and records directly pertinent to this Contract for the purpose of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions. This right shall survive for a period of six (6) years following expiration or termination of this Contract or final payment, whichever is later; *Provided*, however, that if any litigation, claim, or audit is commenced prior to the expiration of this period, such period shall extend until all such litigation, claims, or audits have been resolved.
- 7.3 OVERPAYMENT OF PURCHASES. Without limiting any other remedy available to WAC, Contractor shall reimburse WAC for any overpayments inconsistent with the terms of this Contract, at a rate of 125% of such overpayments, found as a result of the examination of the Contractor's records.

8. INSURANCE.

- 8.1 REQUIRED INSURANCE. During the Term of this Contract, Contractor, at its expense, shall maintain in full force and effect the insurance coverages set forth in *Exhibit B – Insurance Requirements*.
- 8.2 WORKERS COMPENSATION. Contractor shall comply with applicable workers compensation statutes and regulations (e.g., RCW Title 51, Industrial Insurance). If Contractor fails to

provide industrial insurance coverage or fails to pay premiums or penalties on behalf of its employees as may be required by law, WAC may terminate this Contract. This provision does not waive any of the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) rights to collect from Contractor. In addition, Contractor waives its immunity under RCW Title 51 to the extent it is required to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the State of Washington and its agencies, officials, agents, or employees.

9. CLAIMS.

- 9.1 ASSUMPTION OF RISKS; CLAIMS BETWEEN THE PARTIES. Contractor assumes sole responsibility and all risks of personal injury or property damage to itself and its employees and agents in connection with Contractor's operations under this Contract. WAC has made no representations regarding any factor affecting Contractor's risks. Contractor shall pay for all damage to any of WAC's property resulting directly or indirectly from its acts or omissions under this Contract, even if not attributable to negligence by Contractor or its agents.
- 9.2 THIRD-PARTY CLAIMS; INDEMNITY. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Contractor shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless WAC and its employees and agents from and against all claims, demands, judgments, assessments, damages, penalties, fines, costs, liabilities or losses including, without limitation, sums paid in settlement of claims, attorneys' fees, consultant fees, and expert fees (collectively "claims") arising from any act or omission of Contractor or its successors, agents, and subcontractors under this Contract, except claims caused solely by WAC's negligence. Contractor shall take all steps needed to keep WAC's property free of liens arising from Contractor's activities, and promptly obtain or bond the release of any such liens that may be filed.

10. DISPUTE RESOLUTION.

- 10.1. The parties shall cooperate to resolve any dispute pertaining to this Contract efficiently, as timely as practicable, and at the lowest possible level with authority to resolve such dispute. If, however, a dispute persists and cannot be resolved, it may be escalated within each organization. In such situation, upon notice by either party, each party, within five (5) business days shall reduce its description of the dispute to writing and deliver it to the other party. The receiving party then shall have three (3) business days to review and respond in writing. In the event that the parties cannot then agree on a resolution of the dispute, the parties shall schedule a conference between the respective senior manager of each organization to attempt to resolve the dispute. In the event the parties cannot agree, either party may resort to court to resolve the dispute.

11. SUSPENSION & TERMINATION; REMEDIES.

- 11.1 SUSPENSION & TERMINATION FOR DEFAULT. WAC may suspend Contractor's operations under this Contract immediately by written cure notice of any default. Suspension shall continue until the default is remedied to WAC's reasonable satisfaction; *Provided*, however, that, if after twenty (20) days from such a suspension notice, Contractor remains in default, WAC may terminate Contractor's rights under this Contract. All of Contractor's obligations to WAC survive termination of Contractor's rights under this Contract, until such obligations have been fulfilled.
- 11.2 DEFAULT. Each of the following events shall constitute default of this Contract by Contractor:

- (a) Contractor fails to perform or comply with any of the terms or conditions of this Contract;
- (b) Contractor breaches any representation or warranty provided herein; or
- (c) Contractor enters into proceedings relating to bankruptcy, whether voluntary or involuntary.

11.3 REMEDIES FOR DEFAULT.

- (a) WAC's rights to suspend and terminate Contractor's rights under this Contract are in addition to all other available remedies.
- (b) In the event of termination for default, WAC may exercise any remedy provided by law including, without limitation, the right to procure replacement services. In such event, Contractor shall be liable to WAC for damages as authorized by law including, but not limited to, any price difference between the Contract price and the replacement or cover price as well as any administrative and/or transaction costs directly related to such replacement procurement – e.g., the cost of the competitive procurement.

