REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

THE APPOINTMENT OF A SERVICE PROVIDER TO EVALUATE AND COMMERCIALIZE ARC SWEET POTATO VARIETIES

EOI NUMBER: ARC/07/08/2026

THIS REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IS ISSUED BY THE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (ARC) TO INVITE INTERESTED PARTIES TO EVALUATE AND COMMERCIALISE ARC SWEET POTATO VARIETIES

The ARC seeks to identify interested organizations/individuals, with relevant experience and capabilities, to participate in this program. The ARC reserves the right to appoint, or not appoint, any service provider/s through this Request for Expression of Interest.

Date of issue	**06 August 2026**	
Date for briefing session	**26 August 2026**	
Closing date and time	**18 September 2026 at 11:00am**	
EOI Number	**ARC/07/08/2026**	
Submissions to be emailed to:	MuhanelwaE@arc.agric.za	
Compulsory briefing session	Briefing session will be conducted online through **Microsoft Teams meeting** (Refer to below link)	
Join: https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/313413071387611?p=HZ8ZPiHfKb7qYjAnBl **Meeting ID: 313 413 071 387 611** **Passcode: bJ7ve7Cv**		
Enquiries SCM	Ms. Elelwani Muhanelwa	MuhanelwaE@arc.agric.za
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1. BACKGROUND

The ARC developed new sweet potato varieties aimed at improving wilt disease tolerance, dry matter content in combination with keeping ability, root quality and suitability for agro-processing. These varieties show great potential for commercialization (cultivation and processing). It is envisaged that the new varieties will provide alternatives for the limited number of varieties currently available.

2. PURPOSE

The ARC requires the services of a service provider to assist in the evaluation and commercialization of ARC sweet potato varieties. The scope of work should be defined through the **Expression of Interest** to the Bid Evaluation Committee by providing 1) a document with compulsory bid requirements; 2) expression of interest form which should be completed and 3) catalogue of available varieties.

3. MOTIVATION/S FOR CONSIDERATION

Fusarium wilt is caused by *Fusarium oxysporum,* this disease spreads with planting material and infected plants also infect the soil (soil-borne disease). Wilt disease can cause severe yield loss in susceptible cultivars such as Blesbok. When cutting through the stem of an infected plant, a reddish-brown discoloration of vascular tissues can be seen. The leaves turn yellow, blacken and die. The most effective to curb the problem is use of varieties which are more tolerant than Blesbok such as ARC-SP-11, ARC-SP-12 and ARC-SP-14 (refer to Catalogue of Varieties). There are also cream and orange-fleshed varieties with tolerance. Purple-fleshed (ARC-SP-17,18,19 and 20) and orange-fleshed varieties (Bophelo, Khumo, ARC-SP-2, 5, 6, 7, 10 and 16) offer excellent options for agro-processing (refer to Catalogue of Varieties).

4. SCOPE OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The scope of the expression of interest is to allow the service providers to demonstrate their suitability to be appointed as a service provider for the evaluation and commercialization of the ARC sweet potato varieties. Accordingly, the service providers need to demonstrate the following:

- Detailed plan for the multiplication, evaluation and commercialization of ARC Sweet Potato Varieties;
- Required experience to achieve the required project outcomes;
- Required financial and human capacity to achieve required project outcomes;
- Considerable experience in the marketing and distribution of sweet potato varieties; and
- Projected sweet potato vine sales of successfully evaluated sweet potato varieties.

5. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST SUBMISSION

5.1 EVALUATION PROCESS

This bid will be evaluated in three-phases. Bids evaluation process will be conducted, and the bidder must qualify at each stage to be eligible to proceed to the next stage of the evaluation as follows:

- Phase 1: Administrative Compliance
- Phase 2: Mandatory Requirements
- Phase 3: Functionality Criteria

5.1.1 PHASE 1: ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLIANCE

Bidders must submit the following administrative compliance documents:

- Current and updated Central Supplier Database report (CSD report).
- Valid TAX PIN number from SARS.
- Company registration certificate.
- The respondent must complete and sign all Standard bidding documents.

