



MICHIGAN BLUEBERRY COMMISSION CALL FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS

I. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – 2020 OR 19/20

II. INTRODUCTION

- Michigan Blueberry Commission (MBC) was formed on May 31, 2017, under P.A. 232 of 1965. The MBC functions like other commodity check-off programs in Michigan.
- The MBC's main charge is funding critically needed, industry driven research, by utilizing grower dollars, and leveraged funding.
- The MBC will be funding research projects, or would entertain partnerships in projects, that help address the needs of Michigan blueberry growers.

III. INDUSTRY PRIORITIES

- Pest biology and control management programs for invasive and problematic pests such as Blueberry Stem Gall Wasp and Spotted Wing Drosophila
- Pesticide resistance management
 - SWD Insecticides
 - Fungicides
- Better understanding of impact of pesticide inerts and adjuvants on efficacy and fruit quality
- Enhancing Michigan blueberry yields
 - Best Practices for removing and replanting of low performing fields
 - Methods to increase and maintain higher yields
- Methods to increase pollination in blueberry
- Better understanding of Phomopsis control
- Development and validation of disease prediction models
- For more information, visit www.michiganblueberrycommission.org

IV. TIMELINE

- Nov 12 – Call for Proposals
- Dec 30, 2019 – Pre-Proposals due
- January 31, 2020 – Notification of proposal (approval or denial)
- February 21, 2020 – Full proposals due. Researchers submit their proposals thru MSU's KC system using sponsor code 103515/Project start date May 1, 2020/Project end date April 30, 2021.
- Jan 31 – Notifications of Awards
- March 1 – Availability of Funds
- One-year projects
- Dec 2020 – Project progress and or final reports due @ GLE meeting

V. PROPOSAL OUTLINE (THE COVER PAGE IS ONE PAGE AND ITEMS B THROUGH F ARE 3 PAGES).

- a. Cover page
 - i. Project Title
 - ii. Principal Investigator
 - iii. Collaborators
 - iv. Principal Investigator mailing address
 - v. Principal investigator email address
 - vi. Project Summary (limit to 250 words)
- b. Problem statement (relate to industry priorities)
- c. Objectives
- d. Methods and Procedures
- e. Anticipated Results and Impact
- f. Timeline
- g. Budget
 - i. Personnel wages, including associated Fringe
 - ii. Non-expendable equipment, provide explanation
 - iii. Materials, supplies and publications
 - iv. Travel
 - v. Other direct costs, provide explanation
- h. Budget justification
- i. Literature Cited

VI. EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Aligns with the MBC industry driven priorities (25 points)
- Extent and demonstration of partnering with and potential impact on Michigan's Blueberry Industry (20 points)
- Mechanism to deliver information to Michigan blueberry industry (20 points)
- Scientific soundness, appropriateness of methodology, completion feasibility, project scope, previous research connection (25 points)
- Team composition and investigator qualifications are aligned with project (10 points)

TOTAL: 100 points

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Non-MSU proposals should be submitted electronically to Michigan Blueberry Commission at krobson@michfb.com by close of business Friday, December 14, 2019. MSU researchers should submit pre-proposals electronically to Michigan State University AgBioResearch, by emailing Jackie DeSander at jdesande@msu.edu by close of business on Monday, December 30, 2019. MSU transmittals need to be submitted for this proposal.

Proposals for consideration are not to exceed \$20,000.

VII. PROPOSAL REVIEW

- All proposals are subjected to review/scoring by the Michigan Blueberry Commission at their January/February regular scheduled Commission Meeting

VIII. FUNDS ALLOCATION

- Funds will be allocated in one lump sum
- Extensions of funding could be considered, at the discretion of the MBC

IX. PROJECT COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

- Projects are one-year projects
- Reporting should happen ½ way through project (interim report due by September 1), as well as year-end (the MBC December meeting) for final report
 - Interim report- if applicable, in person, at the MBC meeting
 - Final report – 5-page maximum
 - Overall public/ grower message 1-page max, non-technical language with max of 1 figure.
 - Presentation at the MBC December Meeting
- Request: mention of the MBC as the funding source during presentations, publications etc.