11.4 LIMITATION ON DAMAGES. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the parties agree that in no event shall any party be liable to the other for exemplary or punitive damages.

11.5 GOVERNMENTAL TERMINATION.

- (a) Termination for Withdrawal of Authority. WAC may suspend or terminate this Contract if, during the term hereof, WAC's procurement authority is withdrawn, reduced, or limited such that WAC, in its judgment, would lack authority to enter into this Contract; *Provided*, however, that such suspension or termination for withdrawal of authority shall only be effective upon twenty (20) days prior written notice; and *Provided further*, that such suspension or termination for withdrawal of authority shall not relieve WAC from payment for services already ordered as of the effective date of such notice. Except as stated in this provision, in the event of such suspension or termination for withdrawal of authority, WAC shall not have any obligation or liability to Contractor.
- (b) Termination for Public Convenience. WAC, for public convenience, may terminate this Contract; *Provided*, however, that such termination for public convenience must, in WAC's judgment, be in the best interest of the State of Washington; and *Provided further*, that such termination for public convenience shall only be effective upon sixty (60) days prior written notice; and *Provided further*, that such termination for public convenience shall not relieve WAC from payment for services already ordered as of the effective date of such notice. Except as stated in this provision, in the event of such termination for public convenience, WAC shall not have any obligation or liability to Contractor.

11.6 TERMINATION PROCEDURE. Regardless of basis, in the event of suspension or termination (in full or in part), the parties shall cooperate to ensure an orderly and efficient suspension or termination.

12. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

12.1 TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. Time is of the essence for each and every provision of this Contract.

- 12.2 COMPLIANCE WITH LAW. Contractor shall comply with all applicable law.
- 12.3 INTEGRATED AGREEMENT. This Contract constitutes the entire agreement and understanding of the parties with respect to the subject matter and supersedes all prior negotiations, representations, and understandings between them. There are no representations or understandings of any kind not set forth herein.
- 12.4 AMENDMENT OR MODIFICATION. Except as set forth herein, this Contract may not be amended or modified except in writing and signed by a duly authorized representative of each party.
- 12.5 AUTHORITY. Each party to this Contract, and each individual signing on behalf of each party, hereby represents and warrants to the other that it has full power and authority to enter into this Contract and that its execution, delivery, and performance of this Contract has been fully authorized and approved, and that no further approvals or consents are required to bind such party.
- 12.6 NO AGENCY. The parties agree that no agency, partnership, or joint venture of any kind shall be or is intended to be created by or under this Contract. Neither party is an agent of the other party nor authorized to obligate it.
- 12.7 ASSIGNMENTS. Contractor may not assign its rights under this Contract without WAC's prior written consent and WAC may consider any attempted assignment without such consent to be void; *Provided*, however, that, if Contractor provides written notice to WAC within thirty (30) days, Contractor may assign its rights under this Contract in full to any parent, subsidiary, or affiliate of Contractor that controls or is controlled by or under common control with Contractor, is merged or consolidated with Contractor, or purchases a majority or controlling interest in the ownership or assets of Contractor. Unless otherwise agreed, Contractor guarantees prompt performance of all obligations under this Contract notwithstanding any prior assignment of its rights.
- 12.8 BINDING EFFECT; SUCCESSORS & ASSIGNS. This Contract shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.
- 12.9 PUBLIC INFORMATION. This Contract and all related documents are subject to public disclosure as required by Washington's Public Records Act, RCW 42.56. Any specific information submitted to the WAC and claimed by the Contractor to be confidential or proprietary, must be clearly identified as such by the Contractor. To the extent consistent with RCW 42.56, the WAC shall maintain the confidentiality of all such information marked confidential or proprietary. If a request is made to view or obtain copies of the Contractor's proprietary information and the WAC intends to release the information, the WAC will notify the Contractor of the request and notify the Contractor of the date that such records will be released to the requester. It will be the responsibility of the Contractor to obtain any necessary court order enjoining that disclosure. If the Contractor fails to obtain the court order enjoining disclosure, the WAC will release the requested information.
- 12.10 ASSIGNMENT OF ANTITRUST RIGHTS REGARDING PURCHASED GOODS/SERVICES. Contractor irrevocably assigns to WAC, on behalf of the State of Washington, any claim for relief or cause of action which the Contractor now has or which may accrue to the Contractor in the future by reason of any violation of state or federal antitrust laws in connection with any services provided in Washington for the purpose of carrying out the Contractor's obligations under this Contract, including, at WAC's option, the right to control any such litigation on such claim for relief or cause of action.

