**Oregon Seed Council**

**Request for 2017-18 Research and Extension Proposals**

The Oregon Seed Council (OSC) is now in the process of requesting research proposals for the 2017-18 fiscal year for grass seed production related research and extension projects. The grass seed crops of preferred interest include perennial and annual ryegrass, tall fescue, fine fescue, orchardgrass, and bentgrass.

**Research Goals**

The focus of the OSC research program is to fund scientific research and extension projects that address the agronomic production of grasses grown for seed. The goal of the program is to discover knowledge and solutions that will lead to improved production of grass seed in both economically and environmentally responsible ways to sustain and enhance Oregon’s grass seed industry.

**Research Priorities**

*On-going funding opportunities*

* Weed Control: Ongoing screening of herbicides or other methods of control for *Poa annua* and *Poa trivialis* and other problem weeds. Also included is looking at alternative chemistry for carbon seeding.
* Slug Control: Slugs continue to be a top concern in the industry. This area may include any or all of the following: life cycle remedies, identifying like problem areas, new chemical control products, cultural control practices such as tillage and crop rotations, use of bio-fumigants, RNAi technology and other control methods not yet identified.

*Highest priority research areas – in order of priority*

* Goose damage economics- Determine the lost value in grass seed crops due to goose depredation to help maintain Zinc Phosphide as a tool for the control of voles.
* Annual Ryegrass resistance management- Work to determine a way to positively and quickly identify and characterize resistant bio-types of annual ryegrasses. Develop management plan(s) which could include chemical and cultural practices, such as crop rotations, tillage, etc., which will impact the bio-type populations as well as reduce the seed bank populations.
* Pesticide Drift Management- Researching ways to reduce off site damage to sensitive crops including alternative chemistry or formulations, new technology in spray equipment and use of surfactants and drift reduction agents.

*Other research priority areas –* These research areas are of high importance to the industry and will be given full consideration for funding along with the highest priorities listed above. However, due to funding limitation, competing and worthy proposals in the highest priority areas will be funded first.

* Practices to improve seed production and/or efficiencies that will lower the cost of seed production – Possible areas of research include PGRs, soil fertility/plant nutrition, fertilizer technology, cultural practices, harvest practices and straw residue management.
* Disease pest control – BYDV in grasses, choke, ergot, stem rust, and others. Research to improve industry’s knowledge base, scouting techniques, management and control options including IPM strategies.
* Insect pest control – Symphylans, crane flies, bill bugs, cut worms, wireworms and others. Research to improve industry’s knowledge base, scouting techniques, management and control options including IPM strategies.
* Vole control – Research to develop effective alternatives to zinc phosphide vole bait control strategies.
* Research non-thermal practices such as the use of plant growth regulators and clipping to reduce biomass of fine fescue. Biomass reduction will assist in post-harvest residue management in the absence of open field burning in fine fescue crops.
* Row spraying practices in established stands and new plantings - Researching alternative chemistries and evaluate the economics and viability of the practice.
* Research to identify practical solutions to help seed producers meet the requirements of Oregon’s Agricultural Water Quality Act (SB 1010).
* Alternatives to the fluorescence test for Ryegrass – This test is used to determine the purity between annual and perennial ryegrasses. The current tests are quite variable and alternatives can be very expensive. This research could include new methods of testing or ways to make the current tests more economical.
* Development and application of new technology/agriculture engineering to assist grass seed production field activities such as spot spraying, vole bait application, field scouting, and other practices with the intent of new technology improving both time and cost efficiencies of production.

The Oregon Seed Council strongly encourages researchers to work with the OSC Research and Regulatory Coordinator when developing projects. Contact information follows:

 Steve Salisbury

 OSC Research and Regulatory Coordinator

 Phone: (503) 551-3747

 Email: steve@pacificagresources.com

**Deadlines**

**An electronic copy of Research Proposals and Reports is required.** Email submissions are preferred.

* **Research Proposals are due by 5:00 p.m. March 13, 2017.** Proposals received after the deadline or proposals received from researchers with OSC funding in 2016-17 for which no report has been submitted will not be considered for funding.
* **2017-18 Research Reports (Progress or Final) are due by November 15, 2017.** The OSC understands that for some funded research it may not be possible to submit a final report by this time due to the timing of funding and the required project timing for appropriate investigation. In these cases, the researcher needs to communicate the situation with the OSC Research and Regulatory Coordinator and provide a progress report by this same deadline.