5.1.2 PHASE 2: MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

Bidders will be evaluated on mandatory requirements as indicated below and failure to meet these requirements will result in disqualification and bidders will not proceed to be evaluated on functionality. The following attachments are required:

No	Description	Comply	Not comply
1.	Attendance of **compulsory briefing session** **Failure to attend the compulsory briefing session will lead disqualification and proposals will not be considered further.**		
2.	Completed template for information required for the expression of interest form (attached below).		
3.	Bidders **MUST** submit the following required attachments: • Company profile; • Three years' financial statements and vine sales records; • Required reference letters; • Title deed(s); lease agreement(s) for land.		

Template for information required for Expression of Interest for Sweet Potato

Proposal from interested parties should not exceed 10 pages (company profile to be attached as annexure).

1. Organizational Structure (Company profile)	Please tick where appropriate:
Organization/company type:	
• NGO	
• Individual Farmer	
• Farmer cooperative	
• Partnership: (please list all partners below):	

• Other: (add detail below):		
Attach company profile		
• Description of experience similar or relevant work conducted (200 words):		
2. Ownership/renting of land		
Indicate ownership/lease of land	Please tick where appropriate:	
• Landowner		
• Renting/leasing		
• Other (please add information below:		
Attach title deed/lease agreement		
• Description of ownership (100 words):		
3. Evidence of experience in the vine multiplication of sweet potatoes.		
	Indicate number of years	
• Number of years experience as Sweet potato Vine grower		
• Number of years experience in Commercial sweet potato production		
• Description of multiplication experience/activities (150 words)		
4. Farm/production area information		
Please provide the information below:		
• GPS coordinates of the area to be utilized		
• Arable field size available		
• Fencing	Yes	No
• Crops currently grown (list crops):		

• Soil type (Please indicate if soil type vary significantly):		
• Land preparation practices followed on the farm:		
• Availability of water for irrigation purposes and water use right	Yes	No
• Specifications of the irrigation system available:		
• Method of irrigation scheduling:		
• Access to suitable equipment for effective land preparation and trial maintenance		
• Tractor		
• Plough		
• Ripper		
• Ridge maker		
• Potato harvester		
• Disc		
• Harrow		
• Storage facility		
• Other: please indicate below:		
• Experience in pest and disease management:		
• Experience in weed control:		
5. Participation in the sweet potato value chain		
Attach reference letters (Reference letters must be in the bidder`s name, on the client`s letterhead, have contact details of the client, description of interaction with the service		

provider and signed by the delegated official.)

Description of market experience and potential growth (200 words maximum)
[Indicate e.g. where marketing, tonnage. Include potential growth
Participation in market days; Client base]

6. Revenue from the sale of sweet potato vines

Attach vine sales records for the past 3 years and financial statements

Describe vine sales activities during the past 3 years and provide projections for future vine sales (150 words)

7. Project Plan

Demonstrate the capacity to upscale the production of a product and competitive pricing of existing products.
Describe how the company took the sweet potatoes to commercialization.
List the province(s) where evaluations will be caried out
List the potential risks of the project and mitigation step

Describe in maximum 400 words

8. Commitment

I agree to ARC visiting for **inspection** of production:	Yes	No
I agree to run the trials for the full **growing period of five months**:	Yes	No
I will **keep records** of all evaluation information:	Yes	No

9. List of varieties you are interested to evaluate

Failure to submit the documents mentioned above will lead to a disqualification of the bid.

5.1.3 PHASE 3: FUNCTIONALITY CRITERIA

It must be noted that this bid will be evaluated on compliance with the scope of works and Technical Functionality. The following criteria will be applicable. Bidders that score less than 60% (60 points) of the mark for technicality/functionality will be eliminated from further consideration.

Criteria	Weight
1. Experience in sweet potato multiplication	**20**
Experience with sweet potato vine multiplication indicated in company profile (experience; similar or relevant work conducted; vine sales records) • Less than 1 year experience: Poor = **1 point** • 1-2 years' experience: Average = **2 points** • 3 years' experience: Good = **3 points** • 4-5 years' experience: Very good = **4 points** • More than 5 years' experience: Excellent = **5 points**	
2. Proof of participation in the sweet potato value chain (Reference Letters)	**30**

