ANS Weekly Roundup

September 30, 2013  Volume 5, Number 34

In This Issue
- Noteworthy
- For Your Information
- Events
- Seminars
- Graduate Students
- Requests for Proposals

NOTEWORTHY

Animal Science Associate Chairperson Anniversary

Dr. John Shelle, Associate Chairperson and Professor, celebrates 40 years of service at Michigan State University this year. Thank you for your dedication to Michigan State University and to the Department of Animal Science!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Anthony Hall Emergency Generator Testing

Between 6:15 a.m. and 7:15 a.m., on Friday, October 11, Infrastructure Planning and Facilities will test the emergency generator in Anthony Hall. This will require IPF electricians to power off the life safety systems. This shutdown will affect stairwell lighting, exit lights, fire alarm systems, phone systems and any other equipment on the emergency generator. This shutdown will not affect normal building power.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact John Nurenberg, skilled trades supervisor at 517-432-0509 or jmnuren@ipf.msu.edu, or Dan Hanses, planner/inspector/analyst at 517-432-0506, or dhanses@ipf.msu.edu, or IPF Dispatch at 517-353-1760

EVENTS

Annual RPT meeting

The Annual RPT (Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure) meeting will be October 24, 2013, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., 1310 Anthony Hall. Please mark your calendars for this very important meeting. More information will be forthcoming.

SEMINARS

Animal Science Department Seminar

Dr. Janice Siegfard, Assistant Professor, Michigan State University presents: Animal Behavior in Alternative Systems: Implications for Welfare, Thursday, October 3, 2013, 11:00am, 1240 Anthony Hall. For more information, please see attached flyer.
GRADUATE STUDENTS

8th Annual Animal Science Graduate Research Forum
The 8th Annual Animal Science Graduate Research Forum will take place on October 31st, from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm.
The Forum coordinators this year are: Paola Piantoni (Piantoni@msu.edu), Jessica Shire (shireje@msu.edu), Marilia Chiavegato (chiavega@msu.edu), and Dr. Adam Lock (allock@msu.edu).
Please see the flyer or contact a forum coordinator for more information.

Grad/Faculty Pizza Lunches
The fall 2013 semester grad/faculty pizza lunches have been scheduled for the third Thursday of each month starting Sept. 19th. All the lunches will be in 2315 ANH, and will be from 12pm -1pm. Pizza will be provided, but people are asked to bring their own beverage.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Request for Research Grant Proposals for 2014
The Pennsylvania Vegetable Marketing and Research Program in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association is soliciting proposals for research grants for 2014. The Vegetable Marketing and Research Board requests that researchers submit brief pre-proposals for their consideration this fall. Final selection of projects to be funded will be made early in 2014. Pre-proposals are due November 5, 2013. Please share with anyone you think may be interested. Please see the attachment for more details.
PENNSYLVANIA VEGETABLE MARKETING AND RESEARCH PROGRAM
PENNSYLVANIA VEGETABLE GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Request for Research Grant Proposals for 2014
issued September 24, 2013

General Information
The Pennsylvania Vegetable Marketing and Research Program in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association is soliciting proposals for research grants for 2014.

The Vegetable Marketing and Research Board requests that researchers submit brief pre-proposals for their consideration this fall. Final selection of projects to be funded will be made early in 2013. Details follow on the third page. Pre-proposals are due NOVEMBER 5, 2013

Research Priorities
Special priority will be given to projects involving the state's three major processing crops, namely snap beans, tomatoes, and sweet corn. However, proposals involving fresh-market crops and greenhouse vegetable crops are also solicited. In the spring of 2012, a survey of Pennsylvania growers was conducted to help determine their research needs. The following priorities have been identified as a result of this survey and Board discussion:

Snap Beans
- Control of white mold and gray mold
- Control of root rot and an evaluation of seed treatment packages
- Control of slugs
- Control of annual broadleaf weeds
- Control of perennial weeds

