

**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE**  
**AND**  
**THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**  
**THE STATE OF ISRAEL**

58-0210-5M-F040

**ARTICLE I**  
**PURPOSE**

THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE of the State of Israel, hereinafter referred to as MA, and the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, hereinafter referred to as ARS, hereinafter jointly referred to as "the Participants," hereby affirm their mutual interest in, and desire to broaden, cooperative research programs and exchanges.

The intent of this non-binding Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) is to help strengthen the cooperation between the Participants and focus the mutual interest in the broad areas of animal science, plant science, soil science, agriculture and other additional fields as may be mutually decided upon by the Participants. To this end, the Participants may jointly explore and coordinate research activities of mutual interest, which would be implemented by mutual understanding and in conformity with the regulations and policies of both Participants.

This MOC outlines, in general terms, a basis for cooperation between the Participants. Individual projects may be developed between MA and ARS and their cooperating institutions based on the specific research and development areas outlined below. ARS and MA and their respective agencies and offices will handle their own activities and utilize their own resources, including the expenditure of their own funds, in pursuing these objectives. Each party will carry out its separate activities in a coordinated and mutually beneficial manner.

**ARTICLE II**  
**MUTUAL INTERESTS**

Both Participants desire to promote sustainable and profitable agricultural practices, ensure the safety of agricultural systems and preserve natural resources. The Participants have mutual interest in fostering long-term collaborative research and development activities, and intend to facilitate cooperation among agricultural institutions and specialists as jointly deemed appropriate. Cooperative activities may be in the following areas of interest: Food safety, biosecurity as it pertains to agriculture, crop production protection, biotechnology, water quality, integrated pest management, and animal

production and health. Cooperative activities in other related areas may be considered by mutual agreement.

**ARTICLE III**  
**USDA-ARS**

To facilitate the cooperative research effort(s) described in Article II, ARS intends to:

Assign such members of its staff as may be agreed upon to assist in identifying projects of mutual interest, as well as aid in planning and implementing research activities; jointly develop and facilitate an exchange program of scientific personnel; and furnish suitable land, facilities, equipment, supplies, labor, funds and other items required to support collaborative research activities as mutually agreed to.

**ARTICLE IV**  
**THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**

To facilitate the cooperative research effort(s) described in Article II, MA intends to:

Assign such members of its staff as may be agreed upon to assist in identifying projects of mutual interest, as well as aid in planning and implementing research activities; jointly develop and facilitate an exchange program of scientific personnel; and furnish suitable land, facilities, equipment, supplies, labor, funds and other items required to support collaborative research activities as mutually agreed to.

**ARTICLE V**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

It is mutually understood by the Participants that:

1. All activities contemplated by this MOC will be carried out in strict adherence to the applicable laws and regulations of the State of Israel and the United States of America.
2. A coordinating Committee may be set up with equal representation from both Participants. The Committee would periodically identify and set priorities, and discuss projects in agricultural science and technology in which the resources of both Participants can be utilized more effectively through direct cooperative efforts. The written documentation of the Committee meeting would be reviewed and approved by the Participants.
3. Both participants may create joint committees and workshops in order to elaborate issues of mutual interest. The Participants recognize that the United

States - Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development (BARD) fund may be an appropriate mechanism to administer such activities.

4. The Participants may promote and facilitate involvement and information sharing with other governmental and nongovernmental agencies, research institution, universities, and other entities concerned with agricultural science and technology issues.
5. This MOC does not obligate funds. Specific work projects or activities that involve the transfer of funds, services, or property among the various agencies and offices of the Participants is subject to the execution of separate agreements and contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. Such activities must be independently authorized by appropriate internal legislation of the respective Participants. This MOC does not provide such authority.
6. This MOC in no way restricts either Participant from participating in similar activities or arrangements with other public or private agencies, organizations, or individuals.
7. Nothing in the MOC shall obligate either Participant to expend appropriations or to enter in any contract or other obligation. Activities contemplated by this MOC are subject to the availability of appropriate funds, personnel and other resources.
8. This MOC is not intended to, and does not create, any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity, by a party against Israel and the United States, its agencies, officers, or any person.
9. This MOC commences on the date of the last signature and remains active for a five-year (5) period. This MOC may be renewed by written agreement of the Participants.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the participants hereto have executed this MOC on Tuesday on the 5th day of April of 2005.

**FOR THE MINISTRY OF  
AGRICULTURE OF THE STATE OF  
ISRAEL**

*Dan Levanon*  
**Dan Levanon  
Chief Scientist**

**FOR THE UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH  
SERVICE**

*Edward B. Knipping* APR 05 2005  
**Edward B. Knipping  
Administrator**