



U.S. Wheat & Barley Scab Initiative

FY11 Request for Pre-Proposals

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
PREFACE	2
INTRODUCTION	
Conformance with Instructions for Pre-Proposal Preparation	4
Collaborative Projects.....	4
Review and Funding Recommendation Process.....	4
Revisions to Pre-Proposals made during the Review Process.....	5
Need Help?.....	5
Important Deadlines.....	5
Contacts for Research Areas including MGMT Coordinated Projects.....	6
FY11 PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS AND RESEARCH PRIORITIES	
(PD-RP)	
FHB Management (MGMT).....	7
Food Safety, Toxicology, & Utilization of Mycotoxin-contaminated Grain (FSTU)	8
Gene Discovery & Engineering Resistance (GDER)	8
Pathogen Biology & Genetics (PBG)	9
SECTION 1: FHB MANAGEMENT COORDINATED PROJECTS	
(MGMT-CP)	
INTRODUCTION	
Does my proposed research belong in a FHB Management Coordinated Project?.....	11
Overview of Submission Process for FHB Management Coordinated Projects.....	11
INSTRUCTIONS	
<u>Pre-Submission: Letter of Intent</u>	12
<u>MGMT-CP Coordinator response to received Letters of Intent</u>	12
<u>Pre-Registration (EPS System)</u>	12
<u>Proposed Research Projects</u>	
Plan of Work.....	13
Budget Requests.....	13
Multi-PI Budgets.....	13
Tuition Remission.....	13
Indirect Cost Rate Policy	13
<u>Curriculum Vitae and Publication List</u>	14
<u>Current and Pending Support Form</u>	14
CHECK-LIST OF REQUIRED ITEMS AND DEADLINES	16

Note: All MGMT Coordinated Projects Pre-Proposal forms may be viewed and downloaded from the RFP Website: http://www.scabusa.org/research_rfp11

SECTION 2: RESEARCH AREA INDIVIDUAL PROJECT PRE-PROPOSALS

INTRODUCTION.....18

OVERVIEW OF THE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION PROCESS18

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREATING PRE-PROPOSAL

1. File 1 – Pre-Proposal:

 Application of Funding Cover Page19

 Project Summary Form20

 Summary of Progress for Ongoing Related Projects20

 Project Description.....21

 References to Project Description.....22

 Facilities and Equipment.....22

 Collaborative or Sub Contractual Arrangements22

 Budget Requests.....22

 Multi-PI Budgets.....22

 Tuition Remission23

 Indirect Cost Rate Policy23

2. File 2 – Curriculum Vitae and Publication List.....23

3. File 3 – Current and Pending Support.....24

CHECK-LIST OF REQUIRED ITEMS AND DEADLINES25

Note: All Individual Pre-Proposal forms may be viewed and downloaded from the FY11 RFP Website: http://www.scabusa.org/research_rfp11

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

FY11 Request for Pre-Proposals (RFP) - Quick Start

Read this First!

What is new for FY11?

- **One year pre-proposals** - All proposed research projects (MGMT-CP) and individual pre-proposals should be submitted as a one year request.
- **MGMT:** In FY11, pre-proposals submitted to MGMT will fall into one of the following:
 - Coordinated Projects:
 - 1) Uniform Fungicide and Biological Control Trials (UT) Coordinated Project – For more information, please turn to page 11.
 - 2) Integrated Management Studies (IM) Coordinated Project – For more information, please turn to page 11.
 - Biological Control: The USWBSI is soliciting only a single, collaborative pre-proposal – For more information, please turn to page 18.
 - Other stand-alone pre-proposals appropriate to MGMT (e.g., epidemiology studies) – For more information please turn to page 18.
- **GDER, FSTU and PBG:** The procedure is largely unchanged from FY09. However, research priorities and action plan goals may have changed. For more information, please turn to page 7 or view the action plan at http://scabusa.org/pdfs/uswbsi_action-plan_web.pdf.
- **Barley, Durum, Hard Winter Wheat and VDHR Coordinated Projects:** the USWBSI is NOT soliciting new pre-proposals for these coordinated projects in FY11 because they are in the middle of a 2 year funding cycle.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

<u>RFP Category</u>	<u>Description of Item:</u>	<u>Deadline:</u>
FHB Management Coordinated Projects (MGMT-CP)	Letter of Intent (LOI) sent to CP Chair and NFO (electronic version acceptable)	July 30, 2010
MGMT-CP	CP Committees respond to PIs who submitted LOIs.	August 17, 2010
All Categories	Pre-Registration of Pre-Proposal(s) ends	August 31, 2010
MGMT-CP	Submission of FY11 Proposed Research Projects	September 17, 2010
All Research Area based Individual Pre-proposals	Submission of FY11 Pre-Proposal(s)	September 21, 2010
MGMT-CP	Submission of FY11 MGMT-CP Pre-Proposals	September 28, 2010

Help! As always, please contact Sue Canty or Dave Van Sanford if you have questions.

PREFACE

The FY11 Request for Pre-Proposals is based on the USWBSI's Action Plan which 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.”** To read the complete action plans for all research areas go to http://www.scabusa.org/pdfs/uswbsi_action-plan_web.pdf.

FY11 Research Areas (RA)

Below are the Research Areas for which FY11 pre-proposals will be accepted:

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

FY11 Research Area program descriptions and research priorities for the four areas of research listed above are included in this document (Page 7), and may also be accessed at http://www.scabusa.org/research_rfp11. Proposed research should be based on the FY11 research priorities derived from goals of the Action Plan.