2.1. The Service provider/bidder must submit valid reference letters participation in the sweet potato value chain with reference to the sale of sweet potato vines. Reference letters must be in the bidder`s name, on the client`s letterhead, have contact details of the client, description of interaction with the service provider and signed by the delegated official. • Non-submission/ irrelevant reference letter(s): Poor = **1 point** • 1-2 reference letters: Avg = **2 points** • 3 reference letters: Good = **3 points** • 4 reference letters: Very good = **4 points** • 5 /more reference letters: Excellent = **5 points**	15
2.2 Availability of **arable and irrigated land suitable for sweet potato**. Bidders must demonstrate the availability of arable and irrigated land suitable for sweet potato. • Less than 2 ha: Poor = **1 point** • 2–7 ha: Average = **2 point** • 8-10 ha: Good = **3 points** • 10-12 ha: Very good = **4 points** • > 12 ha: Excellent = **5 points**	15
3. Evidence of revenue from the sale of sweet potato vines	**20**
The bidder must provide sweet potato vine sales records and from financial statements: • Less than R700 000: Poor = **1 point** • R700 000 – R999 999 : Average = **2 points** • R1 000 000 – R1 499 999: Good = **3 points**	

• R1 500 000 – R1 999 999: Very good = **4 points** • More than R2 000 000: Excellent = **5 points**	
4. Project Plan	**15**
Bidders must submit a Project Plan demonstrating the following: a) The capacity to upscale the production of the product and competitive pricing of existing products; b) Describe how the company took the sweet potatoes to commercialization; c) List the province(s) where evaluations will be caried out; d) List the potential risks of the project and mitigation steps. Points allocation guide: • Submitted Project Execution Plan not compliant to any of the requirements above: Poor= **1 point** • Project Execution Plan includes only **One** facet indicated above: Avg =**2 points** • Project Execution Plan includes only **Two** facets indicated above: Good =**3 points** • Project Execution Plan includes only **Three** facets indicated above: Very Good =**4 points** Project Execution Plan includes **ALL Four** facets indicated above: Excellent =**5 points**	
5. Financial Stability	**15**
Provide (3) years audited and signed off financial statements with positive balance in accordance with the Companies Act, Act No. 71 of 2008, for the past three (3) consecutive and concurrent years where the company's financial stability will be assessed for the full three financial year period. • Non-submission of financial statements; Poor = **1 point** • Provided financial statements **One(1) to Two (2) years, to date**: Avg = **2 points** • Provided financial statements for **Three (3) consecutive years, to date:** Good = **3 points** • Provided financial statements for **Four (4) consecutive years, to date**: Very	

Good = **4 points** • Provided financial statements **Five (5) consecutive years; to date**: Excellent = **5 points**	
TOTAL	**100**
The minimum score to be achieved on functionality is 60%. Bids that do not obtain the minimum score of 60% out of 100% for functionality will be disqualified and will not be considered for evaluation or commercialization licensing	

6. CONFIDENTIALITY

The appointed service provider will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement and ensure all information obtained during the assessment remains confidential.

7. VETTING CRITERIA

- A complete vetting process will be followed.
- The proposed supplier will be vetted according to the following criteria:

  Submission of administrative and mandatory requirements listed above, and general Information of the supplier as requested below.

8. GENERAL INFORMATION

- Companies must be prepared to enter a valid 'Evaluation agreement' and/or 'License Agreement' with the ARC.
- A service provider selected for the evaluation of ARC sweet potato varieties may have an advantage to enter into a licensing agreement with the ARC. In this regard, a service provider that concluded an evaluate agreement will not automatically be appointed to conclude commercialisation agreement with the ARC. The commercialization of ARC cultivars follows an independent process of licensing.
- Submit a preliminary proposal on how the company will assist the ARC with the commercialization of the ARC sweet potato varieties.

- The ARC must have full access to farm(s) during all stages of multiplication, evaluation and commercialization.
- The interested company must have a proven track record of scope of work related to this project.
- For evaluation and commercialization, the company must provide a proven record and footprint of activities.
- The Company must indicate how ARC products in their possession will be protected.
- Should the Company contravene any of the stipulations, the ARC has the right to terminate the partnership.

9. COSTS OF SUBMISSION

Parties submitting an Expression of Interest assume all risks for resource commitment and expenses, direct or indirect, of proposal preparation and participation throughout the EOI process. The ARC is not responsible directly or indirectly for any costs incurred by the parties.

10. SITE VISITS

The ARC may decide/request to visit the shortlisted companies to further conduct suitability assessments. Arrangements for the visits will be coordinated well in advance.

11. PROCESS FOR SHORTLISTED APPLICANT/S

The shortlisted applicant(s) will proceed to the evaluation phase where further assessments will be completed.

