Competitive Allocation of Capacity Funds

NERA requested a list of institutions and agricultural experiment stations that allocate their Hatch (Hatch and Multistate) and McIntire-Stennis funds using a competitive process. This list reflects the responses that were sent by AES directors to their regional executive directors[1].

Northeast

Cornell University – Cornell allocates about 75 percent of their capacity funds via competitively awarded grants. How they do so can be found at: https://cuaes.cals.cornell.edu/funding. For more information contact Jan Nyrop (jpn2@cornell.edu.)

University of Massachusetts – UMASS does have some internal competitions primarily for limited operational funding and student support. Here's a description of one of the competitive funded programs: http://ag.umass.edu/cafe/news/summer-scholar-program-kicks-off. For more information contact Jody Jellison (jjellison@cns.umass.edu.)

University of New Hampshire - UNH uses an internally-competitive process to allocate all our NHAES funds (Hatch, Multistate, McIntire-Stennis). It's appropriately rigorous, including a review panel of productive faculty members having a diversity of disciplinary backgrounds and that changes over time, etc. UNH does not use external reviewers due to the relatively low funding amounts in comparison with required reviewer time, the perceived 'costs:benefits' of potential impacts on their constrained professional service activities should reviewing NHAES proposals be a part of that, etc. UNH used to use external reviewers (~8 years ago?), but many commented about the relatively high expectations vs. low funding amounts in the proposals; not familiar with Experiment Station funding approaches, etc. There was also a high cost on NHAES staff time to chase down suitable external reviewers every year. Bottom line, NHAES has found that the internal competition provides good outcomes and NIFA is pleased that they use a competitive approach. The UNH Manual (describing the competitive process) is available at: https://colsa.unh.edu/nhaes/sites/colsa.unh.edu.nhaes/files/media/nhaesmanual.pdf. Contact Jon Wraith (Jon.Wraith@unh.edu.)

Pennsylvania State University – Penn State is slowly moving in the direction of making some of our funds competitive. PSU has made Animal Health entirely competitive and

[1] This list was compiled by Rick Rhodes, NERA ED, rcr3@uri.edu, June26, 2017.

will start on Mac-Stennis in the upcoming year. PSU has not done anything for Hatch or Hatch multistate. For more information contact Gary Thompson (gat10@psu.edu.)

University of Vermont – UVM has allocated capacity funds by a competitive process for the last 20 years – the system works well. The proposals are evaluated by a committee which consists of a faculty member from each department (6). See: http://www.uvm.edu/cals/vermont_agricultural_experiment_station. For more information contact Tom Vogelman (Thomas.Vogelmann@uvm.edu.)

West Virginia University – WVU does not allocate capacity funds competitively, but has discussed setting aside some to use that way as seed grants towards specific college priorities.

North Central

University of Wisconsin - The WAES call for proposals is generally released during the summer with a proposal deadline in the beginning of September. Funding decisions are announced between December and January, annually. Projects begin October 1st the following year. See: http://waes.cals.wisc.edu/application-process/call-for-proposals/. For more information contact Angela Seitler (angela.seitler@wisc.edu.)

University of Nebraska – NEAES uses a RFA to distribute a portion of the Hatch Multistate funds. The RFA for FFY 2107-18 can be found at: http://ard.unl.edu/hatch-multistate-funding. For more information contact Deb Hamernik (dhamernik2@unl.edu.)

West

University of Alaska – The University of Alaska competitively allocates capacity funds (Hatch Regular and Hatch Multistate) to support research projects. The RFP used by AFES is attached in the appendix. For further information contact Milan Shipka (mshipka@alaska.edu.)

University of Hawaii - An annual Research/Extension Supplemental Funding RFP process is in place to provide funding to active Hatch projects and Extension Plans of Work. Under this RFP, faculty with approved projects may apply for up to $50,000 per year for two years. This is considered seed money to assist CTAHR faculty in competing for extramural funds, and addressing issues of high priority to Hawaii. Contact Ken Grace (kennethg@hawaii.edu.)