- 12.11 **FORCE MAJEURE.** Except for payment of sums due, neither party shall be liable to the other or deemed in breach under this Contract if, and to the extent that, such party's performance of this Contract is prevented by reason of force majeure. The term "force majeure" means an occurrence that causes a delay that is beyond the control of the party affected and could not have been avoided by exercising reasonable diligence. Force majeure shall include acts of God, war, riots, strikes, fire, floods, epidemics, or other similar occurrences. If either party is delayed by force majeure, said party shall provide written notification within forty-eight (48) hours. The notification shall provide evidence of the force majeure to the satisfaction of the other party. Such delay shall cease as soon as practicable and written notification of same shall likewise be provided. So far as consistent with the rights reserved below, the time of completion shall be extended by Contract amendment for a period of time equal to the time that the results or effects of such delay prevented the delayed party from performing in accordance with this Contract. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, in the event that a Contractor-declared force majeure event lasts for more than thirty (30) days, WAC shall have the right to terminate the Contract and/or purchase the services set forth in this Contract; *Provided*, however, that in such event, Contractor shall not be liable to WAC for any price difference for such services.
- 12.12 **FEDERAL FUNDS.** To the extent that WAC uses federal funds to purchase services pursuant to this Contract, WAC shall specify any applicable requirement or certification that must be satisfied by Contractor as a condition of payment and Contractor shall adhere to such applicable federal requirements and/or certifications.
- 12.13 **SEVERABILITY.** If any provision of this Contract is held to be invalid or unenforceable, such provision shall not affect or invalidate the remainder of this Contract, and to this end the provisions of this Contract are declared to be severable. If such invalidity becomes known or apparent to the parties, the parties agree to negotiate promptly in good faith in an attempt to amend such provision as nearly as possible to be consistent with the intent of this Contract.
- 12.14 **WAIVER.** Failure of either party to insist upon the strict performance of any of the terms and conditions hereof, or failure to exercise any rights or remedies provided herein or by law, or to notify the other party in the event of breach, shall not release the other party of any of its obligations under this Contract, nor shall any purported oral modification or rescission of this Contract by either party operate as a waiver of any of the terms hereof. No waiver by either party of any breach, default, or violation of any term, warranty, representation, contract, covenant, right, condition, or provision hereof shall constitute waiver of any subsequent breach, default, or violation of the same or other term, warranty, representation, contract, covenant, right, condition, or provision.
- 12.15 **SURVIVAL.** All representations, warranties, covenants, agreements, and indemnities set forth in or otherwise made pursuant to this Contract shall survive and remain in effect following the expiration or termination of this Contract, *Provided*, however, that nothing herein is intended to extend the survival beyond any applicable statute of limitations periods.
- 12.16 **GOVERNING LAW.** The validity, construction, performance, and enforcement of this Contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Washington, without regard to its choice of law or rules.
- 12.17 **JURISDICTION & VENUE.** In the event that any action is brought to enforce any provision of this Contract, the parties agree to submit to exclusive jurisdiction in Thurston County Superior

Court for the State of Washington and agree that in any such action venue shall lie exclusively at Olympia, Washington.

- 12.18 ATTORNEYS' FEES. In the event of litigation or other action brought to enforce the terms of this Contract or alternative dispute process, each party agrees to bear its own attorneys' fees and costs.
- 12.19 FAIR CONSTRUCTION & INTERPRETATION. The provisions of this Contract shall be construed as a whole according to their common meaning and not strictly for or against any party and consistent with the provisions contained herein in order to achieve the objectives and purposes of this Contract. Each party hereto and its counsel has reviewed and revised this Contract and agrees that the normal rules of construction to the effect that any ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting party shall not be construed in the interpretation of this Contract. Each term and provision of this Contract to be performed by either party shall be construed to be both a covenant and a condition.
- 12.20 FURTHER ASSURANCES. In addition to the actions specifically mentioned in this Contract, the parties shall each do whatever may reasonably be necessary to accomplish the transactions contemplated in this Contract including, without limitation, executing any additional documents reasonably necessary to effectuate the provisions and purposes of this Contract.
- 12.21 EXHIBITS. All exhibits referred to herein are deemed to be incorporated in this Contract in their entirety.
- 12.22 CAPTIONS & HEADINGS. The captions and headings in this Contract are for convenience only and are not intended to, and shall not be construed to, limit, enlarge, or affect the scope or intent of this Contract nor the meaning of any provisions hereof.
- 12.23 ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES. An electronic signature or electronic record of this Contract or any other ancillary agreement shall be deemed to have the same legal effect as delivery of an original executed copy of this Contract or such other ancillary agreement for all purposes.
- 12.24 COUNTERPARTS. This Contract may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which counterparts together shall constitute the same instrument which may be sufficiently evidenced by one counterpart. Execution of this Contract at different times and places by the parties shall not affect the validity thereof so long as all the parties hereto execute a counterpart of this Contract.