The successful applicant will be subject to the parties agreeing to mutually acceptable terms and conditions. In the event of the parties failing to reach such agreement within a mutually agreed date after the provisional appointment date, the ARC reserves the right to appoint or not appoint.

12. DISCLAIMERS

The request for Expression of Interest by the ARC is advertised in good faith. However, the ARC, its agents, employees and collaborators/partners do not warrant its accuracy or completeness. To the extent that the law permits, the

ARC will not be liable for any claim whatsoever and howsoever arising (including, without limitation, any claim in contract, negligence or otherwise) from any incorrect or misleading information contained in this request due to any misinterpretation. This request is not an offer document; answers must not be construed as acceptance of an offer or imply the existence of a contract between the parties. By submission of its information, organizations shall be deemed to have satisfied themselves with and to have accepted all Terms and Conditions of this request. The ARC makes no representation, warranty, assurance, guarantee or endorsements to any party concerning the request, whether regarding its accuracy, completeness or otherwise and the ARC shall have no liability towards any party in connection therewith.

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BIDDER'S DISCLOSURE

1. PURPOSE OF THE FORM

Any person (natural or juristic) may make an offer or offers in terms of this invitation to bid. In line with the principles of transparency, accountability, impartiality, and ethics as enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and further expressed in various pieces of legislation, it is required for the bidder to make this declaration in respect of the details required hereunder.

Where a person/s are listed in the Register for Tender Defaulters and / or the List of Restricted Suppliers, that person will automatically be disqualified from the bid process.

2. Bidder's declaration

2.1 Is the bidder, or any of its directors / trustees / shareholders / members / partners or any person having a controlling interest in the enterprise,
employed by the state? **YES/NO**

2.1.1 If so, furnish particulars of the names, individual identity numbers, and, if applicable, state employee numbers of sole proprietor/ directors / trustees / shareholders / members/ partners or any person having a controlling interest in the enterprise, in table below.

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1. the power, by one person or a group of persons holding the majority of the equity of an enterprise, alternatively, the person/s having the deciding vote or power to influence or to direct the course and decisions of the enterprise.

Full Name	**Identity Number**	**Name of State institution**

2.2 Do you, or any person connected with the bidder, have a relationship with any person who is employed by the procuring institution? **YES/NO**

2.2.1 If so, furnish particulars:

……

……

2.3 Does the bidder or any of its directors / trustees / shareholders / members / partners or any person having a controlling interest in the enterprise have any interest in any other related enterprise whether or not they are bidding for this contract? **YES/NO**

2.3.1 If so, furnish particulars:

……

……

3 DECLARATION

I, the undersigned, (name)…….. in submitting the accompanying bid, do hereby make the following statements that I certify to be true and complete in every respect:

3.1 I have read and I understand the contents of this disclosure;

3.2 I understand that the accompanying bid will be disqualified if this disclosure is found not to be true and complete in every respect;

3.3 The bidder has arrived at the accompanying bid independently from, and without consultation, communication, agreement or arrangement with any competitor. However, communication between partners in a joint venture or consortium will not be construed as collusive bidding.

3.4 In addition, there have been no consultations, communications, agreements or arrangements with any competitor regarding the quality, quantity, specifications, prices, including methods, factors or formulas used to calculate prices, market allocation, the intention or decision to submit or not to submit the bid, bidding with the intention not to win the bid and conditions or delivery particulars of the products or services to which this bid invitation relates.

3.4 The terms of the accompanying bid have not been, and will not be, disclosed by the bidder, directly or indirectly, to any competitor, prior to the date and time of the official bid opening or of the awarding of the contract.

3.5 There have been no consultations, communications, agreements or arrangements made by the bidder with any official of the procuring institution in relation to this procurement process prior to and during the bidding process except to provide clarification on the bid submitted where so required by the institution; and the bidder was not involved in the drafting of the specifications or terms of reference for this bid.

3.6 I am aware that, in addition and without prejudice to any other remedy provided to combat any restrictive practices related to bids and contracts, bids that are suspicious will be reported to the Competition Commission for investigation and possible imposition of administrative penalties in terms of section 59 of the Competition Act No 89 of 1998 and or may be reported to the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) for criminal investigation and or may be restricted from conducting business with the public sector for a period not exceeding ten

(10) years in terms of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act No 12 of 2004 or any other applicable legislation.

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION FURNISHED IN PARAGRAPHS 1, 2 and 3 ABOVE IS CORRECT.

