



October 20, 2008

TO: Plant Commodity Executives
Plant Coalition
MAES Affiliated Department Chairs
Regional MSUE Directors
County MSUE Directors
CANR, CNS & CSS Deans
FY-07 & FY-08 GREEN Multi-Year Project Leaders

FROM: Doug Buhler, Project GREEN Coordinator

RE: Request for Proposals: Project GREEN Fiscal Year 2009

Project GREEN (Generating Research and Extension to meet Economic and Environmental Needs) is Michigan's plant agriculture research initiative housed at Michigan State University. The Project GREEN Directors' Action Team (DAT) announces a request for proposals (RFP) for new fiscal year 2009 (FY-09) projects and current projects eligible for continued funding. All proposals must address critical needs of Michigan's plant industries. Plant commodity and stakeholder groups have submitted their research/educational priorities. They are available on the Project GREEN Web site at www.green.msu.edu.

Employees of MSU and MDA are eligible to apply. MSU transmittal forms are not necessary for these proposals. Please circulate this RFP to your colleagues who may be interested in submitting proposals or refer them to the Project GREEN Web site at green.msu.edu.

Proposals and letters of support must be received by 5:00 p.m. on **Monday, January 5, 2009**. The original and 10 copies must be received at the following address:

Project GREEN Proposals
Attn: Jackie DeSander
Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station
109 Agriculture Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824-1039



Fiscal Year 2009 Proposal Information Sheet

Proposal Title:

Principal Investigator:

E-mail:

Department:

Mail Address:

Umbrella Project MICL# _____ (MAES Appointments Only)

Please Complete:

Project Type (mark one)

_____ New FY-09 proposal

_____ Continuation of FY-07 project

_____ Continuation of FY-08 project

Program Area (mark one)

_____ Applied Research

_____ Basic Research

_____ Extension/Demonstration

\$ _____ Amount requested for FY-09

\$ _____ Total proposal cost

_____ Total project duration

NEW

Will this project be used as matching funds for a Specialty Crops Research Initiative proposal?

___ Yes ___ No

Have you submitted or will you submit a similar proposal to a commodity group?

___ Yes ___ No

Will this project involve human subjects, genetic material or animals requiring University approval? (Funds will not be released without final university approval)

___ Yes ___ No

Does this project have the potential to generate unique intellectual property?

___ Yes ___ No

Team Members (first two people are entered into database)

Proposal Summary

Potential Impact on Michigan Plant Agriculture Industries

Signatures

Principal Investigator

Date

Lead Unit Administrator

Date

INTRODUCTION

Project GREEN (Generating Research and Extension to meet Economic and Environmental Needs) is a cooperative effort by plant-based commodities and businesses with the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES), Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) and Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA). The Michigan Legislature created Project GREEN to advance Michigan's economy through its plant-based agriculture. Its mission is to:

- Develop research and educational programs in response to industry needs;
- Ensure and improve food safety; and
- Protect and preserve the quality of the environment.

Approximately \$2.1 million in competitive grant funding is available from Project GREEN during the upcoming fiscal year. New proposals for FY-09 and continuation of multi-year projects funded in FY-07 and FY-08 will be considered for funding.

ELIGIBILITY

Principal Investigators (P.I.) must be employed by Michigan State University or the Michigan Department of Agriculture. There are no restrictions on employment status of team members.

TIMELINE

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| • October 2008 | Call for proposals |
| • January 5, 2009 | Proposals due |
| • By March 2, 2009 | Notification of awards |
| • April 15, 2008 | Project funds available |
| • June 30, 2010 | Termination date for FY-09 funding |

INDUSTRY PRIORITIES

Project GREEN has been meeting plant agriculture industry challenges since 1997. Current research and extension priorities have been submitted to Project GREEN by commodity groups and partners. They are available by visiting the Web site www.green.msu.edu.

All proposals must clearly state how the proposed activities will enhance Michigan's plant-based agriculture.

To allow evaluation and assessment of productivity, projects must deliver clearly defined results within a realistic time frame. All proposals will be evaluated by peer review panels composed of researchers, educators, and industry professionals.

**Project GREEN
proposals are due
Monday,
January 5, 2009**



**Visit
GREEN.MSU.EDU
to view research
priorities from
commodity groups and
partners.**

PROGRAM AREAS

All proposals should focus on priorities identified by plant industry groups and other commodity partners.

Applied Research proposals should:

- Enhance industry profitability
- Be environmentally and socially responsible
- Provide long-term benefits to Michigan's plant agriculture
- Contain a plan to disseminate information to the plant industries
- Address issues through single or multi-disciplinary approaches
 - Multi-disciplinary projects involving multiple investigators must demonstrate integration.

