Dear Dr. Dandin,

This is in reference to your letter NO. CSB/GPS/5(70)/TECH/1231 dated 24.8.99. I appreciate your concern for the conservation of Mulberry germplasm and would like to inform you that the Silkworm and Mulberry Station, Hosur, Tamil Nadu is recognized as the National Active Germplasm Site (NAGS) for Mulberry germplasm. The responsibilities and the requirements for the NAGS are mentioned below.

The responsibilities of the NAGS include:

1. Maintenance of the active/working collections of germplasm of the mandated crop(s)/plant(s)
2. Multiplication and regeneration of the germplasm following the appropriate strategies.
3. Supply of the germplasm from the active collection for utilisation in breeding programmes.
4. Assist in the exploration of the mandated crop(s)/plants.
5. Obtaining the National Accession Number from NBPGR for the germplasm and deposition of a set in the base collection along with their multiplication protocol.
6. To document the information regarding Passport and Characterisation data of the holdings and regularly update the information for the National Database maintained at NBPGR.

In addition to having substantial germplasm of the mandated crops the NAGS must also ensure the following:

1. A proper Genetic Resources Unit with at least one scientist (crop curator) with full-time responsibility of carrying out the responsibilities as mentioned above.
2. Infrastructure for proper maintenance, regeneration and storage of germplasm.
3. Facilities for documentation and effective communication.

A list of National Active Germplasm Sites recognised by NBPRGR is enclosed herewith for your kind information and record. Kindly send us the latest status report of the germplasm as requested in the enclosed Performa to facilitate updating of the National Status Report.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

(P.L. Gautam)

/Dr. S.B. Dandin
Director
Silkworm & Mulberry Germplasm Station
P.B. No. 44, Thally Road,
Hosur 635109 (T.N.)

C.c. to:

Dr. A.K. Raheja, ADG(Seeds), ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001
(Ref: F.No. 11-1/99 - Seed dated 1 Sept. 1999).