Request for Pre-Proposals (RFP)

The USWBSI has changed the annual research plan and budget process for FY11, including major changes to the Request for Pre-Proposal (RFP) process. **There are two distinct categories of FY11 Pre-Proposals: 1) FHB Management Coordinated Projects; and 2) Individual Pre-Proposals** submitted to MGMT, FSTU, GDER or PBG Research Areas. An overview of the two categories follows:

1) FHB Management Coordinated Project Pre-Proposals: If your proposed research fits into one of the FHB Management Coordinated Projects listed below, please follow the instructions and forms under Section 1 titled **“FHB Management Coordinated Project Pre-Proposals”** (instructions begin on page 11) to submit your proposed research.

- Uniform Fungicide/Biocontrol Trials (UT)
- Integrated Management Studies (IM)

2) Individual Research Area Pre-Proposals: If your proposed research is in one of the FY11 research areas listed above and is not associated with an FHB Management Coordinated Project, please follow the instructions under Section 2 titled **“Individual Research Area Project Pre-Proposals”**(instructions begin on page 18) to submit your pre-proposal. For FY11, the USWBSI is seeking a single, collaborative pre-proposal for any and all biocontrol research.

Enhancement of USWBSI Communication Activities: The USWBSI is interested in receiving pre-proposals that innovatively address this need. PIs should follow the instructions under **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 Research Areas or MGMT Coordinated Projects, or the Networking & Facilitation Office, to identify the appropriate area for their proposed work.

Electronic Submission of FY11 Pre-Proposals:

The Electronic Pre-Proposal Submission (EPS) System (web-based) must be used for the submission of all pre-proposals. General instructions for completing pre-proposals for electronic submission are included in the FY11 RFP.

The on-line submission process begins with the completion of a 'Pre-Registration Form'. The pre-registration period opens June 15, 2010 and must be completed no later than August 31, 2010. Information from this form will be used to setup PI-based accounts. The Electronic Pre-Proposal Submission (EPS) System will open on July 15. Information needed for accessing the EPS System will be distributed to PIs within 48 business hours of completing the 'Pre-Registration Form' (after after July 15). The USWBSI does not require signatures by the Authorized Organizational Representatives (AORs) on pre-proposals, so AORs will not require access to the EPS system.

Commodity-based and VDHR Coordinated Projects:

Pre-proposals for the following research categories are NOT being solicited in FY11:

- ❖ Barley Coordinated Project
- ❖ Durum Coordinated Project
- ❖ Hard Winter Wheat Coordinated Project
- ❖ Variety Development and Host Resistance - Northern Winter Wheat Region
- ❖ Variety Development and Host Resistance – Spring Wheat Region
- ❖ Variety Development and Host Resistance - Southern Winter Wheat Region

However, if you wish to submit a pre-proposal relevant to one of the coordinated projects listed above, please either submit to one of the FY11 research areas (MGMT, FSTU, GDER or PBG) if appropriate, or select 'None of the Above' in box 16 on the 'Application Cover Page' and follow the instructions for **Category 2 Pre-Proposals** (begins on page 18). The Networking & Facilitation Office will process the pre-proposal for appropriate review.

INTRODUCTION

After carefully reading the 'PREFACE' and 'FY11 Research Area Program Descriptions and Research Priorities', you are ready to create your pre-proposal(s). 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 individuals 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) FHB Management Coordinated Projects; or 2) Individual Research Areas.
3. Finally, follow the instructions in the corresponding section to complete your pre-proposal.

NOTE: Pre-proposals that do not fit into one of the research areas (listed on page 2) for which pre-proposals are being accepted for FY11 are also welcome.

PRE-PROPOSAL PREPARATION:

It is important that all pre-proposals conform to the instructions provided in the FY11 Request for Project Pre-Proposal Application. The USWBSI's Networking & Facilitation Office may return, without review, any pre-proposals that are not consistent with these instructions. The NFO must authorize any deviations from these instructions in advance of pre-proposal submission. Deviations must be authorized by written approval from the NFO Director (dvs@uky.edu) or Manager (scabusa@scabusa.org).

COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS:

Even though two FHB Management (MGMT) Coordinated Projects have been established (Uniform Fungicide/Biocontrol Trials and Integrated Management Studies), 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. **For FY11, the USWBSI will consider only a single, multi-PI pre-proposal for Biological Control Research.**

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 FY11 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 pre-proposals or proposed research project(s) are recommended for funding by the Initiative will be asked to compile and formalize their proposed research 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 2011.

REVISIONS TO PRE-PROPOSALS MADE DURING THE REVIEW PROCESS:

In the event of a significant development (e.g., research findings, changed circumstances, unavailability of PI, etc.) that might materially affect the outcome of the review of a pending pre-proposal, the PI must contact the Director of the NFO to discuss the issue. Depending on the outcome of that discussion the PI may be allowed to submit a one-page update to the NFO. The NFO will provide a form and deadline for the update. Submitting additional information must not be used as a means of circumventing page limitations or stated deadlines.

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. 1183 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://scabusa.org/pdfs/rfp_faq.pdf

The FAQ document will be updated regularly as questions and requests for clarification are submitted to the Networking & Facilitation Office (NFO).