University of Nevada – The University of Nevada has used a competitive process to allocate AES funds (see PowerPoint attached in the appendix.) Currently, due to

increasing needs to support start-up funding for new faculty and to improve AES infrastructure, UNR has been using more of our funds on these and limiting the competitive processes. For more information contact Chris Pritsos (pritsos@cabnr.unr.edu.)

New Mexico State University – NMSU is trying to increase competitive AES funding opportunities. NMSU has competitively allocated graduate research assistantships and provided research funds to support the NM chile industry. Those strategies are attached in the appendix. None of the federal capacity funding is competitive at this point, all AES competitive funding is from the State of New Mexico to the AES. For further information contact Natalie Goldberg (ngoldber@ad.nmsu.edu) or Steve Loring (sloring@ad.nmsu.edu.)

South

Auburn University - A significant portion of their Hatch dollars is used to fund the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station (AAES) Competitive Grants program which provides seed funding (on a competitive basis) for agriculturally related research at Auburn University. Only faculty with AAES appointment are eligible to apply. More information about the AAES competitive grants program is available at http://aaes.auburn.edu/resources/aaes-research-funding-programs/, contact Henry Fadamiro (fadamhy@auburn.edu)

University of Arkansas - All Animal Health funds are allocated by a competitive process. Contact Rick Roeder (rroeder@uark.edu) for more information.

Oklahoma State University - Hatch funds that are allocated to the College of Human Sciences are distributed using a competitive process Contact Christine Johnson (christine.johnson@okstate.edu) for more information.

University of Puerto Rico - Some Hatch funds are allocated using a competitive process. Contact Vivian Carro (vivian.carro@upr.edu) for more information.

Mississippi State University – Most of the multistate Hatch funds are allocated using a competitive process. Contact George Hopper (gmh58@msstate.edu) for more information.

Virginia Tech University - Offers two competitive programs for federal capacity funds. These two programs are in cooperation with neighboring states. Contact for the VA Tech program, Susan Duncan (duncans@vt.edu).

- The **Delmarva Cooperative Seed Grant Program** focuses on research (focus areas are determined for the annual RFA) of direct relevance to the Delaware-Maryland-Virginia region on an annual basis. The goal is to provide seed funding, with the expectation that investigators will use the outcomes as preliminary data to seek additional funding for advancing the research. Six universities (Delaware State University, University of Delaware, University of Maryland-College Park, University of Maryland-Eastern Short, Virginia State University, Virginia Tech) pledge resources toward this program. A successful proposal (max of $30K) must include investigators from at least two of the Delmarva states, and at least one investigator must be from an 1890s university. In our most recent round of projects, VAES has pledged nearly $52K to support Virginia Tech investigators involved in four projects; the total funding for those 4 projects is estimated at $119,686, including funding from the other institutions involved in each project.
- The **NC/VT Regional Collaborative Grants Program** is a joint venture between NCSU and VT Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences. The program has been offered twice; in the 2014-2015 cycle, 31 proposals were considered and 5 (2 full proposals, 3 planning grants) were awarded, each with a VT lead and an NCSU lead investigator. Maximum funding per year was set at $75K with each university annually providing 50% of the funding; a proposal may request 2 years of funding ($150K maximum for proposal). Planning grants had a maximum of $5K (50% provided by each university) for one year. Estimated funding for this program provided in 2015 by VAES was $157,500. We have not offered the program since 2015 but are considering it within the next year or so.