EXECUTED as of the date and year first above written.

STATE OF WASHINGTON
ASPARAGUS COMMISSION

Agriculture Development Group, Inc.

By: _____

By: _____

Its:

Its:

Washington Asparagus Commission

Research and Consulting Proposal Year 2023

Introduction

This proposal is from Agriculture Development Group, Inc. (ADG) to the Washington Asparagus Commission (WAC) to continue research and consulting activities for the year 2023. The WAC Research Committee decided to discontinue some research projects due to funding shortfall. Only a single project is proposed this year based on recommendations and guidance of the Research Committee and that will be funded by the WAC. A second asparagus project will be carried out this year using funds from the Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration.

Pest Management Trial

1. **Insect Management.** The WAC has made significant progress on developing organic and conventional aphid controls. There are additional conventional and organic aphid control products available for testing. Additionally, the loss of chlorpyrifos (Lorsban) adds to the urgent importance of conducting insect management trials. Lorsban was used to control mixed assemblages of aphids and asparagus beetle. A product slated for registration on asparagus, Sivanto, is known to control aphids based on 2020 research and is known to control beetles in other crops such as Colorado potato beetle. It has not been screened against asparagus beetle. Additionally, there has been interest expressed by growers in learning about the impact of insecticides applied to asparagus on beneficial organisms. We propose to conduct a pair of trials looking at existing, pending and unregistered insecticides for their ability to control aphids and beetle and also examine their impact on beneficial organisms. Because it will be hard to find mixed assemblages of aphids and asparagus beetle. We propose to conduct a trial using the same products in a trial targeting aphids and in a trial targeting asparagus beetle. This will be the second year of a two year project funded by the Washington State Commission on Pesticide Registration.

Production Trial

1. **Developing Variety Specific Fertility Recommendations.** The release of asparagus varieties, which perform significantly different from legacy varieties, has created the question of whether higher producing varieties have different or greater nutrient needs than historical varieties. Some early adopters of new varieties are fertilizing higher yielding varieties with increased level of fertilizers. Recommendations from the company that released Rapsody instruct growers planting this variety to apply less nitrogen than historically has been applied to legacy varieties. In 2015, highly fertilized Rapsody showed significant growth defects that were attributed to over fertilization by the company that released the variety.

In 2016, we established plots of Rapsody, Voltaire, Guelph Millennium, and Jersey Knight as standard varieties for comparisons. Each variety will be grown using four levels of fertilizer and each treatment is replicated six times for a total of 96 plots. All other variables such as plant density, weed, disease, insect pressure, and irrigation will be kept constant. It was not possible to obtain all four varieties from the same crown grower, so the trial was initiated using transplanted seedlings. The plots will be harvested for the entire season. Information will be collected on yield and grade.

Budget

	2023	2024	2025	2026
Insect Trial	0			
Asparagus Fertility Trial by Variety	<u>10,000</u>			
	10,000	To be determined based on Commission budget	To be determined based on Commission budget	To be determined based on Commission budget

THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THIS CONTRACT WILL NOT EXCEED \$80,000. THE AMOUNTS FOR RESEARCH FOR YEARS 2024, 2025 AND 2026 WILL BE DEPENDENT ON THE COMMISSION'S ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THOSE YEARS.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. **INSURANCE OBLIGATION.** During the Term of this Contract, Contractor shall possess and maintain in full force and effect, at Contractor's sole expense, the following insurance coverages:
 - a. **COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE.** Commercial general liability insurance (and, if necessary, commercial umbrella liability insurance) covering bodily injury, property damage, products/completed operations, personal injury, and advertising injury liability on an 'occurrence form' that shall be no less comprehensive and no more restrictive than the coverage provided by Insurance Services Office (ISO) under the most recent version of form CG 00 01 in the amount of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 general aggregate. This coverage shall include blanket contractual liability coverage. This coverage shall include a cross-liability clause or separation of insured condition.
 - b. **WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE.** Contractor shall comply with applicable Workers' Compensation or Industrial Accident insurance providing benefits as required by law.
 - c. **EMPLOYER'S LIABILITY (STOP GAP) INSURANCE.** Employer's liability insurance (and, if necessary, commercial umbrella liability insurance) with limits not less than \$1,000,000 each accident for bodily injury by accident, \$1,000,000 each employee for bodily injury by disease, and \$1,000,000 bodily injury by disease policy limit.
 - d. **COMMERCIAL AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY INSURANCE.** Commercial automobile liability insurance covering the ownership, maintenance, and/or use of all owned/leased, non-owned, and hired vehicles used in the performance of the Contract, with limits of not less than \$1,000,000 per accident, combined single limit for bodily injury and property damage liability. Coverage shall be provided on Insurance Services Office (ISO) form number CA 0001 or an equivalent. The required limits can be satisfied by any combination of primary, umbrella, or excess policy.

