



**Grow Discover
Research Program
Wisconsin Corn Promotion Board**

The Wisconsin Corn Promotion Board (WCPB), with the help of the Wisconsin Corn Growers Association, is seeking proposals for the 2019 Grow-Discover Research Program to fund projects that meet research criteria that will add value to the corn industry. Research is important in advancing technology, increasing profitability, improving environmental practices and developing new markets and uses for Wisconsin corn farmers.

The WCPB has a strategic plan to invest state corn farmer dollars in research to advance Wisconsin's corn industry through new and improved markets or through innovative practices and technology. The goal in funding research initiatives that reflect the interests of the Wisconsin corn industry is to return significant value to corn farmers who fund those efforts.

WCPB is a producer-elected group responsible for administering the state's corn checkoff funds, under guidelines provided by the state's marketing order. The primary objective of the corn marketing order is to maintain and expand sales of Wisconsin corn. This includes development of new products and markets; improving corn production, marketing and handling methods, and; educational programs for producers, handlers and consumers relating to the quality or nutritive value of corn and corn products.

WCPB AREAS OF INTEREST AND PROPOSAL FOCUS

The focus of WCPB's research program includes projects that increase the profitability of Wisconsin corn production and increase market opportunities of corn production. Projects should focus on:

- Enhancing the value of the Wisconsin corn industry through new and expanded corn markets and value added uses.
- Supporting non-proprietary, common good research to optimize economic returns for corn production.
- Funding innovative research to find new uses for corn and corn products.
- Enhancing partnerships with researchers and developers of corn-based products, co-products and production research.
- Supporting research that looks at corn production systems that are sustainable, protective of the environment and economically feasible with regard to water management, nutrient utilization, pest management and conservation of resources.
- Supporting demonstration and educational projects for the betterment of corn producers.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO SUBMIT RFP

Principal Investigators: Researchers, scientists, professors, ARS scientists or others.

Co-PI's and Collaborators: Researchers with appropriate expertise to help with the priority areas identified. Involvement of collaborators from other agencies and/or universities that enhance the competitiveness of a proposal is encouraged.

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

The proposal should include the following information, in the order listed below, utilizing no more than six pages, including the cover page and budget form, (excluding support letters and references cited), using 12-point font. Proposals of more than six pages may not be considered.

Please label all pages of proposals and reports submitted to the WCPB with your name, project title, date and page number in the footer of the document.

- **Cover Page** (attached) – The included form should be completed and saved as the front page of your proposal.
- **Abstract** - Less than 300 words.
- **Problem Statement** - What is the problem and opportunity and why is it important to the future of Wisconsin's corn farmers? How does it relate to the WCPB goals and mission? How does this fill gaps in current research?
- **Objectives and Hypothesis**
- **Methods and Procedures** - How will the hypotheses be tested?
- **Impact on the Wisconsin Corn Industry** – How does this enhance the value of the Wisconsin corn industry? What does this mean to Wisconsin's farmers and how will it affect them economically and/or environmentally? How does this impact the WCPB's goals and mission?
- Where applicable to your project, please comment on the following issues:
 - List any collaborators and their roles and responsibilities.
 - Novelty of the invention – what due diligence has been done to ascertain this?
 - Whether any background Intellectual Property may be necessary to perform the proposed research. Will there be freedom to operate around current IP?
 - Do you expect new Intellectual Property to be developed?
 - Previous or pending funding from other sources.
 - Potential to expand markets.
 - A listing of pertinent publications and/or references should be included if appropriate, does not count in page limit.
 - Will this project support a graduate student's project?
 - Matching funds are not required by WCPB, but identify other sources of funding both sources and amounts of non- WCPB funds. State whether funds are secured or pending.
- **Timeline** – List milestones of the project. Indicate approximate time for interim report. Especially important if your project does not fit within the calendar of the granting period.
- **Budget** (see attached form)
- **Budget Narrative** – Describe how budget request relates to methods and goals of completing the project. List each pertinent team member, their contribution to the project, and their qualifications to achieve their role. Provide rationale for budgeted line items. If research is currently being funded by other sources, or is being sought by other sources, these sources must be disclosed. Please note: The WCPB does not pay overhead.
- **Letter of support** – optional, two letters maximum. Not included in page limitation.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

All proposals are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, January 4, 2019. Please submit a Word or PDF document via email to nicole@wicorn.org. You will receive an email notification that your proposal was received.

If you do not receive confirmation within 24 hours, it is your responsibility to follow-up by calling Nicole Wagner at 262-372-3289

PROPOSAL SELECTION AND REPORTING PROCESS

Friday, January 4, 2019

Proposals are due by 5 p.m. CST.