Appendix

1. University of Alaska - AFES RFP
2. University of Nevada - AES Formula Fund Review Process
3. New Mexico State University - AES Graduate Research Award
4. New Mexico State University - AES Research Chile RFP

SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND EXTENSION

University of Alaska Fairbanks

FY18 Request for Proposals for the Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station Priority Grants (Capacity Grant Funded projects)
Hatch Regular and Hatch Multistate

RFP Issued: September 12, 2016

Proposals Due: November 15, 2016 by 5pm

Submit to: Office of Proposal Development, uaf-opd@alaska.edu

The Alaska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station (AFES) receives designated federal appropriations through the Hatch Act of 1887 (commonly referred to as formula or capacity funds). AFES is responsible for distributing these funds to support the capacity for our land-grant institution to enhance statewide research activities. This Request for Proposals is to help determine how some of these funds will be distributed to support specific research projects as approved by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), an institute of the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). Previously funded research activities have resulted in substantial and important research findings that benefit the state of Alaska. The goal of AFES is to continue funding good research ideas. As in the past, AFES expects to fund solid and novel research ideas. However, one of the expectations placed upon the PI receiving such funding is that it be viewed as seed money to be leveraged by other related extramural funding. Research efforts carried out using AFES funding are expected to provide benefits to the citizens of Alaska and be focused on Alaskan issues.

All UAF faculty members are eligible to apply for capacity grant funding based on the descriptions below under the category of *Type of Projects*. Principal Investigators are encouraged to form collaborative partnerships with other UAF faculty (teaching, research and Extension) and non-UAF entities that will assist in the development of robust research activities and provide the greatest likelihood of AFES capacity funds being used as seed monies that lead to the PI/team being able to secure non-AFES extramural funding for the research program.

It is the goal of AFES to be effective and efficient in fulfilling its mission of performing state-of-the-art basic and applied research and to bring this information to the people of Alaska.

Research Categories:
Funding to support research by scientists funded through AFES is provided through partnerships between the federal government (USDA NIFA) and the state. Research priorities will reflect both state and national priorities as defined in the Planned Programs in the Annual Plan of Work and which fall under the broadest definition of agriculture and forestry research. Since fiscal resources are limited, research priorities will be limited to the following broad categories as define by USDA NIFA:

- Agriculture and Food Security
- Natural Resources and Community Development
- Healthy Individuals, Families and Communities
- Youth Development
- Climate Change and Ecosystem Management
- Sustainable Energy

Effective research targeting scientific questions are increasingly dependent upon multidisciplinary, multi-investigator approaches that utilize a wide range of methods, techniques and capabilities. Preference will be given to grants that effectively integrate research and extension faculty working as team members.

Funding Available:
There are two sources of funding available, Hatch Regular and Hatch Multi-State. Each has different match requirements that are specified in the Terms & Conditions section below.

- Hatch Regular funding should be requested for those projects that are solely dealing with Alaska specific problems and issues.
- Hatch Multi-State funding is used for projects that not only have an Alaska impact but can also be transferred to regional, national or international situations. A scientist participant from a land-grant institution other than UAF must be listed as a collaborator on the proposal in order to qualify for Hatch Multi-State funding.

Please specify in your proposal which funding source for which you are applying.

Terms & Conditions of Award:
The following terms and conditions apply to any proposals that are submitted under this RFP. If during the term of the funded project any terms and conditions are not followed, funding will be removed from the project immediately.

1. NIFA Reporting System and Requirements:

REEport is NIFA's grant and formula project reporting system. This system is used for project initiation, annual progress reporting and final reporting and will collect

performance measures as well as expenditures and staff support. It will monitor the progress and the impact of the activities. The reporting measures that are collected include target audiences, publications (products), other products (Experiment Station and CES publications, databases, protocols, websites, to name a few), and accomplishments.

Annual reports are due for the fiscal year (Oct 1st-Sept 30th) and must be submitted by the PI into the REEport system by January 21st of each year. If January 21st falls on a non-work day, the report will be due the following business day.

2. NIMMS Multi-State Project Required:

Participation in a corresponding approved collaborative NIMMS Regional Research committee (project) must be included in all proposals. If you have questions regarding the NIMMS projects or difficulty in identifying an appropriate project, please contact Milan Shipka, Director of Research/AFES. A list of possible projects can be found at http://www.nimss.org/.

3. Grant Funding Cycle:

The grant funding is awarded on a federal fiscal year basis starting October 1st and ending September 30th. For multi-year projects, PIs will receive a new budget for each year. A letter notifying you of the budget and funding to be used for expenditures and match will be sent to PIs by September 1st.

