



**The Andersons Research Grant Program:  
Regular Competition**

# **Request for Proposals**

**Submission Deadline:  
Tuesday, September 1, 2009**

Photo courtesy of: The Andersons, Inc., Corporate Communications

**NC-213 MEMBER INSTITUTIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES****Officers**

Chairman .....	Mark Casada, USDA/ARS, Manhattan
Vice Chairman.....	Leland McKinney, Kansas State University
Secretary .....	Brian Adam, Oklahoma State University
Past Chairman.....	Stephen Kells, University of Minnesota
Industry Advisory Committee Chairman.....	Jim Stitzlein, Consolidated Grain & Barge Co.
CSREES/USDA Representative.....	Hongda Chen
Administrative Advisor/Coordinator.....	F. William Ravlin, The Ohio State University/OARDC

**Participating Stations****Representatives**

Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, Urbana.....	Marvin Paulsen
Indiana Agricultural Experiment Station, (Purdue) W. Lafayette.....	Dirk E. Maier
Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, Ames .....	Charles R. Hurburgh, Jr.
Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station, Manhattan .....	Leland McKinney
University of Kentucky, Lexington.....	Michael Montross
Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, East Lansing.....	Perry K.W. Ng
University of Minnesota.....	R. Vance Morey
Montana Agricultural Experiment Station, Bozeman.....	Florence V. Dunkel
Nebraska Agricultural Experiment Station, Lincoln .....	Lloyd B. Bullerman
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, Fargo.....	Charlene Wolf-Hall
The Ohio State University .....	Matthew Roberts
Oklahoma State University.....	Carol Jones
Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, College Station.....	Lloyd W. Rooney
Washington State University .....	Byung-Kee Baik
Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, Madison.....	Sundaram Gunasekaran
USDA, ARS .....	Kurt Rosentrater
USDA, ARS, GMPRC .....	Mark Casada

**T**his is a request for Multistate Project NC-213 members to submit proposals to the Andersons Research Grant Program for 2009. The Andersons Research Grant Program will provide research funding within the scope of the multistate research project entitled "Marketing and Delivery of Quality Grains and BioProcess Coproducts". Successful proposals will receive up to \$25,000 per year for two years.

**PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2009**

## **SECTION 1.0 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

Legislative and technological changes in grain markets are creating new opportunities to deliver high quality products that enhance value to end-users. Some changes may also create increased risk for different industry sectors. The challenge is to generate value through quality at as many points as possible in the production, distribution, and marketing system. At the same time, it is critical to preserve quality of all cereals and oilseeds, to successfully manage risk and insure security. Product and system changes that create value will require improved communication, information, technology transfer, and collaboration among the diverse communities that comprise and affect grain markets.

*The goal of the Andersons Research Grant Program is to develop new approaches and technologies to maintain or improve the quality of cereals and oilseeds from harvest to delivery, while preserving the environment, and maintaining consumer safety. These approaches and technologies must be developed and implemented if the U.S. is to remain at the forefront of the world's major producers.*

## **SECTION 2.0 OBJECTIVES AND ELIGIBILITY**

### **2.1 Objectives**

Proposals submitted to the Andersons Research Grant Program must address one or more of the following NC-213 objectives:

1. To characterize quality attributes and develop systems to measure quality of cereals, oilseeds, and bioprocess coproducts;
2. To develop methods to maintain quality, capture value, and preserve food safety at key points in the harvest to end product value chain; and,
3. To quantify and disseminate the impact of market-chain technologies on providing high value, food-safe, and bio-secure grains for global markets and bioprocess industries.

### **2.2 Eligibility**

To be eligible for the Andersons Research Grant Program, at least one of the principal investigators must be a member of Multistate Research Project NC-213, "Marketing and Delivery of Quality Grains and BioProcess Coproducts" (i.e., the principal investigator's name must be listed in Appendix E of the plan of work). In addition, at least one investigator must have a current report included in the 2008 Annual Report of Progress.

