



PENNSYLVANIA VEGETABLE MARKETING & RESEARCH PROGRAM

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Pennsylvania Vegetable

Request for Research Grant Proposals for 2024 Addendum

*A Joint Effort of the PA Vegetable Marketing and Research Program and the PA Vegetable Growers Association
issued November 22, 2023*

Evaluation of Pre-Proposals

The Research Committee and the Pennsylvania Vegetable Marketing and Research Board received and evaluated the following pre-proposals at their November 6, 2023, meeting. A copy of all the pre-proposals is available [here](#). Pre-proposals were rated using the following system:

- A – very interested in funding and in receiving a full proposal for final consideration
- B – potentially interested in funding – would appreciate a full proposal for final consideration
- C – very little or no interest in funding

A 1. Do Micronutrient Fertilizers Help Reduce Herbicide Injury and Improve Weed Control?

Dwight Lingenfelter and John Wallace, Penn State Department of Plant Science
\$1,500

A 2. Breeding fresh-market tomatoes for production in PA

Majid R. Foolad, Department of Plant Science, The Pennsylvania State University
\$8,000

A 3. Breeding processing tomatoes for production in PA

Majid R. Foolad, Department of Plant Science, The Pennsylvania State University
\$8,000

A 4. Evaluation of Fungicide Programs for Powdery Mildew Control in Pumpkins

Tim Elkner, Penn State Extension – Lancaster County and Beth Gugino – Department of Plant Pathology and Environmental Microbiology, Penn State University
\$7,815

A 5. Using Rely Herbicide Prior to No-till Pumpkin Establishment

Dwight Lingenfelter and John Wallace, Penn State Department of Plant Science
\$2,000

A 6. Evaluation of specialty cucumber varieties for early production in high tunnel and silicon application for powdery mildew control.

Francesco Di Gioia, The Pennsylvania State University
\$10,000

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B 7. Evaluation of new Italian specialty vegetable crops for winter, early spring, and late-fall production in open field and high tunnel

Francesco Di Gioia, The Pennsylvania State University

\$9,000.

B 8. Evaluating the potential of supplementary LED lighting in improving the production of vegetable crop seedlings

Francesco Di Gioia, The Pennsylvania State University

\$9,500

C 9. The Economic & Operational Benefits of Using Biological Controls in Greenhouse Vegetable Production

Ashley Walsh, President and Founder, Pocono Organics, Blakeslee, PA

\$16,420

Total Requested by Pre-Proposals - \$72,235

Final Proposals

Final proposals will be required to be submitted in hard copy format AND electronically to RA-AGCommodities@pa.gov by **January 17, 2024**. Send 18 hard copies of each final proposal to:

Penna. Vegetable Marketing and Research Program

915 Cocklin St.

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Please note change of address from previous years!

Arrangements should be made so the hard copies are received by the Program by January 17, 2024.

The Vegetable Marketing and Research Program Board is expected to review all the final proposals, prioritize them and make their final selection at their meeting on January 31, 2024.

If a proposal is accepted but only approved for partial funding, the party submitting the proposal will be given the opportunity to amend it. If a proposal is accepted and fully funded, the Board will require the execution of a formal Research Grant Contract between the researcher's institution and the Pennsylvania Vegetable Marketing and Research Program. The Program and Association grant funds are not to be used to cover indirect or overhead expenses. Funds shall be used for only those expenses outlined in the work plan and budget in the proposal. Researchers shall not purchase equipment of any type or kind without prior written approval of the Program and only if mandated by the nature of the work and in accordance with the work plan and budget in the proposal.

Any questions should be directed to the Program at info@PAVeggies.org.

Final Proposal Format

Proposals should contain the following sections and provide a comprehensive overview of the project in concise form (**two to three pages**).

Title: Give the title of the project.

Personnel: List briefly the name(s) and qualifications of the principal researchers.

Introduction: Describe briefly the need this project will address, including any background information.

Objectives: State concisely the purpose of the project, the desired results and potential benefit to growers.

Work Statement: Explain in detail the actual method(s), procedure(s), location(s), technique(s), and all other pertinent details relative to the implementation of this project.

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Budget: List the following:
Hourly Wages
Supplies
Travel
Miscellaneous
Total

Duration of Project: Give the expected duration of the project. The normal contract period will be from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024.

Signatures: Provide the signature(s) of the principal investigator(s) and/or appropriate institution officers.

Inspection

The Pennsylvania Vegetable Marketing and Research Program and/or the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association shall have the option to conduct an "on-site" review of any project by an authorized representative after granting 20-days notice in advance of any intended inspection.

Presentation of Results

Final reports shall be prepared so that growers can readily understand how the project was conducted and how the results impact them in their farming operations. All reports should be three to four pages in length, including any relevant charts or graphs, single spaced with one-inch margins on all sides. Reports should NOT have a separate title page – the title should be incorporated on the first page of the report. The Program reserves the right to edit the reports. Reports will be posted on the Program's website at www.PAVeggies.org and distributed to growers in hardcopy format for those who do not have internet access.

The final report must be submitted by the end of the contract period at the latest by electronic mail to info@PAVeggies.org AND RA-AGCommodities@pa.gov. Reports should be submitted in either Microsoft Word documents or pdf files. If researchers are able to submit their final reports earlier than the end of the contract period, such as in December or January, that will enable the Program and Association to communicate the results to growers prior to the next growing season and would be greatly appreciated.

The Program and Association also would very much appreciate a short video summary of either the progress of the project or discussion of the results. This video will be made available to growers on the Program and Association's websites.

PLEASE NOTE - Presentations given at grower meetings or other events or articles in publications outlining the results of research supported by these grants are REQUIRED to acknowledge with a slide (in Powerpoint presentations), verbally, or notes that the research was supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association AND the Pennsylvania Vegetable Marketing and Research Program. If appropriate, the following graphic can be used for this purpose:

