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PREFACE

The USWBSI's Action Plan has led to a restructuring of the Initiative's areas of research, as well as **significant changes** to the process for developing the annual research plan and budget. The expectation is that these changes will lead to greater collaboration and communication, and more rapid attainment of the Initiative's primary goal: **“To develop as quickly as possible effective control measures that minimize the threat of Fusarium head blight (scab), including the reduction of mycotoxins, to the producers, processors, and consumers of wheat and barley”**. Go to http://www.scabusa.org/pdfs/uswbsi_action-plan_web.pdf to read the complete action plans for all FY08 research areas.

FY08 Research Areas (RA)

Below are the FY08 Research Areas including an overview of how they differ from the FY07 research areas:

- FHB Management (MGMT) – CBCC and EEDF have been joined to form this new research area.
- Food Safety, Toxicology and Utilization of Mycotoxin-contaminated Grain (FSTU) – no major change to research area.
- Gene Discovery and Engineering Resistance (GDER) – formerly Genetic Engineering and Transformation; primarily name change only.
- Pathogen Biology & Genetics (PBG) – formerly Pathogen Genomics & Genetics; primarily name change only.
- Variety Development and Host Resistance (VDHR) – HGR, HGG and VDUN have been joined to form this new research area.

FY08 Research Area program descriptions and research priorities for the five USWBSI research areas listed above are included in this document (Pages 7-9), and can also be accessed at www.scabusa.org/research_rfp08.html. PIs should study this information carefully; any proposed research should be based on the FY08 research priorities which were derived from goals of the Action Plan.

Request for Pre-Proposals (RFP)

As stated previously, the USWBSI has changed how the annual research plan and budget will be developed in FY08, which includes major changes to the Request for Pre-Proposal (RFP) process. **There are three distinct categories of FY08 Pre-Proposals:** **1)** Coordinated Projects (CP) for: Barley, Hard Winter Wheat, and VDHR Regional Uniform Nurseries; **2)** Individual Pre-Proposals submitted to FSTU, GDER or PBG Research Areas (only those research projects which the primary focus is not on Barley or Hard Winter Wheat); and **3)** FHB Management Pre-Proposals submitted via the Electronic Pre-Proposals Submission (EPS) System. An overview of each of the three categories follows:

1) Coordinated Projects: If the primary focus of your proposed research (all USWBSI Research Areas) is on Barley or Hard Winter Wheat, you **must** submit your proposed research to the Barley

Coordinated Project Committee or Hard Winter Wheat Coordinated Project Committee, respectively. If your proposed research is in the area of Variety Development and Host Resistance, and you work within one of the Uniform Nursery Regions (See page 9 to find your regional nursery), you **must** submit your proposed research to the appropriate VDHR Uniform Nursery Coordinated Project Committee. Please follow the instructions and use the forms under Section 1 titled “**Coordinated Project Pre-Proposals**” (instructions begin on page 11).

2) Individual Research Area (FSTU, GDER, and PBG) Pre-Proposals: If your proposed research is in one of the research areas listed below, and the primary focus is not on Barley or Hard Winter Wheat, please follow the instructions and forms under Section 2 titled “**Research Area Project Pre-Proposals**”(instructions begin on page 28) to submit your pre-proposal.

- Toxicology and Utilization of Mycotoxin-contaminated Grain (FSTU)
- Gene Discovery and Engineering Resistance (GDER)
- Pathogen Biology & Genetics (PBG)

3) FHB Management (MGMT) Pre-Proposals: Proposed research in the MGMT research area must be submitted using the USWBSI’s redesigned Electronic Pre-Proposal Submission (EPS) System. Please follow the instructions and use the forms under Section 3 titled “**FHB Management (MGMT) Project Pre-Proposals – Electronic Submission**” (instructions begin on page 42) to submit your MGMT Pre-Proposal.

Enhancement of USWBSI Communication Activities: The USWBSI is also seeking ways of improving and enhancing its communication and outreach activities. Although communication and outreach are included in several research areas’ Actions Plans, the Initiative would be interested in receiving pre-proposals that innovatively address this need. PIs should follow the instructions and use the forms for **Category 2: Individual Research Area Pre-Proposals**. In Box 16 of the Application for Funding Cover Page, select option ‘None of the Above’.

PIs are welcome and encouraged to interact with any of the contacts (listed on page 6) for the Coordinated Projects or Research Areas to identify the appropriate area for their proposed work.

INTRODUCTION

After carefully reading the 'PREFACE' and studying the FY08 RA Program Descriptions and Research Priorities, you are ready to begin creating your pre-proposals. Below are a few helpful hints to guide you through this process:

1. First, determine the appropriate Research Area for your proposed research project. Again, you may contact any of the individual listed in Table 1 (page 6) to help determine the most appropriate research area for your proposed research.
2. Next, determine the Pre-Proposal Category that best fits your proposed research: 1) Coordinated Project; 2) Individual Research Areas (FSTU, GDER or PBG); or 3) FHB Management.
3. Finally, follow the instructions in the corresponding section to complete your pre-proposal.

NOTE: Proposals that do not fit into one of five USWBSI research areas or pre-proposal categories are also welcome.

PRE-PROPOSAL PREPARATION:

It is important that all pre-proposals conform to the instructions provided in the FY08 Request for Project Pre-Proposal Application. The USWBSI's Networking & Facilitation Office may return, without review, any proposals that are not consistent with these instructions. The NFO must authorize any deviations from these instructions in advance of pre-proposal submission. Deviations may be authorized by written approval from the NFO Director (dvs@uky.edu) or Manager (scabusa@scabusa.org).

COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS:

Even though five distinct Coordinated Projects have been established (Barley, Hard Winter Wheat and the three Regional Uniform Nurseries – VDHR), other collaborative projects within or across research areas are encouraged. PIs who intend to submit pre-proposals with similar objectives, methods, treatments, etc. should coordinate their efforts to produce a single, unified pre-proposal rather than similar, separate pre-proposals. If you are part of a collaborative project, and your proposed project is approved for funding, the funding will come in the form of a direct agreement from USDA-ARS to you and your institution.

REVIEW AND FUNDING RECOMMENDATION PROCESS:

Please note that project pre-proposals will be **regarded as confidential** documents. Distribution will be limited only to parties involved with the review process. All pre-proposals received by the assigned deadline will be sent for review to one of the designated review panels. The Executive Committee then reviews the panels' recommendations and if necessary, modifies the awards so that they fit into the FY08 congressional budget and the overall objectives of the Initiative. The final step is approval of the EC's recommended research plan and budget by the Steering Committee in early December. **All PIs whose proposed research project(s) are recommended for funding by the Initiative will be asked to compile and formalize their proposed research project(s) into 'Grant Applications' for inclusion in the Initiative's recommended research plan.** The recommended comprehensive plan will be sent to USDA-ARS in the early months of 2008.

NEED HELP?

If you have any questions regarding this application or the pre-proposal process, please contact the U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative's Networking and Facilitation Office (NFO) by phone at (517) 355-0271 ext. 183 or by e-mail at scabusa@scabusa.org.

To facilitate pre-proposal preparation, a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document pertaining to preparation and submission of pre-proposals has been developed and is available electronically on the USWBSI's Website at:

http://www.scabusa.org/pdfs/fy08_rfp_faq.pdf

With the major changes to the RFP process for FY08, the FAQ document will be updated regularly as questions and requests for clarification are submitted to the Networking & Facilitation Office (NFO).

WHAT GETS SUBMITTED?

A single signed, paper copy* of each Project pre-proposal (Categories 1 and 2) must be received in the NFO at the address below by **the set deadline (see page 5)**:



USWBSI/NFO
ATTN: Susan Canty, Manager
380 Plant and Soil Sciences Building
East Lansing, MI 48824-1325

* If Pre-proposal contains colored images/graphics, also send an electronic version of pre-proposal to NFO via e-mail.

IMPORTANT RFP DEADLINES FOR ALL CATEGORIES OF PRE-PROPOSALS

<u>RFP Category</u>	<u>Description of Item:</u>	<u>Deadline:</u>
1. Coordinated Projects (BAR, HWW and VDHR – Regional Uniform Nurseries)	Letter of Intent (LOI)	August 1, 2007 5:00 PM*
	Individual Proposed Research Project	To be set by individual CP Committee.
	Final Coordinated Project Pre-Proposal	October 2, 2007 5:00 PM
2. Research Area (FSTU, GDER and PBG)	FY08 RA Pre-Proposal	September 18, 2007 5:00 PM
3. FHB Management Pre- Proposals - Electronic Submission via the EPS System	Pre-Registration of MGMT Pre- Proposal	August 31, 2007 5:00 PM
	FY08 MGMT Pre-Proposal	September 18, 2007 5:00 PM

* All times in Eastern Daylight Times (EDT)

Table 1. Contacts for Coordinated Projects, Research Areas and Networking & Facilitation Office.

Coordinated Projects		Contact	Email Address
Barley (BAR)		Kevin Smith, Univ. of Minnesota	smith376@umn.edu
Hard Winter Wheat (HWW)		Stephen Baenziger, University of NE	pbaenziger1@unl.edu
Uniform Nurseries - VDHR ¹	Region		
	Spring Wheat (includes Durum)	Dave Garvin, USDA-ARS, MN	garvi007@umn.edu
	Winter Wheat - Northern	Clay Sneller, Ohio State University	sneller.5@osu.edu
	Soft Red Winter Wheat - Southern	Paul Murphy, North Carolina State Univ.	Paul_Murphy@ncsu.edu
Research Areas²			
	For Questions about?	Contact	Email Address
MGMT	Chemical/Biological Control; Cultural Practices	Stephen Neate, ND State Univ.	stephen.neate@ndsu.edu
	Etiology, Epidemiology and Disease Forecasting	Christina Cowger, USDA-ARS, NC	christina_cowger@ncsu.edu
FSTU		Jim Pestka, MI State University	pestka@msu.edu
GDER		Blake Cooper, BARI, CO	blake.cooper@anheuser-busch.com
PBG		Frances Trail, MI State University	trail@msu.edu
General Questions regarding the RFP Process		Contact	Phone Number/E-mail
		Dave Van Sanford, Director of the Networking & Facilitation Office	859-338-2409 dvs@email.uky.edu
		Sue Canty, Manger of the Networking & Facilitation Office	517-290-5023 scabusa@scabusa.org

¹ VDHR – Variety Development & Host Resistance

² MGMT – FHB Management
 FSTU – Food Safety, Toxicology, and Utilization of Mycotoxin-contaminated Grain
 GDER – Gene Discovery & Engineering Resistance
 PBG – Pathogen Biology & Genetics