Research proposals and final reports should be submitted to the OSC Executive Director at the following contact. **For OSU and USDA-ARS Forage Seed Production Research Center scientists, proposals should be submitted to the OSC via Ag Research Foundation (ARF) and the Crop and Soil Science Department.** See the General Instructions for Proposal Preparation section for the appropriate procedures for submission. Appropriately prepared proposals and final reports should be submitted to:

 Roger Beyer

 Oregon Seed Council, Executive Director

 Phone: (503) 585-1157

 Email: roger@rwbeyer.com

The OSC also recommends that researchers submit their final reports to the annual *Seed Research Report* published by OSU Crop and Soil Science Department. The OSC appreciates the professional courtesy of researchers acknowledging the funding support from the OSC.

**Evaluation of Proposals**

Review and screening of the proposals will be conducted by the OSC Research Committee, which may include an outside technical review. Recommendations on the funding of proposals will be made by the committee to the OSC. Research grant applicants will be notified of finalized decisions in May.

**General Instructions for Proposal Preparation**

**Proposals not meeting these requirements may not be funded. Please read this entire document before submitting a proposal.**

**Project Duration:**

Generally, projects are of one-year duration. Funding of a project, planned to last more than one year, does not guarantee that the project will be funded for the full proposed years. Decisions to fund each year are based on annual performance evaluation, total budget available, pressing industry needs, etc. ***A proposal must be submitted for all projects every year***.

**Proposals:**

All proposals must follow the format described below. Please note the following additional guidelines:

1. Keep proposals to 4 pages or less not counting figures, tables, and budget (keep these to a minimum).
2. Margins must be 1" on all sides, font should be Times New Roman 11 point, MS Word file format. Adobe PDF **is not** acceptable. **Please do not number pages or include any other headers or footers.**
3. Your budget request for funding must include all of the categories listed in the RFP, in the order listed.
4. Send your proposal as an electronic file (Microsoft Word format) to Charlene.Wilkinson@oregonstate.edu AND Tracy.Mitzel@oregonstate.edu by close of business on March 13, 2017. Also route a hard copy for required signatures such that it arrives at the ARF Office by close of business on March 13, 2017. Include the signature page provided below. Please note the CAS approval is needed and plan accordingly.

**PROPOSAL**

**Project numbers (if any):**

**TITLE:**

**YEAR INITIATED:** xxxx-xx **CURRENT YEAR:** 2017-18 **TERMINATING YEAR** xxxx-xx.

"Year Initiated" is the first year that funding was first received for the project. "Terminating Year" is the last period for which funding will be requested for this project. If a project is on-going, so indicate in the ending year space.

**PERSONNEL & COOPERATORS:**

Please include addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of all those listed here.

**FUNDING REQUEST FOR 2017-18:**

**JUSTIFICATION:**

Provide a statement that clearly defines the problem and the rationale for this project. State how this project relates to the OSC Research Priorities (see separate file).

**HYPOTHESIS & OBJECTIVES:**

Provide specific objectives that can realistically be accomplished during the project period. Which objectives will be addressed during this funding year (i.e. during 2017-18)?

**PROCEDURES:**

Indicate your approach and procedures to accomplish the objectives. Please include as much detail as space allows.

**ANTICIPATED BENEFITS/EXPECTED OUTCOMES/INFORMATION TRANSFER:**

What specific benefits will result from this project for producers and/or for the industry? Be clear and direct.

**PROJECT TIMELINE:**

List of activities and stages in the research project for the coming year.

**LITERATURE REVIEW:**

Especially in the case of NEW projects, please list and discuss the relevant past research that bears on this proposed project.

**2017-18 BUDGET:** Please provide the following in a table format as shown, listing only the budget items appropriate for your project.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Oregon Seed Council |
| **Salaries:** Faculty |  |
|  Graduate student |  |
|  Other students |  |
|  Other labor |  |
| **Employee Benefits (OPE):** Faculty |  |
|  Graduate student |  |
|  Other students |  |
|  Other labor |  |
| Equipment |  |
| Travel: Domestic (in state) |  |
|  Domestic (out of state) |  |
|  Foreign (conferences, etc.) |  |
| Operating Expenses 1 |  |
| Other Expenses 2 |  |
| **Total** |  |

 1 Otherwise known as “Goods and Services” or “Supplies and Materials.”

 2 Capital outlays, or other needs. Please detail in footnote.

**ANTICIPATED REQUESTS IN COMING YEARS (if applicable):**

 **2018-2019: 2019-2020:**

**OTHER SUPPORT OF PROJECT:**

Please describe other funding and in-kind support that contributes to this work.

**SIGNATURE PAGE**

**Proposal Title:**

**SUBMITTED TO: AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR**

 **THE OREGON SEED COUNCIL**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

**Date:**

**Principal Investigator(s)**

**Use separate line for each additional P.I.**

**APPROVED BY:**

 **Date:**

**Principal Investigator's Unit Supervisor(s)**

**(Department Head, Superintendent, or County Chair)**

 **Date:**

**Principal Investigator's Academic College**

 **Date:**

**Agricultural Research Foundation**