IMPORTANT RFP DATES AND DEADLINES FOR FY11 PRE-PROPOSALS

<u>RFP Category</u>	<u>Description of Item:</u>	<u>Date/Deadline:</u>
1. FHB Management Coordinated Projects (MGMT-CP)	Electronic Pre-Proposals Submission (EPS) System opens	July 15, 2010
	PIs submit Letter of Intent (LOI) to MGMT-CP Coordinator	July 30, 2010
	Pre-Registration for EPS System ends.	August 31, 2010
	Submission (via e-mail) of Proposed Research Project to MGMT-CP Coordinator and NFO.	September 17, 2010
	Upload CV-Pubs and Current/Pending Support documents to EPS System.	September 21, 2010
	Submission of MGMT FY11 Coordinated Project Pre-Proposal to NFO.	September 28, 2010
2. Individual Research Area Pre-Proposals	Electronic Pre-Proposals Submission (EPS) System opens	July 15, 2010
	Pre-Registration for EPS System	August 31, 2010
	Submission of FY11 Pre-Proposal	September 21, 2010

Table 1. Contacts for Research Areas, FHB Management Coordinated Projects (MGMT-CP) and Networking & Facilitation Office (NFO).

RESEARCH AREAS		Contact	Email Address
FHB Management (MGMT)		Christina Cowger, USDA-ARS, NC	Christina.Cowger@ars.usda.gov
MGMT Coordinated Projects (CP)	Uniform Fungicides/Biocontrol Trials (UT)	Larry Osborne, SD State University	Lawrence.Osborne@sdstate.edu
	Integrated Management Studies (IM)	Pierce Paul, OH State University	paul.661@osu.edu
Food Safety, Toxicology and Utilization of Mycotoxin-contaminated Grain (FSTU)		Paul Schwarz, ND State University	Paul.Schwarz@ndsu.edu
Gene Discovery and Engineering Resistance (GDER)		Steve Scofield, USDA-ARS, IN	scofield@purdue.edu
Pathogen Biology and Genetics (PBG)		Frances Trail, MI State University	trail@msu.edu
<hr/>			
General Questions regarding the RFP Process		Contact	Phone Number/E-mail
		Dave Van Sanford, Director Networking & Facilitation Office	859-338-2409 dvs@email.uky.edu
		Sue Canty, Manager Networking & Facilitation Office	517-290-5023 scabusa@scabusa.org

FY11 Research Area (RA) Program Descriptions and Research Priorities (PD-RP)

FHB MANAGEMENT (MGMT)

FY11 Program Description:

The FHB Management (MGMT) research area supports research to develop effective and economical disease management practices that reduce FHB severity and DON in harvested grain to meet the immediate and long-term needs of the wheat and barley industries.

This research area involves:

- tillage practices, crop sequences, and other cultural practices targeting *Fusarium*-infested residues;
- fungicides, biological control agents, and application technologies for chemical and biological agents;
- the refinement and deployment of disease prediction and forecasting models, and disease management decision tools; and
- studies of pathogen survival, inoculum production, dispersal, infection, colonization, mycotoxin production, and factors accounting for high levels of mycotoxin in asymptomatic grain.

NOTE: Priority will be given to multi-PI, collaborative, integrated pre-proposals that address the research priorities listed below. Pre-proposals pertaining to uniform fungicide/biocontrol trials (UT) and integrated management studies (IM) will be developed as multi-PI, collaborative, integrated proposals. Coordinators for those integrated proposals are listed in Table 1 (page 6).

FY11 Research Priorities Derived from Action Plan Goals:

1. Validate integrated management strategies for FHB and DON.
2. Develop the next generation of management tools for FHB/DON control.
3. Develop a full understanding of specific environmental and biological factors influencing infection and toxin accumulation.
4. Enhance communication and end user education/outreach.

FOOD SAFETY, TOXICOLOGY AND UTILIZATION OF MYCOTOXIN-CONTAMINATED GRAIN (FSTU)

FY11 Program Description:

The Food Safety, Toxicology and Utilization of Mycotoxin-Contaminated Grain (FSTU) research area supports research on food safety and food processing issues related to the presence of *Fusarium* spp. mycotoxins in wheat and barley grain. Practical outcomes of research in this area include: 1) improved toxicological data to assure that current guidelines are providing the appropriate safety factors for the consumer; 2) analytical tools that can be used by small grain producers, elevators, millers, and processors, to rapidly and reliably identify mycotoxin-contaminated grain; 3) develop appropriate strategies to deal with contaminated grain; and 4) diagnostic data on *Fusarium* spp. mycotoxins required for development of FHB resistant/tolerant varieties of wheat and barley.

FY11 Research Priorities Derived from Action Plan Goals:

1. Provide analytical support for DON/trichothecene quantitation for Initiative's stakeholders.
2. Provide requisite information on DON/trichothecene safety issues to producers, millers, researchers, risk assessors, and regulators.

GENE DISCOVERY AND ENGINEERING RESISTANCE (GDER)

FY11 Program Description:

The Gene Discovery and Engineering Resistance (GDER) research area (RA) will focus primarily on the identification of genes from wheat and barley that can be used to increase FHB resistance and/or reduce DON accumulation, and on development of engineered strategies for FHB resistance or reduced DON levels. Gene discovery and transformation of non-cereal systems will be supported only for the purpose of rapidly screening potential anti-*Fusarium* genes.

