

PBROC Service Policy

1. BIOSAFETY:

Due to biosafety considerations, and the policies of the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) at MSU, the Center will request on-campus clients to provide proof of IBC approval for their construct before beginning work on a project. The Center will not be responsible for submitting IBC registration documents on behalf of PIs within MSU. For off-campus projects, the Center will request information about the construct from the client in order to submit the required IBC registration documents. This information will be used solely for obtaining approval from the IBC.

2. PRODUCT VERIFICATION:

Transgenic construct presence is tested by growing putative transformants on media containing selection antibiotics/herbicides as appropriate. Further verification of transgene presence by PCR is available for additional charges (see [pricing table](#)). We can use client-supplied primers for your gene of interest and/or our own primers for selectable marker genes (also available from the PBROC website). Other molecular analysis is also available on a fee for time and supplies basis.

3. ROUTINE TRANSFORMATION AND REGENERATION SERVICE:

Transformation and regeneration of species listed on the [pricing table](#) will be considered routine. For routine transformation, client will create their transformation construct containing their gene-of-interest in a binary vector with a plant-selectable marker gene and provide the purified plasmid to PBROC. PBROC staff are available to advise you as you build your vector. PBROC will transform this plasmid into the appropriate strain of *Agrobacterium* for use in plant transformation. Once transgenic plantlets have been recovered, with transgene presence being deduced from plantlet resistance to selection agents in the growing media, client will be given plantlets in sterile culture unless T1 seed is requested (for a fee).

4. PROTOCOL DEVELOPMENT FOR NEW SPECIES/CULTIVARS:

- i. In addition to the transformation of standard species described above, the Center offers protocol development services for species for which current methods are either insufficient or non-existent. Fees for this service are charged monthly and vary based upon general characteristics of the target species (see [pricing table](#) for more detail). While we have successfully developed a number of

protocols for recalcitrant species we cannot guarantee successful protocol development within your timeline and budget. The client may request notification when specific costs are incurred or time limits have been reached to determine if continuation of the project is warranted.

- ii. Vector(s) used for protocol development will usually be a standard PBROC 35S GUS reporter, and preferably also a client-supplied 35S GUS reporter with the vector backbone the client will be using for subsequent transformations. The client retains any transgenic events, containing their vector in their target species, created in the process of protocol development.
- iii. The PBROC reserves the right to publish transformation protocols for new species or substantial advancements of transformation protocols for species with transformations already reported in the literature. Only plants containing PBROC-chosen control vectors will be used for such protocol publications. If the client instead desires to publish the developed protocol as part of a larger manuscript encompassing more than just the transformation method, PBROC staff responsible for intellectual input on protocol development should be strongly considered for authorship on the manuscript. PBROC can discuss any publication issues with the client prior to project initiation.
- iv. Enabling details of a successful protocol will be provided to the client upon request at which point the client may direct the PBROC to perform additional transformations with other genes for a price determined by the complexity of the developed protocol and/or use the developed protocol in their own laboratory. While the PBROC staff has many years of experience developing transformation protocols and performing transformations, we cannot guarantee a protocol will be immediately successful in your laboratory, but will provide all the necessary protocol details and offer suggestions to help you replicate it in your specific environment if you choose to try the protocol yourself.

5. MINIMUM PAYMENTS:

- i. Every effort is made to provide the requested plants to the client within a reasonable amount of time. Occasionally, we are unable to fulfill a request due to problems on our end (contamination, low supply of explants, etc.) or problems with the client-supplied construct. In this situation, the PBROC must still recover expenses for supplies and labor incurred before the problem was detected. This fee will be prorated based on the percentage of the project that was completed plus 10%, if

there is a problem with the client-supplied construct. Problems not related to the construct will be corrected as quickly as possible and the client will be notified of a change in the timeline for completion. If at that point the client decides to withdraw the project, payment for supply and labor expenses already incurred, not to exceed 25% of the total agreed upon price, will be collected. If the client wishes to continue the project with the revised timeline, the original price agreement will remain in effect. Clients who wish to terminate a project for reasons other than described above will be charged an amount based on the percentage of the project that has been completed at the time of cancellation.

- ii. The minimum payment policy in Section 4.i. applies only to transformation of the standard species listed in the [pricing table](#). As noted in Section 3.i. above, fees for new protocol development are charged monthly regardless of project outcome.

6. GRANT PROPOSALS:

We are pleased to consult with you free of charge regarding your project if you would like to include the services of the PBROC in the budget of your research proposal!

I/we, the undersigned, acknowledge receipt of the above PBROC Service Policy.

Signature

Print Name

Date