Tomatoes
- Nutrient management recommendations
- Control of bacterial canker, spot and speck
- Control of early blight and Septoria leaf spot
- Control of late blight

Sweet Corn
- Control of worms in general, particularly corn earworm and European corn borer, and early warning for armyworm
- Identification of herbicides to replace atrazine
- Control of perennial weeds
- Control of weeds in no-till production
- Labelling of field corn herbicides for sweet corn

Curcurbits
- Control of powdery mildew
- Control of downy mildew
- Control of phytophthora blight
- Control of wilt diseases (Fusarium, Verticillium)
- Control of cucumber beetles

General
- High tunnel production methods
- Crop rotation and cover cropping
- Use of biological controls
- Pollinators
- Practical food safety methods
- New crop or marketing opportunities

Organic
- Cultural practices such as variety selection, compost use, and nutrient management
- Evaluation of OMRI approved pesticides, especially for disease control
- Effects of cover crops on weeds
- Mechanical weed control options
In addition, the Program is scheduling the following **two conference calls** to allow researchers and growers to discuss the research issues.  **Researchers are invited and urged to participate in the crop areas of interest to them.**  To participate in any of the calls, researchers should call 1-877-643-6951 at the appointed time. When prompted, enter the following passcode 55835024#.  (Call 717-694-3596 if you have problems connecting.)  The conference calls will be limited to an hour (or less) in length. Following is the schedule for the conference calls:

- **Fresh Market Vegetable Research Issues**  **Tuesday, October 22, 2013**  **8:00 p.m.**
- **Processing Vegetable Research Issues**  **Thursday, October 24, 2013**  **8:00 p.m.**

Researchers who are unable to participate in the calls at the appointed times should contact Mr. Troxell to obtain notes from the sessions.

**Pre-Proposals**

Researchers are requested to submit a **brief one paragraph (half-page at the most) description** of their proposed research projects for the Board's review.  The pre-proposal should also contain a rough estimate of the amount of funds to be requested.

Pre-proposals must be submitted by **October 30, 2013**, either:

- by **electronic mail**, (preferred method) - a notice of receipt will be sent when the pre-proposal is received
- OR by **regular mail** to:
  - Penna. Vegetable Marketing and Research Program
  - c/o William Troxell, Executive Secretary
  - 815 Middle Road
  - Richfield, PA 17086-9205

The Board will consider these pre-proposals as well as the results from the annual survey of growers research needs at an open meeting on **November 6, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 309 at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Building, 2301 North Cameron Street in Harrisburg.**  **Researchers are invited and encouraged to attend this meeting.**  At this meeting the Board will choose those pre-proposals it wants developed into full proposals for the final selection process.  This process will also allow the Board to request researchers to modify a pre-proposal so that it more closely meets the industry's needs.  The Board may also request proposals on topics not included in the pre-proposals.

After this meeting, a list of selected pre-proposals and proposal requests will be developed and circulated to researchers.  Any questions should be directed to William Troxell at 717-694-3596 or pvmp@embarqmail.com.

**Final Proposals**

Selected pre-proposals and proposals specifically requested by the Board will naturally be favored in the final selection process.  However, other proposals will still potentially be considered.  Moreover, competing proposals to a selected pre-proposal will be considered.

Please submit 27 copies of each final proposal by **January 15, 2014** to:
  - Penna. Vegetable Marketing and Research Program
  - c/o William Troxell, Executive Secretary
  - 815 Middle Road
  - Richfield, PA 17086-9205

Electronic mail versions of final proposals are **strongly discouraged** to eliminate copying by the Program.

Both the Vegetable Marketing and Research Program and the Vegetable Growers Association are expected to review the proposals during the week of January 27, 2014.