I ACCEPT THAT THE STATE MAY REJECT THE BID OR ACT AGAINST ME IN TERMS OF PARAGRAPH 6
OF PFMA SCM INSTRUCTION 03 OF 2021/22 ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING ABUSE IN THE
SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT SYSTEM SHOULD THIS DECLARATION PROVE TO BE

2.2 Do you, or any person connected with the bidder, have a relationship with any person who is employed by

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2 Joint venture or Consortium means an association of persons for the purpose of combining their expertise, property, capital, efforts, skill and knowledge in an activity for the execution of a contract.

.....	.....
Signature	Date
.....	.....
Position	Name of bidder

CULTIVAR CATALOGUE: SWEET POTATOES

Sunette Laurie slaurie@arc.agric.za; Mmapaseka Malebana malebanem@arc.agric.za

1. PURPLE SKIN, CREAM-FLESHED VARIETIES AND LINES

1.1 Blesbok (Benchmark- Commercial market)

- Origin: ARC Sweet Potato Research
- Shape: Long oblong – long elliptic
- Skin colour: Purple
- Flesh colour: Pale cream
- Dry mass %: 16.6
- Advantages: Excellent yield, early maturing
- Disadvantage: Few constrictions, watery taste, susceptible to wilt
- Market suitability: Fresh market/export/freezing
- IP protection type: Open Variety

Opportunity type

- Commercial production both local and international
- Germplasm exchange for research

1.2 ARC-SP-11 (NC51-1) PBR Variety

- Origin: ARC sweet potato research
- Shape: Short Oblong– Long oblong
- Skin colour: Purple
- Flesh colour: Dark cream
- Dry mass %: 18.1
- Advantages: High yield; uniform; average-good storability; stable across environments; Blesbok type variety with moderate Fusarium wilt tolerance
- Disadvantage: Skinning may occur
- Market suitability: Fresh market

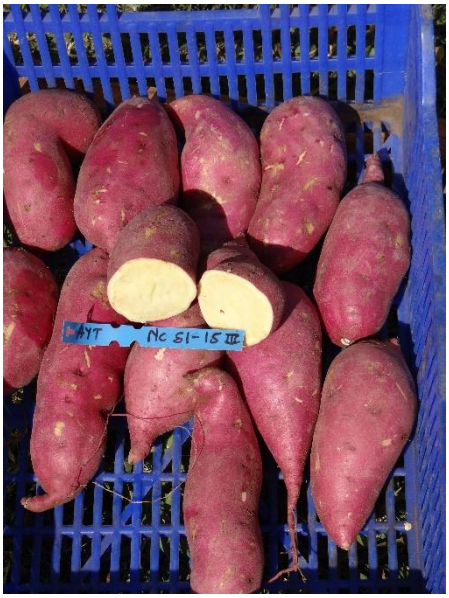
IP Protection Number:

- PBR ZA 20238080
- Date of grant: 2023/08/21

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Semi-commercial evaluation through a license agreement

1.3 ARC-SP-12 (NC51-15)



- Origin: ARC Sweet Potato Research
- Shape: Short oblong – Obovate – Long elliptic
- Skin colour: Purple-Pale purple
- Flesh colour: Dark cream
- Dry mass %: 23
- Advantages: High dry mass content, high yield, good storability, dryer-cooked texture, wilt tolerance
- Disadvantage: Skinning may occur

IP Protection Number:

- PBR ZA 20258491
- Date of grant: 2025/09/15

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Semi-commercial evaluation through license agreement

1.4 2018-1-2 (ARC-SP-13)

- Origin: ARC Sweet Potato Research and LSU
- Shape: Elliptic - Ovate
- Skin colour: Purple Red
- Flesh colour: Cream
- Dry mass %: 19%
- Advantages: High yield, uniform, smooth skin, good taste
- Disadvantage: Slight skinning, moderately susceptible to wilt
- Market suitability: Fresh market/export/freezing
- IP protection type: PBR application

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Semi-commercial evaluation through license agreement

1.5 2018-9-2 (ARC-SP-14)

- Origin: ARC Sweet Potato Research
- Shape: Elliptic – Obovate – Long elliptic
- Skin colour: Pale Purple
- Flesh colour: Cream/White
- Dry mass %: 20.7%
- Advantages: Resistance to wilt, tolerance to nematodes, uniform shape
- Disadvantage: More latex, skin colour washes off
- Market suitability: Fresh market/export/freezing
- IP protection type: PBR application