Basic Research proposals should:

- Generate knowledge that can be used to:
 - Address contemporary problems and/or
 - Enable future development of improved techniques
- Link to plant commodity priorities
- Include a vision and plans for the improvement of Michigan crops or other industry segments
- Position investigators to be competitive for national/international grants

Extension/Demonstration proposals should:

- Have regional or statewide orientation
- Utilize a team of campus and field-based personnel if possible
- Use results from GREEN-funded research projects when possible

FUNDING SCOPE

To maintain the flexibility of Project GREEN funding, there are established guidelines for funding amounts and multi-year proposals. All multi-year requests must clearly justify the proposed time span and provide a progressive linkage among the activities in subsequent years. Second and third year funding is not guaranteed, but is contingent on satisfactory progress and available Project GREEN funding. If year one activities are considered preliminary, submit as a single-year proposal.

Multi-year funding guidelines

- New Fiscal Year 2009 Projects
 - No more than 60 percent of allocations will be awarded to multi-year projects.
 - 40 percent of new FY-09 projects will be single-year allocations.
- Program Area Time Parameters
 - Applied Research— three year maximum
 - Basic Research— two year maximum
 - Extension/Demonstration—three year maximum
- There is no formal cap on the amount of funding requested. However, outstanding justification and explicit application to industry needs are required for requests in excess of:
 - Applied Research— \$40,000
 - Basic Research— \$35,000
 - Extension/Demonstration—\$25,000

TARGET ALLOCATIONS

	New Projects	Continuing Projects	Total
Applied Research	\$750,000	\$950,000	\$1.7 million
Basic Research	\$150,000	\$ 0	\$ 150,000
Extension/Demonstration	\$150,000	\$101,000	\$251,000
Total	\$1.05 million	\$1.05 million	\$2.1 million

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Transmittal forms are not required for Project GREEN proposals.

Submit the signed original PLUS 10 copies, **by 5:00 p.m., Monday, January 5, 2009**, to:

Project GREEN Proposals
Attn: Jackie DeSander
109 Agriculture Hall
Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station
East Lansing, MI 48824-1039

Faxed submissions will be accepted from principal investigators located off-campus. Contact Jackie DeSander at (517) 355-0123 or desander@msu.edu for additional information.

PROPOSAL REVIEW

Review panels composed of current and emeritus MSU faculty, academic staff, MSUE educators, MDA employees and industry professionals will review and rank proposals. The Directors' Action Team reviews these rankings and makes final decisions on funded proposals appropriate allocations. The following criteria are used:

Evaluation Criteria	Applied	Basic	Extension
Relationship to Project GREEN mission and Michigan plant agriculture priorities	20	20	20
Scientific soundness; appropriateness of methodology; feasibility of completion; investigator qualifications	35	40	25
Leverage of external and other funding sources.	10	25	5
Mechanism to deliver information to Michigan plant agriculture industries	15	-	30
Multidisciplinary and integrated nature of the proposal	10	10	5
Extent of partnering with and potential impact on Michigan plant agriculture industries	10	5	15
Total	100	100	100

Proposal Formatting Guidelines—FY-09



GENERAL FORMATTING GUIDELINES

Proposals that do not comply with this format will not be considered by the review panels. Proposals must be printed two-sided and single-spaced with indented paragraphs, double-spaced between sections and in 12-point type with 1-inch margins.

NEW PROJECT PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Note: Sections II through VI should be no more than **four pages in length**.

- I. COVER PAGE
See attached form; completed and signed by principal investigator and lead unit administrator.
- II. PROBLEM STATEMENT
What is being proposed and why it is important to Michigan plant industries?
- III. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND HYPOTHESES
- IV. SPECIFIC METHODS AND PROCEDURES
- V. IMPACTS OF PROPOSAL
Project must demonstrate potential impacts on Michigan's plant agriculture. Proposal must outline how impact will be estimated.
- VI. ***NEW***PROJECT SCOPE
Note if the project is being submitted to other funding sources and whether the funding requested from Project GREEN is sufficient to complete the project OR if other sources are required for project completion.
- VII. TIME LINE
Multi-year projects must include plans for all years.
- VIII. BUDGET
See attached project budget form for new projects; multi-year projects must include budgets for all proposed years. ***NEW*** List both existing matching support and support from pending proposals.
- IX. FUNDING HISTORY
List team members' Project GREEN funding over the past five years (past and current) by detailing total funds by project number. Indicate how these funds have been used to leverage external grants.
- X. LITERATURE CITED
- XI. LETTERS OF SUPPORT
Must be included with the proposal submission. Letters of support should not be sent directly to the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station. Letters submitted separately will not be included with proposals.
- XII. TEAM QUALIFICATIONS
One-page vitae for each team member outlining his/her qualifications and accomplishments.
- XIII. ***NEW*** KEYWORD FORM
See attached form; Mark relevant keywords for the Project GREEN Web site and database.