Are all reporting requirements for all investigators up to date? Any investigator with outstanding annual or final reports will be ineligible for the competition until reporting obligations are met.

## SECTION 3.0      **FORMAT FOR PROPOSALS**

All proposals must be submitted electronically as PDF documents (Adobe) attached to an email message sent to [koshar.3@osu.edu](mailto:koshar.3@osu.edu). Proposals must be submitted using a standard 8.5 x 11 page size with 1” margins and an easily readable font (e.g., Arial, Tahoma, Times Roman) in 12 point font. All pages except the Cover Page should be numbered at the bottom center of the page. Proposals are limited to 10 pages, excluding the cover page, CV, Current & Pending, and budget pages. Research project proposals must contain the following sections and must be assembled as follows:

- **Cover page** (example included)
- **Problem Identification and Related Research** - Describe the basis for the project, a means to evaluate the importance of the objectives and what research has been accomplished to date.
- **Objectives** - Indicate which NC-213 objective(s) (i.e., Objectives 1-3, Section 2.1) the project will address and the specific objectives for the proposed research.
- **Procedures** - Describe in detail, the process that will be used to complete the investigation, including the experimental design, equipment, materials, and travel. This section should also explicitly describe how the collaborators/coPIs will interact.
- **Anticipated results, products, and impacts** - Describe the expected results and products developed as a part of this research project. How will the results/products of this project impact the industry and who will use the results/products?
- **Leveraging Resources** – Describe how the Andersons Funds can and will be used to leverage additional resources (e.g., matching funds, used to seed a larger grant/contracts activities).
- **Timetable** - Describe the schedule of events. Be as specific as possible.
- **Literature Cited** - List only those articles, books, or reports that are referenced in the proposal.
- **CV** - Two (2) pages maximum.
- **Current and Pending** (see form provided)
- **Budget** - All proposals must include an itemized budget. This budget should indicate materials, supplies, travel, and other expenses that will be required to complete the research. The budget must follow the Budget format provided in this request for proposals.
- **Budget Narrative** - Briefly describe how each budget item will be used in the project.

## **SECTION 4.0      PROPOSAL EVALUATION CRITERIA**

The following criteria will be used to evaluate Andersons Research Grant Program proposals. Proposals must precisely follow the format in Section 3.0.

- Does the proposed project address problems that relate to NC-213 objectives as presented in the 2008 Workplan?
- Is the science sound and of high quality? (Rated item.)
- Are the objectives clear and quantifiable? Are the procedures sound? Does the proposal clearly describe statistical analyses where appropriate? (Rated item.)
- Are there clearly stated outputs of the proposed research? Examples: Reports, publications, patents, data, workshops. (Rated item.)
- Is the written quality (organization, grammar, spelling, clarity) of the proposal sufficiently high? (Rated item.)
- Will the proposed research likely produce tangible results within the project timetable? (Rated item.)
- What do you see as the impact (short- and/or long-term) of this research on the grain industry and/or grain science? (Rated item.)
- Does the proposed research have the potential to generate competitive external funding support? (Rated item.)
- Is the proposed budget appropriate to conduct the proposed research?

\*All reviewers have the opportunity of leaving specific comments in addition to rating each criteria.

Criteria will be evaluated on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 - excellent, 2 - above average, 3 - average, 4 - below average, 5 - poor), or by a “Yes” or “No”.

Within the limits of available funds, awards will be made to applicants whose proposals are judged most meritorious under the evaluation criteria and procedures defined. Andersons Grant funds will become available to principal investigators based on the start date of the project. Funds are contingent upon the receipt of any outstanding reports from previously awarded proposals, and are contingent on receipt of an annual report.

All proposals will be evaluated by a Review Panel made up of the Administrative Advisor/Coordinator, Past Chair, Objective Chairs, and one member from the Industry Advisory Committee. If a Review Panel member specified above submits a proposal for funding consideration, they shall be replaced by the Administrative Advisor/Coordinator from among current officers and/or current members who have not submitted a proposal. Review Panel will rate each evaluation criterion (above) on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 – excellent, 2 – above average, 3 – average, 4 – below average, 5 – poor), or by a “Yes” or “No”. Those scores will be summed to arrive at a total score for each proposal. Panel discussion and written comments will augment numeric scores in the event of a tie. These comments also serve as feedback to the submitting lead principal investigator.

