

## Michigan Cherry Committee

The Michigan Cherry Committee (MCC) is requesting research proposals for FY2020-21. The request for proposals is being coordinated by MSUAgBioResearch. Research priorities for the MCC can be found below. However, proposals on any important topic will be accepted.

Proposal should be no greater than three (3) pages in length, and they need to be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on **Monday, February 8th, 2020**. If you were granted funds last year and wish to continue the project, you must reapply for FY'20/21 funding.

- **Researchers should submit their proposals electronically, through MSU's KC system.**
- **A NEW proposal development document is required for each proposal being submitted, including continuing projects**
- **Important information for FY20-21: There is a line item on the budget sheet for plot fees. Please provide an estimate for reimbursement from the Michigan Tree Fruit Commission. This number is required if applicable and should not be included in the requested budget.**

Funding decisions will be communicated in early March. If you have any questions please contact **Jackie DeSander** at [jdesande@msu.edu](mailto:jdesande@msu.edu).

Download the complete MCC request for proposals, including cover sheet, budget form and research priorities in the EBS system.

Research priorities are set by the commodity groups; however, proposals on any important topic will be accepted.

### Current and Future Plant Protection Issues

- IPM Strategies for Spotted Wing Draspholia (SWD).
- Disease protection (alternatives for increasingly difficult disease resistance to SI's and SDI's including leaf spot, brown rot and mildew).
- Insect protection (Plum Curculio, Cherry Fruit Fly, Mites, OBLR & San Jose scale) via chemical and IPM efforts, basic biology & genetics.
- MRL issues that impact the export markets.
- Ground cover and weed management.
- Breeding program (leaf spot, Armillaria, etc.).
- Orchard replant issues.
- Abandoned Orchards.

### Current and Future Cherry Marketing Issues

- New and expanded uses of cherries – both sweet and tart cherries.
- Varieties and/or production practices to discover or improve marketable traits, i.e., firmer texture, nutraceutical content, larger size, fresh market, sugar/acid balance, color etc. (high density plantings)
- Production development (IPM / Sustainability).
- Market research.

- Pits and ways to reduce them in finished product.
- Production trends world-wide.

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### **Other Current Production Issues**

- Computerized weather station network upgrading
- Fruit set, growth regulators.
- High density production & harvest management.
- Bacterial Canker.
- Orchard nutrient management, rootstock, photosynthesis with regard to soft fruit.
- Irrigation efficiency.
- Frost protection/delayed bloom.
- Wild life management issues in tree fruit.
- De-fruiting young trees
- Ground cover and weed management