FY11 Research Priorities Derived from Action Plan Goals:

1. Characterize the genetic function of existing and novel loci for FHB resistance.
2. Identify candidate genes for resistance against FHB and/or reduced DON accumulation.
3. Develop effective FHB resistance and/or reduced DON accumulation through transgenic strategies.

PATHOGEN BIOLOGY AND GENETICS (PBG)

FY11 Program Description:

Research in this area includes studies that address pathogen diversity and mycotoxin biosynthesis on plants, host/parasite interactions, and host resistance mechanisms that target the pathogen. Research in PBG should complement and be linked to whole plant research that will lead to disease control and/or toxin reduction strategies. Population surveys should be accompanied by studies of biological relevance. Successive yearly surveys cannot be supported by this program, as funding is limited.

FY11 Research Priorities Derived from Action Plan Goals:

1. Characterize genetic variation in the pathogen population with regard to aggressiveness toward plants, mycotoxin potential, and potential for pesticide resistance.
2. Characterize plant-fungal interactions in plant lines being developed by researchers in the USWBSI.
3. Develop new strategies for reducing impact of FHB disease and mycotoxin contamination in barley and wheat. Focus on research that seeks to demonstrate a reduction in FHB or DON in planta. Establish a protocol for transferring these new strategies into viable crop product through collaborative interactions with GDER.

SECTION 1:

FHB MANAGEMENT COORDINATED PROJECT - PROPOSED RESEARCH PROJECTS (PRPs)

Category 1: FHB Management Coordinated Projects

INTRODUCTION

Does my proposed research belong in an FHB Management Coordinated Project (CP)?

Yes, if the primary focus of your proposed research involves the following:

Uniform Fungicide and Biocontrol Trials (F/BC)	Uniform testing of fungicides, biological control agents, and application technologies for chemical and biological agents.
Integrated Management Studies (IM)	Integrated management strategies for FHB and DON including tillage practices, crop sequences, and other cultural practices targeting <i>Fusarium</i> -infested residues.

Overview of Submission Process for MGMT Coordinated Project Pre-Proposals:

If you are submitting proposed research to the Uniform Fungicide/Biocontrol Trials or the Integrated Management Studies Coordinated Projects, below are the main components (in order of completion) of the submission process:

1. PIs submit a **Letter of Intent (LOI)** to the Contact of the MGMT-CP (see Table 1, page 6), with a copy of the LOI sent to the NFO. **Deadline:** July 30
2. CP committees notify all PIs who submitted Letters of Intent to their CP whether their proposed research has been accepted into the CP's FY11 Pre-Proposal. **Deadline:** August 17
3. PIs (and Co-PIs) complete the Pre-Registration Process for uploading their CV/Publication Lists and Current and Pending Support Form to the EPS System. **Deadline:** August 31
4. PIs submit electronic version (PDF format) of the '**Proposed Research Project**' to the Coordinator of the MGMT-CP and the NFO. **Deadline:** September 17
5. PIs upload their CV/Publications Lists, and Current and Pending Support (CPS) Form (PDF format) to the EPS System. **Deadline:** September 21
6. NFO receives MGMT-CP Pre-proposals from CP Coordinators. **Deadline:** September 28

1. PRE-SUBMISSION - LETTER OF INTENT (LOI)

If you plan to participate in one of the FHB Management Coordinated Projects, you must submit a Letter of Intent to the CP leader of the appropriate Coordinated Project (see table below) by **July 30th**. The LOI, which may be in the form of an e-mail, must include the following:

Names of PI and co-PI(s), a proposed title, and a synopsis that describes the following:

- *Reasons proposed component is needed;*
- *Goals in the USWBSI’s action plan addressed by this proposed research;*
- *Research needs in the USWBSI’s action plan addressed by this research; and*
- *Statement that demonstrates that the PI/co-PI(s) are capable of carrying out the proposed research based on past research productivity and expertise in the relevant field(s) of research*

Deadline:

Both the Coordinator of the MGMT Coordinated Project and the NFO must receive the Letter of Intent (may be in the form of an e-mail) by July 30, 2010.

Mailing Information for MGMT-CP Coordinators and NFO:

<p>Uniform Fungicide/Biocontrol Trials (UT) Larry Osborne Plant Science Bldg. Box 2108 Brookings, SD 57007 E-Mail: Lawrence.Osborne@sdstate.edu</p>	<p>Integrated Management Studies (IM) Pierce Paul 1680 Madison Ave. Dept. of Plant Pathology Ohio State University Wooster, OH 44691 E-mail: paul.661@osu.edu</p>
<p>Networking & Facilitation Office ATTN: Sue Canty USWBSI-NFO 380 Plant & Soil Sciences Bldg. East Lansing, MI 48824-1325 E-mail: scabusa@scabusa.org</p>	

2. MGMT-CP COORDINATORS’ RESPONSE TO RECEIVED LETTERS OF INTENT

The CP Coordinator will notify all PIs who submitted Letters of Intent whether their proposed research has been accepted into the FY11 Coordinated Project Pre-Proposal. PIs have the option, if their proposed research has been rejected by the CP, to submit an individual project pre-proposal for consideration by following the instructions for Category 2, page18). **Deadline: August 17, 2010**

3. PRE-REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR EPS SYSTEM

All PIs submitting a proposed research project to one of the Coordinated Projects must complete the Pre-Registration Process so that they may upload their CV/Publication Lists and Current and Pending Support forms to the EPS System. However, PIs should wait to complete the Pre-Registration Process until after they have received a response from the CP Committee concerning their submitted Letter of Intent (LOI) – *refer to item 2 above*.

