



OARDC Research Enhancement Competitive Grants Program

The Research Enhancement Competitive Grants Program (RECGP) is funded by appropriations made to the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) of The Ohio State University. The goal of the RECGP is to foster research excellence among OARDC-supported scientists and faculty in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences.

Food, agriculture, and the green industry is Ohio's largest industry, worth more than \$73 billion to Ohio's economy yearly, and keeps one in every six Ohio citizens working.

Agricultural research is fundamental to determining causes and finding solutions to the problems facing the agricultural and green industry in Ohio. Food safety and high production are very important to consumers and the agricultural community, but they aren't the only benefits of agricultural research. Agricultural research touches all aspects of our lives from human and environmental health to economic development and social responsibility.

OARDC is committed to the research necessary to help this multi-billion dollar industry reach its full potential as an economic force.

The OARDC Research Enhancement Competitive Grants Program (RECGP) was established in 1996 with the goal of promoting research excellence among OARDC-supported scientists and faculty in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences.

Since the program's beginning, 503 proposals have been received (excluding graduate and undergraduate), 215 projects have been funded, and 96 projects are now complete and have been reported.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the RECGP program include:

- Increasing the competitiveness of scientists in extramural grant programs.
- Encouraging partnerships with private industry and other stakeholders.
- Encouraging the development of interdisciplinary teams.
- Encouraging international collaborations.
- Supporting the exploration of enterprises that are potentially new to Ohio.
- Providing undergraduate students with research experience.
- Providing graduate students with the opportunity to take part in the grant-writing/review process.

The RECGP has proven its value in helping researchers gain a competitive edge with researchers at other land-grant institutions.

Twenty-eight projects were completed during calendar year 2002. For these projects, industry partners provided \$1,480,170 in support, and investigators reported receiving \$7,253,605 in extramural funding resulting from preliminary data obtained in RECGP projects.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

Return on Investment

For every OARDC dollar invested in projects completed and reported over the life of the RECGP, \$5.58 has been returned as a result of industry matches and extramural funding.

Intellectual Property

Five U.S. patent applications have been filed as a result of the initial findings of RECGP research projects. Two patents have been granted.

Graduate Student Education

Of the 28 projects completed during calendar year 2002, three master's theses and one doctoral dissertation were completed. For the life of the RECGP, 17 theses and 16 dissertations have been produced.

Publications and Presentations

For calendar year 2002, completed projects reported 46 papers and abstracts published and 140 presentations made in various locations around the world. For the life of the program, 122 papers and abstracts have been published and 250 presentations made.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information on the OARDC Research Enhancement Competitive Grants Program, please visit our web site at www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/recgp/.

