



INSTITUTO DE BOTÁNICA DARWINION



ACADEMIA NACIONAL DE CIENCIAS EXACTAS, FÍSICAS Y NATURALES
CONSEJO NACIONAL DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS Y TÉCNICAS

Buenos Aires, February 28, 2020.

IAPT Research Grants (Gant round 2020)

Dear Selection Committee,

As a researcher with a permanent position in CONICET, working in Instituto de Botánica Darwinion (IBODA), I am writing this letter in support of the application of Dr. Carolina Delfini to this grant of the International Association of Plant Taxonomy 2020.

Dr. Carolina Delfini is a brilliant young botanist involved in a research projects about the systematics of important Panicoids grasses in South America, like *Axonopus* and *Paspalum*. She has received several grants from FAPESP, JBRJ and CONICET, and received in 2017 a PhD degree in Plant Science at Universidade Estadual de Campinas (UNICAMP), Campinas, São Paulo, Brazil. As a result of research work, in her short career, she has published several good research articles.

The proposed research work to the IAPT fellowship in 2020 will contribute significantly to shed light about the phylogenetic relationships in the *Axonopus* species complex, because of this new project involves evolutionary studies based on Low Copy Nuclear Genes (LCNG). Since four years ago, Carolina have received training in extracting and amplifying DNA from herbarium and silica-dried samples at the Darwinion institution and compiled a large molecular matrix of published sequences. She also was trained in phylogenetic analysis, and this new proposal will allow her to learn new laboratory techniques (molecular cloning) and interesting bioinformatics analysis (evolutionary studies based on Low Copy Nuclear Genes).



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To this end, I believe the IAPT grant is a great opportunity for her to obtain the resources necessary for molecular work and make contributions in this subject. I am confident that Carolina is fully qualified and able to deal with the proposed molecular work. Therefore, this fellowship will contribute significantly to the development of her scientific career. I remain open to comment on any additional aspect if needed.

Sincerely yours,

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