**Memorandum of Agreement**

Between

Villanova Center for Agricultural Research and Education (VCARE) Oversight Committee

And

(Enter student and faculty advisor name here)- referred to as USER

(Date)

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) sets the terms and understanding between VCARE Oversight Committee and *(insert student and faculty advisor name here)* to use \_\_\_\_ number of garden beds from \_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

By signing this agreement the USER commits to the following:

* Maintain the garden beds by weeding, watering, harvesting, etc. on a weekly basis until the end of the research project.
* Leave the beds in equal or better shape than when the research was initiated. This includes but is not limited to soil quality, garden bed structure, removal of all plant life and testing equipment.
* All organic and inorganic refuse must be neatly placed at the designated disposal site.
* Plantings or equipment must not block the sunlight of adjacent plots.
* Treatment of care with regards to VCARE equipment, including but not limited to watering equipment, gardening equipment, shed, seating, fencing, other garden beds and plantings etc.
* Prior to work in the garden all experiment inputs must be declared and approved by the VCARE oversight committee.
* Experiments using GMO seeds or plants must first get approval from the VCARE oversight committee and have a plan in place for how to prevent cross contamination with other garden beds.
* Experiments using synthetic fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides must first get approval from the VCARE oversight committee and have a plan in place for how to prevent cross contamination with other garden beds.
* If soil is purposefully being exposed to synthetic fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides, soil must be tested for its pH, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium content upon completion of the research.
* If soil is significantly contaminated by research, the USER is required to replace the soil in kind.
* Work at the garden site should be contained between sun up and sun down. No work allowed on the site after night fall.
* Unless needed for scientific purposes or deemed inedible, please offer up produce for donation through the VCARE.

**Reporting**

Any reporting to the VCARE Oversight Committee can be sent to [Liesel.Schwarz@villanova.edu](mailto:Liesel.Schwarz@villanova.edu)

**Funding**

VCARE Oversight Committee is not responsible for any funding needs of the USER. The USER does have access to communal tools such as watering equipment, gardening equipment, shed, and seating.