

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FAST TRACK Open Forum

MAITLAND, Fla. (January 5, 2017) - New Varieties Development & Management Corp. (NVDMC) has announced an open forum for growers, nurseries and other industry stakeholders. The purpose of the meeting is to review the FAST TRACK program, discuss its implementation and how it might be improved.

FAST TRACK is a program co-developed by the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Florida Foundation Seed Producers Inc., and NVDMC. FAST TRACK was designed to enable citrus growers and nurseries to access experimental IFAS fresh citrus selections much earlier in the process than was historically possible. Through FAST TRACK, growers can register to experimentally trial newly identified fresh citrus selections and become part of a grower group for one or more particular selections. FAST TRACK enables the grower group to make recommendations related to the ultimate suitability of the selection, and also empowers participating growers to individually elevate a selection to commercial production through a feature called "Early Option." Incentives are offered to participating growers as a means of encouraging participation.

The FAST TRACK Open Forum will take place at the Citrus Research and Education Center, Lake Alfred FL, on January 5th, 2017 from 10 AM to noon. Participants are encouraged to RSVP to Lucy Nieves by fax (321) 214-0223 or email Lucy.Nieves@ffva.com.

All questions should be directed to Peter Chaires: 321-214-5214 or pchaires@nvdmc.org