1. **Proposed Research Form:** Information submitted on this form pertains to the proposed research being submitted. Follow the instructions included on the form. Form may be accessed at http://www.scabusa.org/cgi-bin/pre_reg.cgi.
2. **User Registration Form:** The submission of this form will set up the PI's user account within the EPS System. Form may be accessed at <http://scabusa.org/eps/register.php>. You may have already completed this step if you have created a user ID for the Scab Website (i.e. Discussion Boards, Chat, Photo Library, Scab Blog, etc.). If you are not sure whether you already have a user ID for the Scab Website, please contact the NFO at scabusa@scabusa.org.

Following successful completion of the Pre-Proposal Registration process (both steps), you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing a 'Help Document' that will aid you in navigating the EPS System. **NOTE:** You do not have to complete the 'Pre-Registration Process' before you begin working on your Pre-proposal.

Deadline: August 31, 2010

4. PROPOSED RESEACH PROJECT (PRP)

PLAN OF WORK:

A Plan of Work must be submitted with your proposed research project. This plan must describe the details of your proposed research including how the proposed research differs from the **required standard protocols** that have been established for the coordinated project to which you are submitting your Proposed Research Project. This document should not exceed 3 pages in length (starts with 'Plan of Work' Form as page 1) and should describe in clear, concrete terms the substance of your proposed research. The timeline for the Plan of Work should be one year. The Coordinated Project Committee leader will send the standard protocols to all PIs whose proposed research was accepted into the CP by August 17.

Format: The Plan of Work should be formatted using Times New Roman (Normal type except headings), 12 point or higher with one-inch margins. **NOTE:** Bold formatting should only be used for section headings or used minimally to emphasize importance or significance. Conformance to the format requirements will be strictly enforced.

BUDGET REQUESTS

Please complete the '**Proposed Research Project Budget Justification Form**' by following the instructions on the form. Again, the budget request should be for only one year.

Tuition Remission: Tuition remission is **permitted** under USDA-ARS **extramural agreements** with any type of recipient organization (i.e. universities). If tuition remission is budgeted as a direct cost, it should be included in the "Other Direct Costs" category of the Budget Page (Section H).

Policy on Indirect Cost (IDC) Rate: The USWBSI's review process focuses on the **competitiveness of total** project costs (direct and indirect). Because Fusarium head blight is such a severe problem for the U.S. wheat and barley industries, the USWBSI has set the indirect costs rate limit at 5%. Excessive indirect cost rates may prejudice the Steering Committee's final funding recommendations to USDA-ARS.

5. Curriculum Vitae and Publication List (CV/Pubs)

(Maximum four pages for CV with Publication List per Scientist)

To assist peer reviewers in assessing the competence and experience of the proposed project staff, all personnel who will be involved in the proposed project must be identified clearly. The items listed below should be included for all personnel (PI, Co-Investigators, and secondary scientists (i.e. post-docs, graduate students)) who are expected to work on the project in a significant fashion (e.g. expectation of co-authorship on ensuing publications), whether or not funds are sought for this support:

- *Curriculum Vitae (C.V.)*. The C.V. should be limited to a presentation of academic and research credentials, e.g., educational, employment and professional history, and honors and awards. Unless pertinent to the project, do not include meetings attended, seminars given, or personal data such as birth date, marital status, or community activities.
- *Publication List*. A chronological list of all publications in refereed journals during the past five years, including those in press, should be provided for each professional project member for whom a Curriculum Vitae is provided. Non-refereed technical publications that have relevance to the proposed project may be included.

The C.V. and Publication List combined must not exceed four pages per scientist. C.V. and Publication Lists for collaborators or sub-contractors are not required.

Submission Instructions: PIs and Co-PIs are responsible for uploading their own CV/Pubs to the EPS System. CV/Pubs for all secondary scientists should be included in the PI's file. The CV/Pubs will only need to be uploaded one time whether or not the investigator is connected to multiple pre-proposals. File must be uploaded to the EPS System by **September 21, 2010**.

6. Current and Pending Support (CPS) Form

CPS form can be downloaded from RFP website at http://scabusa.org/research_rfp11#fy11_rfp.

All project pre-proposals must contain completed Current and Pending Support Forms for PI and all Co-PIs listing other current public or private support to which key personnel identified in the pre-proposal have committed portions of their time, whether or not salary support for person(s) involved is included in the budget. Analogous information must be provided for any pending proposals that are being considered by, or that will be submitted in the near future to, other possible sponsors, including other USDA Programs or agencies, and the USWBSI. Concurrent submission of identical or similar proposals to the other possible sponsors will not prejudice pre-proposal review or evaluation by the USWBSI for this purpose. However, a project pre-proposal that duplicates or overlaps substantially with a **proposal already reviewed and funded (or to be funded)** by another organization or agency will not be recommended under this program. The third column ('Requested/Award Amount') on the 'Current and Pending Support Page' has been divided into two sub-columns: Total \$ Amount and PI \$ Allocation. For each grant/proposal listed, **include both the total ('Total \$ Amount') and the amount you have or may receive ('PI \$ Allocation')**.