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Semi-commercial evaluation through license agreement

2. CREAM SKIN, CREAM-FLESHED VARIETIES AND LINES

2.1 Ndou (Benchmark – Informal market) Open variety

- Origin: ARC Sweet Potato Research
- Shape: Heavy elliptic – long elliptic
- Skin colour: Cream
- Flesh colour: Dark cream (sometimes slight orange)
- Dry mass %: 24.6
- Advantages: High yield, good taste
- Disadvantage: Some insect damage, susceptible to wilt
- Market suitability: Local informal market/Food security
- IP protection type: Open Variety

Opportunity type

- Informal market suitability
- Germplasm exchange for research

2.2 Monate (Benchmark – Informal market) Open variety

- Origin: ARC Sweet Potato Research
- Shape: Round elliptic – long elliptic
- Skin colour: Cream, purple tip
- Flesh colour: Cream
- Dry mass %: 22.9
- Advantages: High yield, good taste, early maturing, moderate tolerance to wilt
- Disadvantage: Insect damage, rat damage, sprouting
- Market suitability: Local informal market/Food security
- IP protection type: Open Variety

Opportunity type

- Informal market suitability
- Germplasm exchange for research

2.3 2018-6-1 (ARC-SP-15) PBR

- Origin: ARC Sweet Potato Research
- Shape: Long elliptic - Obovate
- Skin colour: Cream Ndou type)
- Flesh colour: Yellowish cream with orange fibres
- Dry mass %: 20.95
- Advantages: Improved storability and smooth skin
- Disadvantage: Susceptible to wilt
- Market suitability: Local informal market/Food security
- IP protection type: PBR application

Opportunity type

- Informal market suitability
- Germplasm exchange for research

3. COMMERCIAL ORANGE-FLESHED VARIETIES AND LINES

3.1 Beauregard (Benchmark – Commercial market) Open variety

- Origin: USA
- Shape: Long oblong – Long elliptic
- Skin colour: Red purple pink
- Flesh colour: Orange
- Dry mass %: 17.9
- Advantages: Uniform, attractive, smooth, tolerance to wilt
- Disadvantage: Performance less stable, variation in flesh colour
- Market suitability: Fresh/Export/Freezing market
- IP protection type: Open Variety

Opportunity type

- Commercial production

3.2 ARC-SP-2 (2004-9-2) PBR LICENSE REQUIRED

- Origin: ARC sweet potato research
- Shape: Round - Oblong
- Skin colour: Brownish pink orange
- Flesh colour: Orange
- Dry mass %: 20.7
- Advantages: Early maturing; Moderate tolerance to wilt
- Disadvantage: Susceptible to virus
- Market suitability: Suitable for agro-processing market

IP Protection Number:

- PBR ZA 20135392
- Date of grant: 2013/09/19

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Semi-commercial evaluation for product development through a license agreement

3.3 ARC-SP-5 (2008-12-4) PBR LICENSE REQUIRED

- Origin: ARC sweet potato research
- Shape: Obovate - Round
- Skin colour: Dark red purple
- Flesh colour: Dark Orange
- Dry mass %: 17.4
- Advantages: High yield; attractive skin; uniform flesh color; high beta carotene content
- Disadvantage: May have latex and prominent tails
- Market suitability: Niche markets due to latex

IP Protection Number:

- PBR ZA 20237911
- Date of grant: 2023/03/16

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Semi-commercial evaluation for product development through a license agreement

3.4 ARC-SP-7 (2014-7-3) PBR

- Origin: ARC sweet potato research
- Shape: Round elliptic - Elliptic
- Skin colour: Red copper skin
- Flesh colour: Dark Orange
- Dry mass %: 21.7
- Advantages: Attractive, good storability; uniform; high in beta-carotene
- Disadvantage: Susceptible to wilt
- Market suitability: Fresh market/agro processing

IP Protection Number:

- PBR ZA 20237911
- Date of grant: 2023/03/16

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Semi-commercial evaluation through a license agreement

3.5 ARC-SP-10 (2010-15-2) PBR

- Origin: ARC sweet potato research
- Shape: Long elliptic – Long oblong
- Skin colour: Bright purple-red
- Flesh colour: Dark Orange
- Dry mass %: 19.9
- Advantages: High yield; very uniform; very good storability; high in ßeta-carotene
- Disadvantage: May show leaf and stem blight when conditions are conducive
- Market suitability: Export/Fresh market/Product development