4. No-Cost Extension:

No-Cost extensions are not available. Unspent grant funds cannot be carried forward to the following year of the grant. If funds will not be used by September 30th for the current federal fiscal year, PIs may request an internal no-cost extension by sending a memo requesting the no-cost extension and the reason for the request to the Director of AFES. No-Cost extensions may only be granted up to December 31st of the following federal fiscal year. After that date, all grant funds are forfeited. This internal no-cost extension is not available the last year of the project.

5. Match Requirement*:

Hatch Regular funding has a match requirement of 100%. Every grant dollar awarded must be met 1:1 by non-federal (including federal pass-thru) funds.

Hatch Multi-State funding has a match requirement of 110%. Every grant dollar awarded must be met 1:1.1 by non-federal (including federal pass-thru) funds.

Match funds must be met on a federal fiscal year basis. Following the current UAF internal match fund requirements, JVs transferring revenue to cover the annual match required must be completed quarterly.

Match for the entire federal fiscal year must be met by September 30th. If match is not met by this date, all project funds will be forfeited and the project will be terminated immediately.

***Match requirements are subject to change if NIFA has altered the match requirement of the capacity grant.**

6. Facilities & Administration (F&A):

Indirect Costs are not permitted per NIFA regulations.

7. Budgetary Oversight:

It is the responsibility of the PI to monitor the fiscal obligations and limits of the award. PIs will be responsible to use alternate sources of funding for covering any overruns that may occur.

In order to help PIs with oversight of the award, the Fiscal Officer of the SNRE Business Office will send out monthly reports for each grant and match accounts. Any budget revision requests or coordination of match JV transfers should be addressed with the SNRE Business Office.

8. Annual Impact Statement:

PIs must work with SNRE Communications department to develop annual Impact Statements that can be used for AFES and NIFA publications. This can also be used for annual reports. All completed impact statements are due to the Director of Research/AFES by January 21st.

9. Acknowledgement of Funding:

NIFA, SNRE and AFES must be acknowledged in publications, outreach and marketing products that result from an AFES funded project. Please contact the SNRE Communications department for information on proper brand and logo placement.

Type of Projects:

Short Term (max of two years): This is a short term project (max of two years) that meets the requirements of the RFP. The goal of these projects is to promote new avenues of research that can eventually leverage external grants and/or donations.

Restrictions:

1. All UAF Faculty and Post-Docs are eligible to apply.
2. Only one short-term project per PI is permitted at a time. However, a PI may have long-term and short-term concurrent projects.
3. There is a three year waiting period after the end of a short term project before a PI is eligible for a new short-term project.

4. If including a graduate assistant in the proposal, only salary and associated benefits may be included in the budget. You will need to identify other external grant funds for expenditures of graduate student tuition and fees.
5. Travel for the face-to-face annual meeting for approved NIMMS projects and committees should be included in the proposal.

Long Term (max of five years): This is a long term project (max of five years) that meets the requirements of the RFP. The goal of these projects is to promote new avenues of research that may take a longer incubation period but that can still eventually leverage external grants and/or donations.

Restrictions:

1. All UAF faculty are eligible to apply.
2. Only one long-term project per PI is permitted at a time. However, a PI may have long-term and short-term concurrent projects.
3. If including a graduate assistant(s) in the proposal, only salary may be included in the budget. You will need to identify other external grant funds for tuition and fees.
4. Travel for face-to-face meetings for approved NIMMS projects and committees should be included in the proposal.

Requirements of Funding:

The following items are requirements of the grant funding and must be included in in your proposal narrative.

- Type of funding (Hatch Regular or Hatch Multi-State).
- Type of project (short-term or long-term).
- Every project must outline an effective outreach program to the scientific, academic, AND public communities. Preference will be given to those projects that have a demonstrated plan to translate scientific information for use by the lay-person.
- Annual budgets of $35,000 or less per project per year.
- Proposed NIMMS Regional Research Project.

