

Egg Industry Center

2016 Research Request For Pre-proposals



A growing segment of restaurants, food service, food manufacturers, and grocers have committed to cage-free eggs for the future of their business. As a result, the egg industry has an imminent timeline to build and learn to effectively manage these facilities. In terms of being able to use lessons learned through research, that timeline is short.

Therefore, the Egg Industry Center's 2016 Request for Proposal (RFP) is focusing on research that can add to the current body of knowledge on cage-free systems and management. This does not preclude submissions related to other items on the EIC research priorities list. Specific areas of interest include:

- 1) **Behavior, welfare, health and production traits of hens in various styles of cage-free housing systems**
- 2) **Impact of management practices on well-being and production traits of cage-free hens (e.g., pecking behavior, injuries, mortality, floor eggs)**
- 3) **Means to improve ventilation and indoor air quality of cage-free houses**
- 4) **Comparative investigation of egg safety in various production systems (CC, ECH, cage-free, free-range)**
- 5) **Quantification of environmental impacts of cage-free egg production**
- 6) **Prevention of diseases and parasites in cage-free housing systems**
- 7) **Impact of pullet rearing practices on cage-free hens**
- 8) **Innovative HPAI research, including but not limited to, mass disposal**

Pre-proposal Content (Maximum of 2 pages, 12 Times New Roman font)

- A Descriptive Title of Project
- Name of Principal Investigator
- PI's Affiliation and Contact Info
- Co-investigators and Affiliations
- Estimated project timeframe (begin date and end date)
- Fund request (*Note: EIC does not fund indirect or overhead cost*)
- Statement of the Issue
 - Clear statement of the current issue and/or research questions the project will address
- Project Objectives
 - Clear, concise, and complete statement of the specific project objectives
- Methodology
 - Concise description of how the data will be collected, analyzed, and interpreted
- Expected Outcomes and Values to the Stakeholders
 - Clear description of the expected results and their value to the egg industry and consumers

Submission, Deadline, Evaluation and Contact

Pre-proposals must be received by close of business on December 2, 2016. Submit pre-proposal electronically to: Lesa Vold <lvold@iastate.edu>

Pre-proposals will be evaluated for research relevance to industry, scientific merit, and potential impact. Research team qualifications will be reviewed as well as appropriateness of timeline and proposed budget. Final decisions for funding will rest with the EIC Board of Directors.

Invitation for full proposals will be made by mid-Dec 2016, with a due date of mid-January 2017.

For questions contact: Ms. Lesa Vold, Communications Specialist, Egg Industry Center
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