IP Protection Number:

- PBR ZA 20238079
- Date of grant: 2023/08/21

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research

Semi-commercial evaluation through license agreement

4. ORANGE SKIN, ORANGE-FLESHED VARIETIES AND LINES

4.1 Bophelo (Benchmark – Informal market) PBR

- Origin: ARC sweet potato research
- Shape: Obovate – Round elliptic
- Skin colour: Orange
- Flesh colour: Orange
- Dry mass %: 23
- Advantages: Uniform size and shape; high beta carotene content, tolerant to nematodes
- Disadvantage: Average to poor storability, susceptible to virus and weevil
- Market suitability: Informal/agro processing/food security to address vit A deficiency

IP Protection Number:

- PBR ZA 20114877
- Date of grant: 2011/08/09

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Production and food security initiatives

4.2 Khumo (Benchmark – Informal market) PBR

- Origin: ARC sweet potato research
- Shape: Ovate – Elliptic
- Skin colour: Peach Orange
- Flesh colour: Orange
- Dry mass %: 23.2
- Advantages: Pleasant and creamy taste. Slightly higher beta carotene content than Bophelo
- Disadvantage: Poor storability
- Market suitability: Popular on informal market/Promoted to address vitamin A deficiency/Processing

IP Protection Number:

- PBR ZA 20207182
- Date of grant: 2020/09/29

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Production and food security initiatives

4.3 ARC-SP-6 (2014-13-1) PBR

- Origin: ARC sweet potato research
- Shape: Round elliptic - Obovate
- Skin colour: Orange
- Flesh colour: Orange
- Dry mass %: 19
- Advantages: Tolerance to wilt. Uniform shape and pleasant shape
- Disadvantage: Poor skin quality; latex
- Market suitability: Informal market/Processing

IP Protection Number:

- PBR ZA 20237910
- Date of grant: 2023/03/16

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Production and food security initiatives

NC55-2 (ARC-SP-16) PBR

- Origin: ARC sweet potato research
- Shape: Elliptic – Long elliptic
- Skin colour: Dark Orange
- Flesh colour: Dark Orange
- Dry mass %: 18.8
- Advantages: Higher beta carotene content than Bophelo and Khumo. Nice and sweet taste
- Disadvantage: Skin could have roughness
- Market suitability: Informal market/Food security initiatives

IP Protection Number:

- PBR application

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Production and food security initiatives

5. PURPLE-FLESHED VARIETIES AND LINES

5.1 2021-1-11 (ARC-SP-17) PBR

- Origin: ARC sweet potato research
- Shape: Elliptic – Obovate
- Skin colour: Dark purple
- Flesh colour: Dark purple
- Dry mass %: >22
- Advantages: Uniform and attractive shape. High in antioxidants
- Disadvantage: Some roots with long ends. Slightly bitter taste
- Market suitability: Niche market/Agro processing

IP Protection Number:

- PBR application

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Product development

5.2 2021-1-6 (ARC-SP-18) PBR

- Origin: ARC sweet potato research
- Shape: Long elliptic – Long oblong
- Skin colour: Very dark purple
- Flesh colour: Violet
- Dry mass %: 19.7
- Advantages: Smooth skin with uniform shape. High in antioxidants
- Disadvantage:
- Market suitability: Niche market/Agro processing

IP Protection Number:

- PBR

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Product development

5.3 2021-1-13 (ARC-SP-19) PBR

- Origin: ARC sweet potato research
- Shape: Oblong - Elliptic
- Skin colour: Dark violet
- Flesh colour: Violet
- Dry mass %: 18
- Advantages: Very nice shape. Excellent storage root quality
- Disadvantage:
- Market suitability: Niche market/Agro processing

IP Protection Number:

- PBR application

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Product development

5.4 2021-1-8 (ARC-SP-20) PBR

- Origin: ARC sweet potato research
- Shape: Round elliptic - Elliptic
- Skin colour: Purple red
- Flesh colour: Cream ring with purple centre
- Dry mass %: 18.9
- Advantages: Attractive, glossy skin with slight lenticels and eyes. High in antioxidants
- Disadvantage:
- Market suitability: Niche market/Agro processing

IP Protection Number:

- PBR application

Opportunity type

- Germplasm exchange for research
- Product development