Expectations of Funding:

The following items are expectations of the grant funding. These issues should be addressed in your proposal narrative.

1. Hatch funds are considered "seed" money. Projects are expected to generate other proposals for external grants or donations.

2. Projects should lead to additional collaborative opportunities within and outside UAF.
3. Benefits to the State of Alaska should be evident and identifiable in the proposal.

Priority will be given to:

- Integrated projects – projects that involve research, education (non-academic) and/or outreach, and have at least one SNRE faculty member as a co-investigator.
- Projects that incorporate or engage university students

Submission Documents (Limited to 15 pages, excluding items 10-19 below):

1. **Title**
2. **Justification of Need (needs to include explanation of Project Type and desired funding source)**
3. **Previous Work and Present Outlook or Literature Review**
4. **Procedure or Methodology**
5. **Project Timeline**
6. **UAF Budget Spreadsheet**
7. **Budget Narrative** - Include FTEs for all individuals participating in the project including students, staff, and non-UAF collaborators.
8. **List of Project Personnel Roles/Participants**
9. **Cooperation/Collaboration** - Provide list of collaborating/partnering States, Organizations, and Countries.
10. **Goals** - What are the major goals of the project? 8,000 character limit.
11. **Products** - Identify the products/outputs that are expected to be achieved during the life of this project. 8,000 character limit.
12. **Outcomes** - Provide a description of Expected Outcomes over the duration of the project. You may use paragraphs and/or lists. 8,000 character limit.
13. **Audience** – Provide a description of the target audience(s) that will be the focus of effort for the duration of the project. 8,000 character limit.
14. **Methods** – Describe the Methods for the project. 8,000 character limit.
15. **Summary** - Provide a Non-Technical Summary of the project in paragraph form. 8,000 character limit.
16. **Keywords** – List of keywords to describe the project.
17. **References Cited**
18. **External Reviewers** - List contact information for 4-6 individuals that can act as external reviewers for the project. Individuals should have an expertise in the area of proposed research. Each PI is encouraged to contact

each person listed and ask if they would be willing to provide a review if asked by our AFES to do so.

19. **Curriculum Vitae** - Limited to two pages per individual.

Review and Selection Process:

1. Completed proposals due to Office of Proposal Development by 5pm on Tuesday, November 15, 2016.
2. Proposals will be reviewed and ranked by the internal selection committee. PI of any proposals not accepted for peer review will be notified by December 30, 2016.
3. Proposals will be sent out for external peer review by January 13, 2017.
4. External reviews are returned for revisions by March 31, 2017.
5. Revised proposals are due to OPD by 5:00 PM April 14, 2017.
6. All final external reviews are due back by May 12, 2017.
7. PI of any unsuccessful proposal will be notified by June 16, 2017.
8. All successful proposals are submitted to NIFA for approval and awards are announced by June 30, 2017.
9. Funding begins October 1, 2017.

University of Nevada, Reno

Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station

The NAES Annual Formula Fund Review Process

Western Region Administrative Officers' Meeting
Park City, UT
October 18-19, 2016

- The NAES receives Hatch, Multi-State, McIntire-Stennis and Animal Health formula funds and manages them by the same process
- Faculty with AES appointments can apply for research project funding each year. Projects typically last 3 to 5 years
- Match primarily comes from state AES appropriation that pays for tenure and tenure-track faculty salaries within the College

Project Proposal Process:

- Early fall, calculate ongoing project budget requests and estimate amounts available by type of formula fund
- Discuss with Associate Director and Director. Discuss if there are any additional high priorities we want to add in RFP
- Send out Pre-proposal RFP. Reviewed internally by department chairs and committee within Dean's Office
- Meet on Pre-proposals. Discuss project and budget issues. Look at how projects can be combined or result in broader impacts

Project Proposal Process Continued:

- Rate projects; notify applicants; for those selected for full application include our suggestions to strengthen final proposal
- Criteria we are most interested in (not a ranked list):
  - Inclusion of graduate or postdoctoral student
  - Integrated with Cooperative Extension
  - Broadest Impacts
  - Critical stakeholder needs
  - Startup needs of new faculty
- Full proposals get reviewed by Department Chairs, external reviewers within that area's expertise, stakeholders and lastly a committee in Dean's Office.