Composition of Review Panel: Best efforts are made to have the following composition of reviewers: Two land grant reviewers, one USDA grant reviewer, and two Industry reviewers.

## **SECTION 5.0      REPORTING**

An annual (Year 1) progress report and a final (Year 2) written report are required. Annual reports must be submitted no later than 30 days after the end of the project year. Second year funding will not be released until an annual report is received. Successful investigators are eligible to receive future Andersons Grants only if they have completed previous projects and submitted acceptable final reports. Final reports must be submitted to the NC-213 Coordinator’s Office no later than 90 days after the project end date. In addition to written reports, grant recipients are expected to present project results during the NC-213 Annual Meeting.

**The Andersons Research Grant Program** is supported by an endowment made to The Ohio State University (OSU) by The Andersons Inc. in February of 1966.



Founded in 1947, is a diversified agribusiness and retailing firm based in Maumee, Ohio. Its Agriculture Group, one of the top grain handlers in the United States, also produces and markets fertilizer products and operates ten Retail Farm Centers. The Processing & Manufacturing Group includes railcar repair and marketing, lawn fertilizer production and marketing, corncob milling for industrial and environmental applications, and the operation of seven full-service auto repair centers and one outdoor power equipment dealer. The Retail Group consists of six stores in Toledo, Columbus, and Lima, Ohio.

Proposal No. \_\_\_\_\_

# The Andersons Research Grant Program

**Project Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Principal Investigator(s)**

Name	Institution/Agency/Other

(Attach an additional sheet if more space is needed.)

**Project Contact (list one person to act as the primary contact):**

Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	
Fax:	
E-mail:	

**Period of Proposed Project Dates:**

Beginning: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending: \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount Requested (maximum \$25,000 per year for two years):**

Year 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Year 2: \_\_\_\_\_

**ANDERSONS RESEARCH FUND - RESEARCH PROPOSAL BUDGET**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Total</b>
	Amt. requested from Andersons	Amt. requested from Andersons	
<b>Salaries and Wages*</b>			
Post-Ph.D. research associate(s)			
Graduate assistant			
Stipend			
Tuition and fees			
Hourly wage			
Other (specify in Budget Narrative)			
<b>Total</b>			
<b>Fringe Benefits</b>			
Post-Ph.D. research associate(s)			
Graduate assistant			
Hourly wage			
Other			
<b>Total</b>			
<b>Materials and Supplies</b>			
<b>Equipment</b> (List individual pieces of equipment that are essential to the project in the Budget Narrative.)			
<b>Travel</b>			
<b>Publication charges</b>			
<b>Indirect costs**</b>			
<b>Total (Max. \$25,000/yr from Andersons Research Grant Program)</b>			

\*Andersons funds cannot be used for faculty salaries, departmental space, or facilities.

\*\*The Andersons Research Grant Program policy specifies that no indirect costs can be charged to this project.

## CURRENT & PENDING SUPPORT

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:**

**Who completes this template:** All individuals contributing to this research.

**How this template is completed:**

- Record information for active and pending projects, including this proposal.
- All current efforts to which individuals contributing to the research have committed a portion of their time must be listed, whether or not salary for the person involved is included in the budgets of the various projects.
- Provide analogous information for all proposed work which is being considered by, or which will be submitted in the near future to, other possible sponsors, including other programs.
- For concurrent projects, the percent of time committed must not exceed 100%.

NAME	SUPPORTING AGENCY/ SPONSOR AND AGENCY ACTIVE AWARD/PENDING PROPOSAL NUMBER	TOTAL \$ AMOUNT	EFFECTIVE AND EXPIRATION DATES	% OF TIME COMMITTED	TITLE OF PROJECT

**CURRENT:**

**PENDING:**