



Minnesota Pork Board 2021 Request for Proposals

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The Minnesota Pork Board (MPB) is soliciting research proposals for 2021.

All research proposals to be considered by MPB must be submitted to National Pork Board through its application website. The online submission link is now available.

The deadline to submit proposals is **5 p.m. CST on November 16th, 2020.**

Minnesota Pork Board's research priorities, instructions on submitting a proposal and access to the National Pork Board application website can be found at www.mnpork.com.

When the proposal is submitted, it will go to the National Pork Board for review by technical advisors and pork producers. The MPB Research/University Outreach Committee members will select projects that are one-year in length at its 2021 March meeting. A researcher may submit a multiple year project with the understanding that it may only be approved for the first year funding and will need to be resubmitted for consideration each successive year.

The projects will be evaluated using the following criteria:

1. The National Pork Board grading of the project.
2. The relevancy to the Minnesota pork industry.
3. The length of time before the results of a project can be used by pork producers.

The following categories are the 2021 Minnesota swine research priorities.

1. Emergency Response

Investigate practical mass depopulation options for Minnesota farms and related carcass disposal options.

Options should meet the goal of being timely, having adequate throughput and will aid in controlling/eliminating pathogen.

2. Animal Health

a. Biosecurity: Investigations into biosecurity measures, strategies and risks to prevent introduction (bioexclusion) and/or spread (biocontainment) of pathogens from swine farms or first points of concentration (i.e. sow buying stations, slaughter plants, etc)

b. Prevention: Investigations into strategies and approaches to predict and prevent new disease infections specifically in the areas of people and transportation.

c. Controlling endemic diseases: Investigations into the transmission, control and prevention of endemic diseases (i.e. PRRS, flu, Mycoplasma) and bacterial diseases, such as Escherichia coli and Streptococcus suis.

- d. **Antimicrobials:** Investigations into antimicrobial resistance and use

3. Nutrition

- a. **Impact of Fiber Type and Source on Nursery Performance:**
Fiber has been demonstrated to be needed for a healthy gut, with most of the recent research focused on the change or impact to the gut microbiome. Evaluating the direct effect of microbiome and applying those results to expected performance in nursery pigs has been a challenge. This research should demonstrate the impact of fiber type and source on animal performance, specifically feed intake and reducing off feed pigs, gut health and livability. The ultimate goal of this research will be to determine the optimal inclusion level of fiber type and source in nursery pigs for best performance and health. Multidisciplinary project and approach is preferred.
- b. **Bone Mineralization:**
Recent work has been completed to evaluate calcium and phosphorus requirements for optimal growth, but limited work has been completed to evaluate bone density or ash relative to those requirements. The research submitted in this proposal should be done in distinct phases (early and late nursery and/or early and late finish) where pigs are fed below and above phosphorus requirements with and without phytase. In addition to measuring growth performance, this proposal must include blood levels of Vitamin D and bone attributes with both de-fatted ash and full fat ash analysis from multiple bones. The main goal of this proposed research should be to create reference values for expected bone ash and Vitamin D based on: diet, Type of ash procedure completed, and age of pig. Proposals submitted in collaboration between nutrition and diagnostic labs are preferred.
- c. **Alternative Feeds:**
Feeding trials involving alternative ingredients that may be a part of sustainability efforts across the continuum of crop and pig production. Examples may be hybrid rye, camelina or other crops grown for reasons of sustainability or winter cover on the soil.

Although these are the MPB funding priorities, the MPB Research/University Outreach committee will entertain other proposals if no satisfactory priority proposals are received. Preference may be given to proposals with matching dollars in place.

Other information pertaining to MPB 2021 research projects:

- The funding limit is up to **\$100,000 per one-year proposal** and all projects are for one-year in length.
- Multiple year projects can be submitted with the understanding that they will only be approved for the first year funding and will need to be resubmitted for consideration each successive year.

- Proposals are to be submitted through the website by **5 p.m. CST on November 15, 2020.**
- Project selections will be made at the March 2021 Research Committee meeting
- Notification of grant awards will be made in March 2021.

If you encounter problems submitting proposals:

- Contact Bev Everitt at the National Pork Board.
 - E-mail: beveritt@pork.org
 - Phone: (515) 223-2750
- Provide specific information on the browser type and version being used, the problem that occurred and the exact text of any error messages.

If you have questions on Minnesota Pork Board 2021 Research Priorities:

- Contact David Preisler at the Minnesota Pork Board.
 - E-mail: david@mnpork.com
 - Phone: (507) 345-8814

Proposal deadline is 5 p.m. CST, November 15, 2020