Submission Instructions: PIs and Co-PIs are responsible for uploading their own Current and Pending Support Form to the EPS System. The CPS Form will only need to be uploaded one time whether or not the investigator is connected to multiple pre-proposals. File must be uploaded to the EPS System by **September 21, 2010**.

Important Dates for EPS System:

- June 15: Pre-registration begins (you will receive your access information on or within 48 business hours after Aug. 2).
- July 15: EPS System Opens
- Aug 31: Pre-Registration Process ends.
- Sept 21: Deadline for uploading supporting documents (CV/Pubs List and Current and Pending Support Forms) to EPS System.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Pre-Submission

- PIs submit Letters of Intent (LOI) **July 30, 2010**
 - CP Coordinators respond to PIs regarding acceptance of LOIs into CP. **August 17, 2010**
-

Pre-Registration

- Proposed Research Form: Information submitted on this form pertains to the proposed research being submitted and will be used by the NFO to configure the EPS System for each PI.
PLEASE NOTE: This step should NOT be completed until you have received a response from the CP Coordinator to your Letter of Intent.
- User Registration Form: The submission of this form will setup the PI's user account within the EPS System.

Registration Deadline: **August 31, 2010**

Final Submission

PI Check-list of Required Items for Proposed Research Projects Submitted to the Coordinator of MGMT-CP

- Plan of Work (should not exceed three pages; starts with 'Plan of Work' Form as page 1)
- Proposed Research Project Budget Justification Form (complete all relevant sections)

Submission Deadline - E-version received by CP Coordinator and the NFO: **September 17, 2010**

PI Check-list of Required Items to be uploaded to EPS System

- Curriculum Vitae and Publication List
- Current and Pending Support Form

Submission Deadline (uploaded to EPS System) **September 21, 2010**

SECTION 2:

**INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH AREA
PROJECT PRE-PROPOSALS**

Category 2 - Individual Research Area Project Pre-Proposals

INTRODUCTION

If your research is in one the following research areas, and if the primary focus is not on Uniform Fungicide/Biological Control Trials or Integrated Management Studies, you should complete your pre-proposals using the instructions and forms provided in this section of the FY11 RFP.

- ❖ FHB Management (MGMT)
 - Biocontrol: a single, collaborative pre-proposal is being solicited which addresses the following:
 - Demonstration of efficacy in the field; and
 - Research should be structured to capitalize on individual strengths of the research group.
- ❖ Food Safety, Toxicology, & Utilization of Mycotoxin-contaminated Grain (FSTU)
- ❖ Gene Discovery and Engineering Resistance (GDER)
- ❖ Pathogen Biology & Genetics (PBG)

Note: If your proposed research was rejected by one of the MGMT-CPs, you may submit an individual project pre-proposal for consideration following the instructions in this section.

OVERVIEW OF THE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION PROCESS

Individual Pre-proposals will be submitted using the USWBSI's Electronic Pre-Proposal Submission (EPS) System. Pre-proposal must be organized and saved as three separate Adobe PDF files for the purpose of uploading to the EPS System. Below are the steps you will take to complete and submit your individual project pre-proposal:

- a. **Pre-Registration Process** - All PIs must complete the Pre-Registration Process in order to submit their pre-proposal via the EPS System.
 - i. Proposed Research Form: Information submitted on this form pertains to the proposed research being submitted. Form may be accessed at http://www.scabusa.org/cgi-bin/pre_reg.cgi. Select from the drop down list the research area that best fits your proposed research.
 - ii. User Registration Form: The submission of this form will set up the PI's access account within the EPS System. Form may be accessed at <http://scabusa.org/eps/register.php>. You may have already completed this step if you have created a user ID for the Scab Website (i.e. Discussion Boards, Chat, Photo Album etc.) If you are not sure whether you already have a user ID for the Scab Website, please contact the NFO at scabusa@scabusa.org.

Following successful completion of the Pre-Proposal Registration process (both steps), you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing a 'Help Document' that will aid you in navigating the EPS System. **NOTE:** You do not have to complete the 'Pre-Registration Process' before you begin working on your Pre-proposal. **Deadline: August 31, 2010**

- b. You will complete your pre-proposal by following the instructions provided in this RFP and using the forms which may be downloaded from the FY11 RFP website at: http://www.scabusa.org/research_rfp11. Your final pre-proposal must be completed by creating three files organized as follows:

- **FILE 1 – Body of Pre-Proposal** – Contains the following:
 - Application for Funding Cover Page
 - Project Summary Form
 - Summary of Progress for Ongoing Related Project(s)
 - Project Description
 - References to Project Description
 - Facilities and Equipment
 - Collaborative Arrangements
 - Letters of Intent from Collaborators and Co-Investigators (letter from Co-PI will substitute signature on ‘Application for Funding Cover Page’) – *may be in the form of e-mail messages copied and pasted into your pre-proposal document.*
 - Budget Justification Form.
 - Budget Page (**Note:** If you are completing a ‘Multi-PI Budget’ which is in Excel format, please refer to the instructions on page 22).
- **FILE 2 – Curriculum Vitae and Publication List (CV/Pubs):** The PI and each Co-PI is responsible for uploading his/her own CV/Pubs file. CV/Pubs for secondary project personnel should be included in the PI’s file.
- **FILE 3 – Current and Pending Support (CPS) Form:** The PI and each Co-PI is responsible for uploading his/her own CPS form.