The insurance coverage limits set forth herein are the minimum. Contractor's insurance coverage shall be no less than the minimum amounts specified. Coverage in the amounts of these minimum limits, however, shall not be construed to relieve Contractor from liability in excess of such limits. Contractor waives all rights against the State of Washington for the recovery of damages to the extent such damages are covered by any insurance required herein.

2. **INSURANCE CARRIER RATING.** Coverages provided by the Contractor must be underwritten by an insurance company deemed acceptable to the State of Washington's Office of Risk Management. Insurance coverage shall be provided by companies authorized to do business within the State of Washington and rated A- Class VII or better in the most recently published edition of Best's Insurance Rating. WAC reserves the right to reject all or any insurance carrier(s) with an unacceptable financial rating.
3. **ADDITIONAL INSURED.** Commercial General Liability, Commercial Automobile Liability, and Pollution Liability Insurance shall include the State of Washington and all authorized Purchasers (and their agents, officers, and employees) as Additional Insureds evidenced by copy of the Additional Insured Endorsement attached to the Certificate of Insurance on such insurance policies.
4. **CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE.** Prior to execution of the Contract, Contractor shall furnish to WAC, as evidence of the insurance coverage required by this Contract, a certificate of insurance satisfactory to WAC that insurance, in the above-stated kinds and minimum amounts, has been secured. In addition, no less than ten (10) days prior to coverage expiration, Contractor shall

furnish to WAC an updated or renewed certificate of insurance, satisfactory to WAC, that insurance, in the above-stated kinds and minimum amounts, has been secured. Failure to maintain or provide proof of insurance, as required, will result in contract cancellation. **All policies and certificates of insurance shall include the Contract number stated on the cover of this Contract.** All certificates of Insurance and any related insurance documents shall be delivered to WAC by U.S. mail, postage prepaid, or sent via email, and shall be sent to the address or email address set forth below or to such other address or email address as WAC may specify in writing:

US Mail: Contracts & Procurement – Contract Insurance Certificate
Contract No. K4447 – Research of Washington Asparagus
Jim Middleton, Chair
1441 Pasco Kahlotus Rd.
Pasco, WA 99301

Email: jemiddle@yahoo.com

Note: For Email notice, the Email Subject line must state:

Contract Insurance Certificate – Contract No. K4447 – Research of Washington Asparagus

5. **PRIMARY COVERAGE.** Contractor's insurance shall apply as primary and shall not seek contribution from any insurance or self-insurance maintained by, or provided to, the additional insureds listed above including, at a minimum, the State of Washington and/or any Purchaser. All insurance or self-insurance of the State of Washington and/or Purchasers shall be excess of any insurance provided by Contractor or subcontractors.
6. **SUBCONTRACTORS.** Contractor shall include all subcontractors as insureds under all required insurance policies. Alternatively, prior to utilizing any subcontractor, Contractor shall cause any such subcontractor to provide insurance that complies with all applicable requirements of the insurance set forth herein and shall furnish separate Certificates of Insurance and endorsements for each subcontractor. Each subcontractor must comply fully with all insurance requirements stated herein. Failure of any subcontractor to comply with insurance requirements does not limit Contractor's liability or responsibility.
7. **WAIVER OF SUBROGATION.** Contractor waives all rights of subrogation against the State of Washington and any Purchaser for the recovery of damages to the extent such damages are or would be covered by the insurance specified herein.
8. **NOTICE OF CHANGE OR CANCELLATION.** There shall be no cancellation, material change, exhaustion of aggregate limits, or intent not to renew insurance coverage, either in whole or in part, without at least sixty (60) days prior written Legal Notice by Contractor to WAC. Failure to provide such notice, as required, shall constitute default by Contractor. Any such written notice shall include the Contract number stated on the cover of this Contract.
9. **EXTENDED REPORTING PERIOD.** If any required insurance coverage is on a claims-made basis (rather than occurrence), Contractor shall maintain such coverage for a period of no less than three (3) years following expiration or termination of the Contract.