

## *Request for Proposals*

### **Texas Pierce's Disease Research and Education Program**

April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011

The Texas Pierce's Disease (PD) Research and Education Program, through Texas AgriLife Research, is issuing this request for proposals (RFP) to extend on-going research and education/extension projects and also to begin new projects addressing Pierce's disease and its impacts on the Texas grape and wine industries. This Program is financially supported through a cooperative agreement from the USDA-APHIS/PPQ to Texas AgriLife Research. Projects are evaluated annually and funding is contingent upon continued congressional allocations to USDA-APHIS/PPQ for support of this and related programs. This RFP is for the third year of the current 5-year Program Plan for the Cooperative Agreement with APHIS.

Proposals are requested from faculty within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences-Texas A&M University, Texas AgriLife Research, Texas AgriLife Extension Service, and scientists at other universities, agencies and institutions with appropriate research or extension expertise. Principal Investigators (PIs) may submit more than one proposal and collaborations with scientists from the same or other institutions are encouraged. Project plans of work (POWs) must cover the period required for completing stated objectives (up to 3 years with emphasis on 2010-2011) and must include clearly defined research strategies/tasks and benchmarks/measures to gauge annual progress.

A detailed budget request for the upcoming project year (April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011) is required. For new projects, consideration will be given to one-time, properly justified, expenditures for equipment, supplies, etc. to be used for the duration of the study. Proposed matching contributions are requested in the budget to more accurately reflect the total investment in PD research and education but will not be considered in the evaluation of individual proposals. Successful applicants will be required to submit semi-annual and annual progress reports. PIs are required to evaluate and revise their respective Plans of Work (POWs) and budgets annually to reflect changing needs based upon their findings and other circumstances. The POWs will be used to annually update the Specific Cooperative Agreement between Texas AgriLife Research and USDA-APHIS/PPQ and the collective POW for the Texas Pierce's Disease Research and Education Program.

Proposals will be evaluated independently by the Texas Pierce's Disease Research and Education Program Administrative and Unit Head Teams; representatives of USDA-APHIS/PPQ and Texas Department of Agriculture; and, the Texas Pierce's Disease Grower Advisory Board. Proposal evaluation criteria include: justification for proposed research, relevance to Program research priorities (noted below), research/education objectives, measures for assessing progress, linkages demonstrated between research and potential management practices, budget requests to accomplish project objectives, projects which complement but do not duplicate PD research in California and other states, approaches (experimental designs) used to accomplish objectives, progress and outcomes of on-going PD projects (if applicable), and experience and adequacy of the personnel and facilities, respectively, to insure the successful completion of the project objectives. Final funding decisions will be made jointly by representatives from the Texas Pierce's Disease Grower Advisory Board, USDA-APHIS/PPQ, and Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Service Administration.

Priority areas for investigation include:

1. Host plant resistance (traditional breeding, transgenics, rootstocks, non-conventional exotic varieties, species evaluation, etc.).
2. Pathogen biology, detection, genetic diversity, pathogenicity, host preferences, transmission, expression, epidemiology, distribution and abundance, host-pathogen interactions, cultural and biological management/control strategies.
3. Vector species diversity, biology, distribution and abundance, host preferences, feeding behavior, pathogen transmission, cultural/chemical and biological management/control strategies.
4. Local and statewide monitoring of pathogen and vector occurrence, densities and distribution.
5. Novel conventional (cultural, chemical, vegetation management/manipulation, etc.), bio-control (biological, molecular manipulation, etc.) and other pathogen and vector management strategies.
6. Feasibility/assessment of proposed/potential management strategies.
7. Multi-faceted outreach approaches (publications, newsletters, Internet based communication, etc.) for timely delivery of information related to pathogen and vector activity and management/control strategies.

The priority areas **are not** listed in order of importance. Proposals addressing other new and relevant research and education projects addressing PD related issues also will be considered.

It is essential that guidelines for preparing the work plans and budgets be followed to insure fair evaluation of each proposal. Proposals not meeting these specifications, not containing all required components, or which are not received by the stated deadline may be returned to the principal investigator without review.

Proposals are due no later than the end of the work day on **October 15, 2009**, and are to be submitted electronically to Mrs. Cecilia Wagner, Texas AgriLife Research, e-mail: [cecilia@tamu.edu](mailto:cecilia@tamu.edu); phone: 979-458-1138. Please copy Roland Smith [rdsmith@tamu.edu](mailto:rdsmith@tamu.edu) also on the submissions. Notices of acceptance or refusal will be forwarded to applicants no later than January, 2010.

**Project Proposal**  
**Texas Pierce's Disease Research and Education Program**  
**April 1, 2010-March 31, 2011**

**Project Title:**

**Principal Investigator** (include institutional affiliation and contact information):

**Co-Investigators** (names, organizations, primary responsibilities):

**Cooperators** (names, organizations):

**Project Duration** (1 to 3-years; annual reviews required):

**Priority Area(s)** (select from priority area list given on page 2 of RFP):

**Key Project Activities** (select applicable categories):

Research (  ), Education (  ), Other (  )

**Executive Non-Technical Summary:** (200-350 word narrative. First, describe project relevance in addressing short term and long term PD/vector management for growers in Texas, plans for documenting progress, extrapolation of potential impact/benefit to the Texas grape and wine industries, etc. Second, provide an overview of the project objectives and research/education approaches. *(If applicable, briefly summarize major accomplishments reached-to-date and their implications for the industry).*

**Objectives and Justification for Proposed Research/Education Activity:** (In narrative format-- present objectives in a numbered sequence. State how and why objective is relevant to the project/Texas PD program, and how it complements other research/education activities in addressing the PD problem. *For proposed continuation projects, briefly describe progress-to-date toward accomplishing objectives.* Cite relevant literature; note other pertinent information).

**Approach(es) to Accomplish Objectives:** (list specific approaches/tasks/strategies; describe test design, sampling methods, analytical methods, data collection, etc.; describe processes/procedures for reaching objectives and the expected outcomes; *note modifications and rationale for alterations in protocols used in previous years;* cite relevant literature; also incorporate information into a matrix similar to the following format).

**Timetable, priority areas for investigation, project objectives, research approaches/strategies/tasks to be accomplished and potential outcomes that could benefit growers and grape industry (deliverables and measures of progress). Identify for multiple years, if applicable.**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Priority Area(s) of Investigation</b>	<b>Project Objectives</b>	<b>Research Approaches/Strategies/Tasks</b>	<b>Deliverables/Measures of Progress/Potential Outcomes</b>

**\*\*To add rows to table place cursor in table and click on Table → Insert → Row on the top toolbar\*\***

## Budget

<b>Budget Summary Request for Project Year 2010-11</b>			
<i>Category</i>	<i>USDA-APHIS Funds</i>	<i>Matching Contribution*</i>	<i>Total</i>
Personnel			
Fringe Benefits			
Subtotal Personnel & Fringe			
Travel			
Equipment			
Supplies			
Contractual Services			
Construction			
Other			
Subtotal			
Total Direct Costs			
Indirect Costs (10% MTDC)			
Total Project Costs			

\* Matching Contributions are defined as personnel costs and other direct expenses provided from alternate funding sources but which are applied *specifically* to the Pierce's Disease project. Examples include support from other sources, technical staff (percentage of salary and benefits devoted to project), travel, materials, supplies, etc. provided by the university, agency, institution or source other than USDA-APHIS.

**Budget Detail/Justification for project year 2010-2011** (Applies only to purchases and expenditures planned for program year. Provide detailed explanation and justification for budget categories listed below).

**1. What type of personnel will be needed and what will they be doing on the project?**

- a. Faculty
- b. Staff/technical assistants/students

**2. What are the travel needs for the project?** (Describe anticipated local daily and extended, overnight travel required to conduct and support the project and Program activities at local, state and national levels)

- a. Daily travel
- b. Extended travel

**3. Equipment (major equipment items to be purchased with value over \$5000):**

- a. What equipment will be provided by cooperator; how will it be used?
- b. What equipment will be provided by APHIS; how will it be used?
- c. What equipment will be purchased in whole or in part with APHIS funds; how will equipment be used?

d. What is the proposed method of disposal of equipment upon termination of agreement/project?

**4. Identify information technology equipment, e.g. computer and their ancillary components** (all information technology supplies, e.g. small items of equipment, connectivity through air cards, or high speed internet access, GPS units, radios for emergency operations, etc. to be purchased in 2010-2011 program year should be specifically identified).

a.

**4. What supplies will be needed to perform work on the project?**

a. What supplies will be provided by cooperator?

b. What supplies will be provided by APHIS?

c. What supplies will be purchased in whole or in part with APHIS funds?

d. How will supplies be used?

e. What is the proposed method of disposition of the supplies with cumulative value over \$5,000 upon termination of the agreement/project?

**5. What procurements will be made in support of the funded project, and what is the method of procurement** (e.g. lease, purchase)?

a.

**Final Check List:**

- Proposal format is to be 1 inch margins (except tables); 12-point Times Roman font.
- 10-page limit including budget request and justification.
- Required forms of the investigator's institution confirming authorized approval(s).
- Deadline for receipt of proposals is close of business on October 15, 2009.
- Electronic copy to Mrs. Cecilia Wagner ([cecilia@tamu.edu](mailto:cecilia@tamu.edu)), Texas AgriLife Research, with a copy provided to Roland Smith ([rdsmith@tamu.edu](mailto:rdsmith@tamu.edu))

*Prepared 9/14/09*