Login to the EPS System using the information received after successful completion of the ‘Pre-Registration Process.’ Following the instructions in the ‘Help Document’ (included in e-mail from the Networking & Facilitation Office), proceed to upload the three separate files (Body of Pre-Proposal, Curriculum Vitae/Publication List, and Current and Pending Support Form). The files you upload must be in Adobe PDF format.

Because the USWBSI does not require signatures by the Authorized Organizational Representatives (AORs) on pre-proposals, institutional AOR’s will not be granted access to the EPS System.

Important Dates for EPS System and deadlines for Individual Pre-Proposals:

- June 15: Pre-registration begins (you will receive your access information on or within 48 business hours after Aug. 2).
- July 15: EPS System Opens
- Aug 31: Pre-Registration Process ends.
- Sept 21: Deadline for final submission of pre-proposals.

INSTRUCTIONS

FILE 1: Body of Pre-Proposal

Application for Funding Cover Page

The pre-proposal must contain a completed ‘Application for Funding Cover Page’, which will be the first page of the application. In completing this form, please note the following:

- *Title of Proposal (Block 6).* The title of the project pre-proposal must be brief (**80-character maximum**), yet represent the major thrust of the project. Because this title will be used to provide

information to those who may not be familiar with the proposed project, highly technical words or phraseology should be avoided where possible. In addition, phrases such as “investigation of” or “research on” should not be used.

- *Principal Investigator/Co-Investigators (Block 10)*. List the name of the proposing principal investigator in this block. All other participating scientists should be listed as co-investigators. The co-investigators should be limited to those required for major scientific collaboration.
- *Currently Funded Projects (Block 13)*. List the titles of all individual research projects that are currently being funded in FY10 (approx. May 2010 – April 2011) in association with the USWBSI/ARS collaboration.
- *Research Area (Block 16)*. Your Project Pre-Proposal should be constructed to address one or more of the Action Plan goals (http://scabusa.org/pdfs/uswbsi_action-plan_web.pdf). In Block 16, designate with an 'X' one Research Category whose description and priorities your project is designed to address. Research Area Program Descriptions and Research Priorities (PD-RP) can be accessed through the Initiative’s Web site at www.scabusa.org/research.html.
- *Signatures*. Signatures are not required for pre-proposals submitted via the Electronic Pre-Proposals Submission (EPS) System. However, a Letter of Intent (may be in the form of an e-mail) from all Co-Investigators must be included in the pre-proposal under the section titled “Collaborative or Sub Contractual Arrangements”.

Project Summary Form

Each project pre-proposal must contain a completed Project Summary Page, which will be the second page of the project pre-proposal. The names and institutions of all of the principal and co-investigators should be listed on this form (if space for this information is insufficient, please enter “see attached” and provide the information on a separate sheet immediately following the Project Summary Page). The project summary itself must fit within the space indicated. The summary is not intended for the general reader; consequently, it may contain technical language relating to Fusarium head blight research. The project summary should be self-contained, include a specific description of the activity to be undertaken, and focus on the following:

- Overall project goal(s)
- Project Objectives (list in numbered format) and Expected Outcomes;
- Plans to accomplish project goal(s) within period of proposed work (**one year**); and
- Relevance of the project to the goals of the U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative with specific reference to the research priorities listed in the FY11 Program Descriptions and Research Priorities (PD-RP).

A concise, informative project summary is essential. Project Summaries are considered part of the pre-proposal and are therefore confidential.

Summary of Progress for Ongoing Related Project(s) – *Limit to a single page per project*

The purpose of this section is to enable PI's to demonstrate that they have made (or are moving towards) effective use of funds for ongoing USWBSI-recommended projects **related to** the current pre-proposal. This includes projects which were funded this year (FY10). Include the following information for each **relevant** ongoing project:

- Project Title;
- brief summary of activities (including non-data generating items such as hiring of personnel, equipment acquisition, etc.), any results and/or accomplishments made to date (include actual data documenting progress made since FY10 funding was awarded; and
- any information that will help reviewers understand how the current pre-proposal builds upon the ongoing project.

Project Description

The Project Description should provide a clear statement of the work to be undertaken and must include: research objectives for the **period of the proposed work** and expected significance; relation to longer-term goals of the PI's project; and relation to the present state of knowledge in the field, to work in progress by the PI under other support and to work in progress elsewhere.

The Project Description should outline the general plan of work, including the broad design of activities to be undertaken, and, where appropriate, provide a **clear description** of experimental methods and procedures, and plans for preservation, documentation, and sharing of data, samples, physical collections, curriculum materials and other related research and education products.