We continue to play with different models:

- Targeting more toward new faculty startup needs
- Improving field lab infrastructure (in response to new faculty needs)
- Size of projects & who gets funded – Previously each AES faculty member expected to have project and each project budgeted for approx. $35k; some movement to much larger projects ($150k +) with multiple cross disciplinary PI's. Now moving toward no projects for established faculty.

Agricultural Experiment Station
College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences
New Mexico State University
MSC 3BF, Box 30003
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8003
Phone: (575) 646-3125
Fax: (575) 646-2186

Agricultural Experiment Station Graduate Research Awards 2016

The AES graduate research awards are intended to further the mission of the AES by expanding research that will benefit the citizens of NM. These assistantships will help attract and train outstanding graduate students to understand the complexities and value of quality research. The AES currently allocates $200,000 per year for these awards. Our AES 2016/17 legislative request would increase this funding by $375,000. Keep your fingers crossed.

$20,000 per year will be awarded to Faculty advisors. Funding for research assistantships (PhD and/or MS) will be available on July 1 or on January 1, depending on graduate student availability. There will be a $40,000 maximum benefit per student – i.e., 2 years at $20K/year or 4 years at $10k/year. Once students complete their degrees, PIs will need to compete for new funding. PIs from any department requiring a research thesis/dissertation may apply. To increase chances of receiving an award - remember the mission of the AES: http://aces.nmsu.edu/aes/about.html.

Awards are only to be used for graduate student salary associated with research. PIs are encouraged to match or increase the RA stipends with grant funding to attract quality students to their programs. There is an opportunity to increase the award by up to $4,000 in operations/travel funding per year for any project working at one of our distant "off-campus" science and research centers (Corona, Mora, Farmington, Clovis, Tucumcari, Artesia, Alcalde, Clayton, or Los Lunas).

PIs receiving awards will need to submit a written report by December 10 of each grant year to qualify for funding in the next cycle.

To apply for an AES Graduate Research Award, include the following (2 page maximum):

1. PI name, department, email.
2. Student name and contact information (if known, this is optional).
3. Funding details – start date (Jan 1 or July 1), requested budget and timeline.
4. Research Project Description or Proposed Area of Research:
    a. Why is the project important?
    b. What will the student be doing?
    c. How will this help the state of NM?
    d. How might this leverage future funding for your program?

Send application to Teri Diaz, tediaz@nmsu.edu, by February 22, 2016. Awards will be announced by March 18, 2016.

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2017 CHILE PROPOSAL RFP

To: Faculty and Staff interested in Chile research

From: David C. Thompson, Associate Dean and Director
Agricultural Experiment Station

During the State of New Mexico's 2007-2009 legislative sessions, the New Mexico Chile Association (NMCA) successfully lobbied to secure recurring funding in support of the chile industry. These monies have since been rolled into the base budgets of the Agricultural Experiment Station, the Cooperative Extension Service and the NM Department of Agriculture. As in previous years, we have combined these funds and the Agricultural Experiment Station (AES) is soliciting research proposals for the 2017 crop year, with funding to begin July 2017. We encourage proposals on topics that will ultimately strengthen the NM chile industry, including (but NOT limited to) disease resistance, incidence of pathogens and pathogen control in chile, increased yields, food safety and mechanization. We will likely have up to $500,000 to award for this coming season, pending final state budgets and internal budget changes. **Proposals can be submitted for 12 or 24 months.**

Many of you involved with chile research have been funded in the past; however, this request should be treated as a new proposal. Your previous work (especially work completed during the past year) should be discussed as background. Proposals funded for two years in FY17 will not require a new submission. The AES will evaluate all proposals in conjunction with NM Chile Association members, representing the chile processors and growers.

