



Piracicaba, 25th February 2020.

To whom it may concern,

My first contact with KARINNE SAMPAIO VALDEMARIN occurred in December 2012, when the student was attending the second year of graduation in Forest Engineering at the Federal University of São Carlos - Sorocaba campus, Brazil. At that time, she was making a technical visit to the ESA Herbarium, where I am a curator, and was beginning her studies in Systematic Botany with the Myrtaceae family. Years later, in February 2016, I accepted be her advisor her in the master's thesis, entitled "Taxonomic study of *Eugenia* species (Myrtaceae) of the Vale-ES Natural Reserve", in the Postgraduate Program in Forest Resources, Escola Superior de Agricultura "Luiz de Queiroz" - University of São Paulo, Brazil, which was defended on February 23, 2018. During the master's degree, the candidate stood out for the award of "Best poster" and "2nd Best oral presentation" in the event "Post-graduation Seminars, Forestry Resources / ESALQ" on 2016. In addition, she obtained maximum academic achievement in the courses and have already submitted part of her thesis results to scientific journals.

Also during the master's degree, the student developed monitoring activities in the discipline of Plant Systematics that I teach, participated as a poster evaluator and ministered courses in the area of Systematic Botany in scientific events, taught classes in taxonomy, and presented their results in scientific events at the national and international level. Since the beginning of my contact with the candidate, she has shown great interest in the area, both in research and teaching, presenting responsibility, excellent resourcefulness to solve challenges, critical sense and team spirit in the activities carried out.

Karinne started her doctorate under my supervision at the Graduate Program in Plant Biology at the State University of Campinas, Brazil, in which she obtained the highest grade during the selection process for admission. In her thesis she aims to concretize a multidisciplinary approach, increasing the taxonomic knowledge and the visibility of the phytochemical potential of native species fruit trees. It is important to highlight that Karinne already received other four grants to support her project, demonstrating how compromised with the activities she is.

Considering Karinne's excellent academic performance, her growing interest in Brazilian plant biodiversity, the willingness to face great challenges, a very well-liked quality in a taxonomist, I highly recommend her choice as contemplated with the IAPT grant, and it will fully meet with the objectives of the exchange.

Best regards,

Prof. Dr. Vinicius Castro Souza