



Dairy Farmers
of Washington

Washington
Dairy Products
Commission

May 09, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Washington Dairy Products Commission Call for Pre-proposals

The Washington Dairy Products Commission (WDPC) is pleased to issue a call for pre-proposals for research projects that seek to benefit Washington's dairy producers.

Pre-proposals are welcome on any topic of significance; however, the following questions or ideas were recently identified by Washington State dairy industry leaders as areas of particular interest:

- Are dairy farms healthy for the community? Does the so-called "farm effect" (greater resistance to certain diseases among farm families) extend to others who live nearby?
- Are there harmful air emissions (of various types) emanating from dairy farms? If so, what is the range and effect?
- What are the economic benefits to dairy workers? Look at average wage and benefits. Compare dairy worker wages and benefits to other sectors of agriculture.
- Review potential sources of aerosol nitrates in the Yakima Valley. Is the March 2014 Yakima Area Winter Nitrate study (Dept. of Ecology) accurate? Is more information needed? Include a review of the Yakima Region Clean Air Agency dairy air program and any initial or expected results.
- Identify the cause(s) of, and potential remedy(ies) for, auto-oxidation in skim milk.
- Are there beneficial micro-nutrient replacements in soil and foods grown on lands where manure is applied as a fertilizer?
- How can we measure or estimate current and near-future economic value of dairy manure?
- What are the impacts on dairy operations resulting from minimum wage increases as are currently discussed (*i.e.* \$ 15.00 per hour)?
- Generate a fertilizer guide for manure application. Look at the current economics, including application of manure vs. purchase of manufactured fertilizers.
- Does the FARM program (DMI/National Milk) meet Global GAP requirements with regard to dairy operations? What, if any, are the differences?

The WDPC encourages collaboration among researchers from different institutions, and with federal, state, and local agencies. If you would like to submit a pre-proposal, please remember that they should be brief and written in lay terminology. If your pre-proposal is accepted, you will be asked to

present a more detailed full proposal in the future. Please see the attached pre-proposal template for information that must be in the pre-proposal submission.

The Washington State Dairy Federation will be managing this process on behalf of WDPC. Pre-proposals must be submitted by e-mail to danwood.wsdf@gmail.com, **by 5:00 pm PST, Friday June 20th 2014.**

After review and evaluation of pre-proposals, WDPC will invite full proposals (in August) from the investigators whose pre-proposals were identified as best serving the dairy industry. Submission of a pre-proposal is required in order to proceed to the final proposal stage.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Wood". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dan Wood
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