If a proposal is accepted but only approved for partial funded, the party submitting the proposal will be given the opportunity to amend it.  If a proposal is accepted and fully funded, the Board may authorize the release of the funds without the execution of a formal Research Grant Contract or it may require the execution of a full Contract.  **The Program and Association grants are not to be used to cover indirect or overhead expenses.**
The period funded will normally be April 1, 2014 to November 30, 2014. If the nature of a project requires a different funding period, please note this in the proposal. Due to cash flow constraints, the funding may be provided in two installments – half in April, 2014, and half in August, 2014.

Any questions should be directed to William Troxell at 717-694-3596 or at pvmrp@embarqmail.com

**Final Proposal Format**

Proposals should contain the following sections and provide a comprehensive overview of the project in concise form (*two to three pages*).

- **Title:** Give the title of the project.
- **Personnel:** List briefly the name(s) and qualifications of the principal researchers.
- **Introduction:** Describe the need this project will address, including any background information.
- **Objectives:** State concisely the purpose of the project, the desired results and potential benefit to growers.
- **Work Statement:** Explain in detail the actual method(s), procedure(s), location(s), technique(s), and all other pertinent details relative to the implementation of this project.
- **Budget:** List the following:
  - Hourly Wages
  - Supplies
  - Travel
  - Miscellaneous
  - Total
- **Duration of Project:** Give the expected duration of the project.
- **Signatures:** Provide the signature(s) of the principal investigator(s).

**Inspection**

The Pennsylvania Vegetable Marketing and Research Program and the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association shall have the option to conduct an "on-site" review of any project by an authorized representative after granting 20 days notice in advance of any intended inspection.

**Presentation of Results**

Final reports shall be prepared so that growers can readily understand how the project was conducted and how the results impact them in their farming operations. All reports should be three to four pages in length, including any relevant charts or graphs, single spaced with one-inch margins on all sides. Reports should not have a separate title page – the title should be incorporated on the first page of the report. The Program reserves the right to edit the reports. Reports will be posted on the Program’s website at [www.paveggies.org](http://www.paveggies.org) and distributed to growers in hardcopy format for those who do not have internet access.

The final report must be submitted by December 7, 2014 by electronic mail, (preferred method – either Microsoft Word documents or pdf files - a notice of receipt will be sent when the report is received) to:

- pvmrp@embarqmail.com

OR

by regular mail to:

Pennsylvania Vegetable Marketing and Research Program  
c/o William Troxell, Executive Secretary  
815 Middle Road  
Richfield, PA 17086-9205

A detailed explanation of expenditures shall accompany the presentation of results on a separate page.
Researchers interested in attending the November meeting are asked to contact William Troxell at 717-694-3596 or pvmrp@embarqmail.com to indicate their interest.
8TH ANNUAL ANIMAL SCIENCE GRADUATE RESEARCH FORUM

Promoting Research, Encouraging Interaction

October 31, 2013

Oral presentations: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (room 1310)
Poster presentations: 12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. and
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. (2nd floor)

Anthony Hall, Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Generously sponsored by COGS and the Department of Animal Science
Dr. Janice Siegford
MSU Department of Animal Science

Animal Behavior in Alternative Systems:
Implications for Welfare

Dr. Siegford is an Assistant Professor in the Animal Behavior and Welfare Group in the Department of Animal Science at Michigan State University. Her research examines the impacts of management practices and environment on the behavior and welfare of production animals. Dr. Siegford also works to develop non-invasive, automated methods for collecting behavior and welfare data from animals in their home environments. Currently she is working to develop a wireless sensor that can provide information about individual laying hens in non-cage housing systems. She is also studying the behavior of dairy cows in a robotic pasture-based milking system, with particular attention to behaviors that affect efficiency of robot use.

In addition to her research, Dr. Siegford teaches courses in applied animal behavior and animal welfare. She received a BS with honors in Science Communication from Cornell University, a MS in Zoology from the University of Idaho, and a PhD in Neuroscience from Washington State University.

Thursday, October 3, 11:00am
1240 Anthony Hall