Please pass this information on to anyone in your department who may be interested in submitting a proposal. We are excited to support research that ensures New Mexico will continue to be the leader in everything chile – our signature crop.

FUNDING LIMITATIONS

- No project will be considered without a proposal even if you have been funded in the past.
- Approved projects must be completed within the time frame agreed upon in the final award document.
- Two year projects must ensure continuity and consistency in project implementation. Benchmarks of progress must be met prior to release of funds for successive years.
- Indirect costs are not allowed.

PROPOSAL CRITERIA AND FORMAT

- Application material submitted should be limited to **5 single-spaced pages (12 point font, 1 inch margins) in length maximum** (not including budget and CV of project participant(s)). Projects exceeding this length will not be reviewed.

- Format as follows:
  1. **Title**: Project title should be brief and indicate what the project is about.
  2. **Personnel:** List the project leader(s), collaborator(s), and support personnel assigned to the project and identify their affiliation (e.g. agency, university, etc.).
  3. **Contact information:** List the **Lead** principal investigator address, phone number, and email address.
  4. **Amount Requested:** State the amount of grant money being requested.
  5. **Abstract of the Proposed Research Project/Scope of Work:** In text, not to exceed one paragraph **(250 words maximum)**, provide concise abstract/summary of the proposed research project.
  6. **Justification and Statement of Problem:** Include a short statement (one page maximum) of the problem, its magnitude, the status of the current research knowledge, and the anticipated benefits/impacts of the proposed work.
  7. **Literature Review:** A summary of pertinent publications with emphasis on their relationships to the effort being proposed should include all important and recent publications.
  8. **Hypothesis and Research Objectives:** State the hypothesis to be tested in the project and state specific objectives of the proposed study. The concise objectives should be numbered and listed in order of importance. **Clearly state how the results of this project will support the NM chile industry.**
  9. **Research Procedures by Objective (including cooperative efforts):** Include expected results, a brief description of the methods to be used for attaining each objective. If applicable: A general explanation of proposed research site design, field sampling procedures, and/or technical innovations.
  10. **Implementation Plan:** Provide a description of specific products and deliverables expected upon completion of the project. Provide a description and timetable of specific activities and benchmarks to be accomplished during the course of the project. Payment of funds will be contingent upon timely reporting and execution of benchmarks and deliverables in accordance with the project timetable.

- **The following should be included as addenda and will not count toward the page limit:**
  11. **CV of project participants:** An up-to-date abbreviated 2-page curriculum vita for principal investigator(s) is required.
  12. **Annual budget(s):** Provide budgets and a budget narrative for each year.

GRANT APPLICATION SUBMITTAL

- Grant Applications must be delivered via email to Teri Diaz, tediaz@nmsu.edu, (575) 646-3125 no later than Friday, **April 21, 2017**.

PROJECT REPORTING

- Semi-annual progress reports must be provided to the Agricultural Experiment Station Director's office after grant project approval. Reports must follow the format of the grant application outline above and should be concise. A final report will be required at the end of the funded grant period. In addition to the final report, grantees will be required to present project findings in at least one public forum.

EVALUATION CRITERIA WILL BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

1. Overall quality of the proposed research/technology: (50%)
    a. Scientific rigor and merit.
    b. Project does not duplicate efforts already completed or in progress.
    c. Project collaboration with other projects having related objectives.
    d. Clear objectives and experimental design/plan.
    e. Feasibility that the work can be accomplished within the proposed timeframe and budget.
    f. Appropriate personnel to accomplish the objectives.

2. Originality (10%)

3. Usefulness to the chile industry (40%)
    a. Impact to the chile industry (broad vs. narrow impact).
    b. Project benefits at least one sector of the NM chile industry.
    c. Long-term vs. short term (strategic vs. tactical) impacts.
    d. Total anticipated time of research to implement a benefit for the industry.
    e. Total anticipated cost of research to implement a benefit for the industry.
    f. Cost/benefit ratio.