



22th February 2020

**International Association for Plant Taxonomy (IAPT)
Research Grants Program for 2020**

I am happy to write in heartfelt support of Daniel Tineo Flores's application for the IAPT Research Grants Program for 2020. I know Daniel well, having visited him in Peru several times in the course of a series of workshops I have taught at UNTRM (National University Toribio Rodríguez de Mendoza, Amazonas). He attended the workshops on "Writing of Scientific Papers" and "Analysis of Genomic Data", two and one years ago, respectively. I enjoyed collaborating with Daniel on our paper on genomics, a solid contribution to this emergent discipline in Peru. He is an extremely hard worker with great perseverance and meticulous attention to detail.

Daniel is a young researcher at National University Toribio Rodríguez de Mendoza (UNTRM). He and his advisor are using molecular tools to improve the knowledge of biodiversity in Amazonas region. Daniel is also using his knowledge to evaluate and preserve regional native species (e.g. *Vasconcellea* species), many of which are culturally important and on the brink of extinction. Both of these impressive projects apply modern DNA-based methods to improve agricultural production in Peru. All of these with the main aim to use those regional species to help small farmers to build sustainable agriculture in a changing world.

In addition to research, Daniel promotes the protocols and analyses based on DNA techniques to undergraduate students, as well as other researchers, in classes and workshops. He provides a role model for young students in science who can work with an accomplished professional.

He grasps new concepts and assignments quickly and he clearly has the drive to use and share that knowledge. I am deeply impressed with Daniel's poise, his curiosity, and his impetus. He is mature, balanced and engaging – a wonderful person.

I give Daniel my highest recommendation. I urge you to give him a very favorable consideration. Please feel free to contact me if you may need more information

Yours sincerely,

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