Wednesday, January 10, 2019

Committee Review, questions sent to researchers for any clarification.

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Research proposals will be reviewed by WCPB Board members.

Friday, February 8, 2019

Decisions on grant awards will be released to the project team leader.

Monday, December 2, 2019

Written progress report due to WCGA.

December 2019 Board Meeting (TBD)

Presentation to WCPB Board, upon request.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The following criteria will be used to judge the merit of the proposals.

| | Maximum points |
|---|----------------|
| Relationship to WCPB/WCGA mission and priorities..... | 20 |
| Scientific soundness, novelty & appropriateness of methodology..... | 20 |
| Potential impact on the Wisconsin corn industry..... | 20 |
| Mechanism to deliver information to Wisconsin corn farmers and users..... | 20 |
| Potential to leverage other funds..... | 10 |
| Extent of partnering with others..... | <u>10</u> |
| Total..... | 100 |

CONDITIONS OF FUNDING ACCEPTANCE

The Wisconsin Corn Promotion Board will fund all approved projects in the following manner:

- 25% of the total annual funding will be provided upon notification of project approval and signed Memorandum of Understanding and Intellectual Property Agreement (if applicable to project).
- 50% of the total annual funding will be released upon submission and acceptance of an interim report to the Board approximately six months into the project or at the halfway point of the research.
- The final 25% of the allocated annual funds will be released after a final budget breakdown is submitted, a satisfactory final written report is submitted including graphs or pictures, a project synopsis and a presentation is made to the Board, date to be determined.
- An annual written report is due to the Board of Directors each year. An oral presentation may be requested by the Board. A comprehensive final report will be due in December during the final year of research. A non-proprietary report/synopsis will be placed on the Wisconsin corn growers website and will be used to communicate with Wisconsin corn farmers and the general public.
- Failure to submit timely and quality progress reports or insufficient progress will result in premature termination of project, cessation of funding, and a request for return of unspent funds.
- WCPB expects team leaders and/or their representative to reasonably participate in WCPB public events and media programs that highlight research activities when requested. Failure to participate may result in the premature termination of the project.
- Two-year or longer projects are funded one year at a time and are subject to annual evaluations. Funding for additional years is not guaranteed but please include your intentions when appropriate for your project.

If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Wagner, nicole@wicorn.org or (262) 372-3289.



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PROPOSAL COVER PAGE

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. Name and Address of Organization to Which Award Should be Made: Enter Name Enter Address | | |
| 2. Title of Proposal: Enter Title | | |
| 3. Principal Investigator(s): a. PI # 2 Name: Enter Name b. PI # 2 Name: Enter Name c. PI # 2 Name: Enter Name | | 4. PI #1 Business Address: Enter Address |
| 5. PI #1 Phone Number: Enter Phone | 6. PI #1 Email: Enter Email | |
| 7. Period of Proposed Project (dates): Start Date – Completion Date | | |
| 8. Research Objectives (List concise statements of objectives to be accomplished by research grant): Enter Brief Description | | |
| 9. Funding Request: First year request: \$Enter Amount | | Second year request: \$Enter Amount |
| 10. Is this research proprietary or have intellectual property elements: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please explain: Enter Explanation | | |
| Signature of Principal Investigator(s) | | Date: Enter Date |
| Name of Authorized Organizational Representative: Enter Name | Title: Enter Title | Date: Enter Date |
| Signature of Authorized Organizational Representative: | Phone Number: Enter Phone | Email Address: Enter Email |



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PROJECT BUDGET

| Please list funds requested and amount of other funding sources related to this research project. | Funds Requested For Year 1 | Funds Requested For Year 2 |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| A. Salaries and Wages | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| 1. Co-Principal Investigators | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| 2. Senior Associates | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| 3. Research Associates – Post Docs | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| 4. Other Professional | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| 5. Graduate Students | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| 6. Pre-Baccalaureate Students | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| 7. Secretarial and Clerical | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| 8. Technical, Shop and Other | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| B. Fringe Benefits | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| C. Nonexpendable equipment (Attach supporting data. List items and dollar amounts for each) | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| D. Materials & Supplies | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| E. Travel | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| F. Publications | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| H. Other Direct Costs (List items, cost and explanation) | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| I. Indirect Costs (Not allowed per WCPB policy) | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| J. TOTAL AMOUNT OF THIS REQUEST | \$Amount | \$Amount |
| Name of Principal Investigator: Enter Name | Signature of Principal Investigator: | Date: Enter Date |
| Name of Authorized Organizational Representative: Enter Name | Signature of Authorized Organizational Representative: | Date: Enter Date |