CONTINUING PROJECT PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Continuing Proposal Reporting

A progress report on multi-year projects is due in January of each year. A comprehensive final report will be due on July 31 of the termination year. Multi-year projects are funded one year at a time and are subject to annual evaluation. These reports will be placed on the Project GREEN Web site and used for reports to the legislature and the general public.

Failure to submit timely and quality progress reports, or to make acceptable project progress, may result in termination of a project and recovery of unspent funds. Investigators failing to submit a final report for a completed project will become ineligible for consideration for future funding from Project GREEN.

Continuing Proposal Formatting

I. COVER PAGE

See attached form; completed and signed by principal investigator and lead unit administrator.

II. PROGRESS REPORT

Submit a concise (two-page maximum) progress report highlighting accomplishments, projected activities and impacts on Michigan agriculture. Document the impact your project will have on Michigan agriculture. These will be used in reports to the Michigan Legislature and other groups. See www.green.msu.edu for details on how to format the progress report.

A paper version of the progress report must be included in the proposal for continued funding. An electronic version of the progress report must be submitted via email to Natalie Ebig Scott at scottna@msu.edu by January 5, 2009.

III. EXTERNAL GRANTS

List all grant proposals submitted in 2008 related to this project and the status of the submitted proposals (awarded, pending or rejected).

IV. TIME LINE

Outline plans for remainder of project.

V. BUDGET

See attached continuing budget form; include budgets for remainder of the project.

VI. ***NEW*** KEYWORD FORM

See attached form; Mark relevant keywords for the Project GREEN Web site and database.

Project Budget Form NEW Projects FY-09



Project Title:

Project Principal Investigator:

Project GREEN Funding Requested

Budget Item	FY-09	FY-10	FY-11	Matching Funds Received*	Matching Funds Pending*
Personnel Wages					
A1. Research associates & post-docs					
A2. Technical/Administrative Support					
A3. Other (please list)					
A4. Fringe Benefits** (Must be charged as direct costs.)					
B. Graduate students – including associated fringes***					
C. Undergraduate students****					
Total Personnel Costs A+B+C					
D. Nonexpendable equipment (Attach explanation)					
E. Materials, Supplies & Publications					
F. Travel					
G. Other Direct Costs (Attach explanation, list of items and individual costs.)					
TOTAL D+E+F+G					
Grand Total					

* Identify both sources and amounts of non-Project GREEN funds.

** Use MSU Contracts and Grants Web site to calculate fringe rate for MSU personnel

*** List graduate student costs as a lump sum.

**** Fringe benefits are not charged to wages for MSU undergraduate students.

Project Budget Form

CONTINUED Projects FY-09



Project GREEN Project #:

Account #:

Project Title:

Ledger Balance as of November 30, 2008: \$ _____

Project GREEN Funding Requested

Budget Item	FY-09	FY-10	Matching Funds Received*	Matching Funds Pending*
Personnel Wages				
A1. Research associates & post-docs				
A2. Technical/Administrative Support				
A3. Other (please list)				
A4. Fringe Benefits** (Must be charged as direct costs.)				
B. Graduate students – including fringes***				
C. Undergraduate students****				
Total Personnel Costs A+B+C				
D. Nonexpendable equipment (Attach explanation)				
E. Materials, Supplies & Publications				
F. Travel				
G. Other Direct Costs (Attach explanation, list of items and individual costs.)				
TOTAL D+E+F+G				
Grand Total				

* Identify both sources and amounts of non-Project GREEN funds.

** Use MSU Contracts and Grants Web site to calculate fringe rate for MSU personnel

*** List graduate student costs as a lump sum.

**** Fringe benefits are not charged to wages for MSU undergraduate students.

***NEW* Project Keyword Form** **Fiscal Year 2009**

***Mark all of the terms that apply to your project
by underlining or placing an X next to the term.***

Program Area

Basic Research

Applied Research

Extension/Demonstration

Field Crops

Barley

Beans (dry)

Canola

Corn

Hay

Oats

Rye

Soybeans

Spearmint

Sugarbeets

Wheat

Potatoes

Fruit

Apples

Blueberries

Cherries

Cranberries

Grapes

Peaches

Pears

Prunes/Plums

Strawberries

Vegetables

Asparagus

Carrots

Cauliflower

Celery

Cucumbers

Cucurbits

Mushrooms

Onions

Peppers

Tomatoes

Ornamental-Turf

Greenhouse and Nursery

Ornamentals

Christmas Trees

Turf

Other (list)

Cross Commodity/

Miscellaneous

Alternative Energy

Animal Agriculture

Bees/Honey/Pollinators

Breeding and Genetics

Chestnuts

Extension

Disease

Emerald Ash Borer

Organic

Pesticides

Special Crops

Soil

Water

Weather

List the commodity groups and/or organizations that will be interested in your research: