

Northwest Potato Research Consortium* **Request for Proposals, Research Review Process**

For FY2024-25, Field Season 2024

***A Cooperative Effort of the State Potato Commissions of ID, OR, & WA**

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Background

In February 2012 the state potato commissions in Washington, Idaho, and Oregon launched a cooperative effort in funding research. One aim was to increase cooperation and efficiency of the research and extension programs funded by the three potato commissions totaling about \$1.5 million annually. A second aim was to facilitate competitive grants targeting other sources including USDA-NIFA and similar grant-funding programs. Potato production across the region is comparable and faces similar research gaps. For the *eleventh* year, this research funding will be allocated through a cooperative 3-commission research review process during the fall-winter of 2023-24. A nine-member Consortium board is responsible for reviewing research and making funding recommendations to the commissions. They also seek input from a wide range of growers and other industry professionals in all three states.

Scope

The Consortium funds research projects on all aspects of potato production, breeding/variety development, genetics, and storage. The Consortium is not seeking proposals dealing with human health effects of potato, nor development of food products or food processing technology. For research in these areas, other funding sources are more appropriate such as Potatoes USA (<https://potatoesusa.com/>) and the Alliance for Potato Research and Education (APRE; <https://apre.org/>). The Consortium is willing to consider research proposals from private companies and public institutions aiming to develop inventions or products protected as intellectual property. The Consortium will, however, expect to share in any eventual income from such inventions.

All persons contemplating a new project should consult the list of funded projects on our website to avoid proposing a project that duplicates or overlaps with existing research. We welcome scientists new to our funding to engage with us. A good first step is to contact Consortium Manager Dr. Andy Jensen to discuss how your expertise might fit the research needs of the potato industry. Other valuable sources of guidance and input on research ideas are the established potato research and extension scientists

across the region and staff and commissioners of the individual state potato commissions.

The Consortium encourages collaboration across state borders and disciplines. When considering a joint proposal, **please be sure that the proposed work is truly collaborative, i.e., all parties work together toward an agreed-on set of goals, objectives, and methods. All cooperating scientists must be involved in writing and/or editing a collaborative proposal to the Consortium.** Finally, the Consortium recognizes that some research is best handled by a single lab or scientist and is interested in teams and collaboration only when it benefits the quality of the research.

Extension-specific projects currently funded by the potato commissions continue to be single-state projects and are not subject to Consortium review. Each commission has a mechanism in place for review and approval of such extension funding.

For breeding, genetics, and all other trials and projects that are part of the Northwest Potato Variety Development Program (a.k.a. Tri-State Program), see separate funding and review process.

The commissions agree that all projects that are primarily research-oriented must be submitted through the Consortium process, as described below. This is true regardless of how that project was ultimately funded/handled during the past several years. If it is primarily research, it must come through our 3-state Consortium process. The only exceptions to this rule are projects that are specifically requested by an individual commission.

Process for fall/winter of 2023-24

Timeline

Proposal preparation advice webinars: We will host two short webinars aimed at helping researchers understand how to prepare good Consortium proposals. These will be held at 10 am Mountain time via Zoom on October 26th and November 9th. Details will be sent via email in October.

Proposal due date: **December 15th (by midnight).** **Late proposals may be returned without review.**

Proposal (and results) presentation meeting, Oxford Suites, Boise, **February 13-14, 2024.**

Funding decisions announced by April 1st.

Proposal format

For the 2023-24 review season we are using the same new and simpler proposal format

and review process as was used in 2022-23. See below for the required proposal format and instructions.

Reporting requirements for funded projects will be distributed with award notifications in the spring.

Northwest Potato Research Consortium

Research Proposal Package Format and Instructions

Fiscal Year 2024-25 (funding for field season 2024)

Proposal Title:

Principal investigator and co-PIs (add/subtract rows as needed)

Name	Address	Phone number	Email address

Total Funds Requested: \$

Principal investigator portion: \$

Co-PI portion(s): \$

Second, third or more year funding request? Yes No

If Yes, prior year(s) amount(s) funded:

2023-24:

2022-23:

2021-22:

Instructions

Proposal package should be submitted electronically by midnight December 15th, 2023, in one Adobe Acrobat PDF file to ajensen@potatoes.com and must include:

1. This cover sheet with the project title, list of PIs, and budget numbers.
2. **Two-page** research plan (12-point font and 1" margins recommended) to include three sections:
 - a. Summary of problem
 - b. Research objectives
 - c. Experimental approach
3. Budget table (see below for format)
4. References cited
5. If this request is for a continuation of a multi-year proposal, submit a brief progress report (one page or less).
6. Two-page CV for each listed researcher.

Budget: Please provide the following in a table format as shown, listing only the budget items appropriate for your project. Add columns or tables as needed to accommodate all scientists/labs seeking funding under this project. Add or subtract footnotes or addenda to the budget table as needed to fully explain your plans or needs. More detail is better than less. Personalize the budget table with the names of each funded scientist at the tops of the columns, delete unneeded rows/columns, and delete these instructions.

	<u>Principal Investigator</u> <u>(specify)</u>	<u>Co-PI (specify)</u>	<u>Co-PI (specify)</u>	<u>Total</u>
Salaries: Faculty				
Graduate student				
Other students				
Other labor				
Employee Benefits (OPE): Faculty				
Graduate student				
Other students				
Other labor				
Equipment				
Travel:				
Operating Expenses				
Other Expenses				
Total				

Other Support of Project, Anticipated Supporting Grant Applications: