MICHIGAN BLUEBERRY COMMISSION CALL FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS

I. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – 2020 OR 19/20

II. INTRODUCTION
- 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.