



2007 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The California Tomato Research Institute (CTRI), a non-profit crop improvement organization of processing tomato growers is seeking applied research proposals for funding in 2007.

Our purpose is to identify and fund research to enhance the economic viability of California's processing tomato industry with emphasis on improving production, product quality and the environment.

**Proposals Due
Friday
October 20, 2006**

The CTRI extends an open invitation to submit research proposals for project funding. The Institute Board believes the processing tomato industry will be best served with well-defined, short and intermediate term projects of applied research. Adaptation or implementation of existing technology is also encouraged.

Interests

Increased consistency of harvestable yield while improving crop quality remain our primary interest. Proposals seeking a reduction in production cost, production risk or pesticide use are encouraged. In previous years, the Board has responded most favorably to projects focused on improved productivity. The Institute Director, Chuck Rivara is readily available to consult in proposal development.

Priorities

Specific research interests are prioritized on page 2.

Funds Available

The Institute is currently funding over \$295,000 in applied research. Proposals are judged on individual merit and on interest from within the grower membership. Funding is approved annually. Cost sharing with other sources is encouraged. The Institute does not pay indirect costs.

Selection Process

Researchers submitting proposals will receive a written confirmation and a schedule for the oral presentation to the Board of Directors to be held at UC Davis Tuesday November 28, 2006. **Not all proposals will be heard.** The confirmation notice will include date, allotted time and specific location. The Institute Board will meet after all presentations to privately discuss and prioritize the 2007 research funding. Researchers will be notified within a week of the meeting on Board decisions.

Proposal Format

A format sheet, including budget reporting preferences is attached. Postmark to our Escalon office or deliver to the UC Davis Vegetable Research and Information Center by the date due, **October 20th**. **No electronic proposals please, just 20 printed copies.**

Current Projects Reminder:

2006 Research Project Reports (**24 copies**) are due in our Escalon office or the UC Davis VRIC office (Department of Plant Sciences, Mail Stop 5) **on or before Nov. 10, 2006.**

Email Address

chuck@Tomatonet.org

2007 RESEARCH PROPOSAL INTERESTS

California Tomato Research Institute, Inc.

Prioritized within class

Pathogen / Nematode Management

- Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus: Development of specific monitoring and disease management guidelines.
Establish risk evaluation /communication.
- Nematode management: Commercialization of new sources.
Development of rapid methods to identify resistance breaking strains
Review, update and re-establish nematode IPM
- Corky root: Evaluate cultural and amendment practices for control
Predictive severity assays
Confirmation of new genetic resistance
- Bacterial speck: updating of knowledge base, new control practices
sources of new commercial resistance
- Bacterial canker Updating of knowledge base, secondary infection
- Harvester sanitation: Development of standards and methods
- Fusarium solani: Control and management practices
- Fusarium wilt race 3: Predictive assay or systematic monitoring

Weed Control

- Dodder: Continued development of control and management practices.
- Field Bindweed: Identify new control products and strategies
- Continued development of electronic cultivation and weed control.

Pest Management

- Potato aphid: Complete damage thresholds & variety susceptibility.

Agronomy / Soil & Water Management

- Fruit pH: Studies toward improving (lowering) pH in delivered fruit
- Drip irrigation: Local projects designed to bolster grower confidence
- Soil conservation practices: continued development of sustainable topics
- Stand establishment: vision cultivator application– precision thinning

Breeding / Genetics

- Feasibility study to develop a California-grown hybrid seed industry.

Application Technology

- Exploring fungicide-insecticide application systems to improve canopy penetration, drift reduction and cost competitiveness.

- Lycopene:** Cooperate with other organizations to improve nutritional understanding.

(Please submit 20 printed copies for distribution)

Research Project Proposal

(Suggested Format)

California Tomato Research Institute, Inc.
18650 E. Lone Tree Rd., Escalon, CA 95320

- Project Title:** Concise (also means short)
- Project Leader:** One primary leader for official correspondence.
Include address and telephone number of co-investigator(s) and affiliation of each.
- Budget:** Total for current season. (See below for detailed separate page)
- Objectives:** Statement of specific objectives in clear and concise terms, logically or chronologically organized. List of deliverable results is helpful in describing benefits of the proposed project.
- Procedures:** Describe basic experimental procedures / methods in lay terms.
- Justification:** Rationale for need. Describe benefits to industry as a result of proposed project. **Include cost** of new practice compared to present system. If appropriate, summarize previous research done and include major reference sources.
- Benchmarks:** List time lines for proposed beginning and completion of project.
Benchmarks of anticipated progress are most successful.

Suggested Budget Detail & Signatures * (Final page of proposal)

Personnel responsibility (List names or level)	% time on project	Requested funds Jan. 1-Dec. 31	Projected Funding year 2 and year 3
Employee Benefits			
Supplies and Expenses			
Permanent Equipment			
Travel			
Other (specify)			
Total Costs			

* Funding is approved on a year-by-year basis. Continuation of projects is based on CTRI Board approval.
Other Support: List other support related to this research proposal, by amount and source. If a similar proposal is submitted to another source, please indicate to whom and amount submitted.

Approval Signatures: Please leave space for the appropriate approval signatures, which may include: Project leader, Department Chair/County Director/Regional DANR and the California Tomato Research Institute