- ii. **Format:** Brevity will assist reviewers and USWBSI/NFO staff /reviewers in dealing effectively with pre-proposals. **Therefore, the written text of the Project Description must be five pages or less (single spaced or equivalent); ten pages or less in total including figures and tables.** The Project Description should be formatted using Times New Roman (Normal type except headings and 12 point or higher) with one-inch margins. **NOTE:** Bold formatting should only be used for section headings or used minimally to emphasize importance or significance. Conformance to the format requirements will be strictly enforced.

iii. Content:

- *Title.* Same as Application for Funding Cover Page (**80-Character Maximum**).
- *Introduction.* A clear statement of the goal(s) and supporting objectives or research questions of the proposed project should be included. The most significant published work in the field under consideration, including the work of key project personnel on the current application, should be reviewed. The current status of research in this field of science should also be described **including, but not limited to, any ongoing USWBSI-recommended work currently underway. Preliminary data pertinent to the proposed research may be included in this section.** Present and discuss published literature that is directly related to, and supports, the proposed research (research objectives, materials and methods).
- *Rationale and Significance.* It is understood that head scab is a devastating disease. **Acknowledgment of this fact should require no more than one sentence.** Concisely present the rationale behind the proposed research; identify the gaps in the knowledge base that your pre-proposal is trying to fill. Relevance of the project to the goals of the U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative with specific reference to the priorities listed in the FY11 Program Descriptions and Research Priorities (PD-RP) should be clearly stated. If applicable, please indicate if the research proposed here could lead to successful acquisition of grant funds from other agencies.
- *Research Materials and Methods.* Specifically, this section must include:
 - The hypotheses or questions being asked;

- A description of the investigations and/or experiments proposed **in the sequence** in which the investigation or experiments are to be performed;
- Techniques and methodologies to be used in carrying out the proposed project, including the feasibility of the techniques. **(Describe in step by step fashion exactly what techniques, materials and methods will be used.);**
- Results expected;
- Means by which experimental data will be analyzed or interpreted;
- Means of applying results or accomplishing technology transfer, where appropriate;
- Pitfalls that may be encountered;
- Limitations to proposed procedures; and
- A tentative schedule for conducting major steps involved in these investigations and/or experiments.

Please Note: Failure to address each of the issues in the bullet list will diminish the likelihood of the success of your pre-proposal being recommended for funding.

References to Project Description

All references cited in the Project Description should be included in bibliographic format. Although there is no established page limitation for the references, this section must include bibliographic citations only, and must not be used to provide parenthetical information outside of the project description.

Facilities and Equipment

All facilities and major items of equipment available for use or assignment to the proposed project during the requested period of support should be described. In addition, items of nonexpendable equipment necessary to conduct and successfully conclude the proposed project should be listed (including dollar amounts), and, if funds are requested for their acquisition, justification should be included in the Budget Justification.

Collaborative or Sub-contractual Arrangements

If the nature of the proposed project requires collaboration or contractual arrangements with other research scientists, corporations, organizations, agencies, etc, the applicant must identify the collaborator(s) and provide a **detailed explanation of the nature** of the collaboration. Evidence in the form of a letter of intent from all collaborators must be provided to assure reviewers that collaborators or sub-contractors involved have agreed to render the indicated services. **The letter of intent must include specific details describing the services the collaborator will provide.**

Budget and Budget Justification

Please complete the **‘FY11 Individual Project Pre-Proposal Budget Justification Form’** by following the instructions on the form. Also complete a budget using either **‘FY11 Individual Project Pre-Proposal Budget Form’** or the **‘FY11 Multi-PI Project Pre-Proposal Budget Worksheet’** (MS Excel file). If the ‘Multi-PI Budget Worksheet is used, please remove the budget form from File 1 before uploading to the EPS System.

Multi-PI Budget Worksheet: The ‘Multi-PI Budget Worksheet’ was developed for use by PIs whose proposed research includes components at multiple institutions. In such cases, if a pre-proposal is recommended for funding, the awards would go directly to the individual institutions from USDA-ARS.

This form should be used in place of the Single Budget Page, as it provides for both the individual budgets as well as the total requested amount for the proposed research. However, when using this form, separate Budget Justification Forms should be included for each individual budget request. This form can be downloaded from the Scab Website at http://scabusa.org/research_rfp11.html#fy11_rfp under 'SPECIAL FORMS'. The file contains detailed instructions on completing the budget worksheet which contains calculated fields.

Instructions for submitting Multi-PI Budget Worksheet: You must first convert the Excel budget worksheet to a PDF file before uploading to the EPS System as a separate file (i.e. do not include with File 1). Then, upload the PDF to the EPS system following the instructions in the 'EPS Help Document'.

Tuition Remission: Tuition remission is **permitted** under USDA-ARS **extramural agreements** with any type of recipient organization (i.e. universities). If tuition remission is budgeted as a direct cost, it should be included in the "Other Direct Costs" category of the Budget Page (Section H).

Policy on Indirect Cost (IDC) Rate: The USWBSI's review process focuses on the **competitiveness of total project costs (direct and indirect)**. Because Fusarium head blight is such a severe problem for the U.S. wheat and barley industries, the USWBSI has set the indirect costs rate limit at 5%. **Excessive indirect cost rates may prejudice the Steering Committee's final funding recommendations to USDA-ARS.**

FILE 2: Curriculum Vitae and Publication List (CV/Pubs)

Curriculum Vitae and Publication List (Maximum four pages for CV with Publication List per Scientist)

To assist peer reviewers in assessing the competence and experience of the proposed project staff, all personnel who will be involved in the proposed project must be identified clearly. The items listed below should be included for all personnel (PI, Co-Investigators, and secondary scientists (i.e. post-docs, graduate students)) who are expected to work on the project in a significant fashion (e.g. expectation of co-authorship on ensuing publications), whether or not funds are sought for this support:

- *Curriculum Vitae (C.V.)*. The C.V. should be limited to a presentation of academic and research credentials, e.g., educational, employment and professional history, and honors and awards. Unless pertinent to the project, do not include meetings attended, seminars given, or personal data such as birth date, marital status, or community activities.
- *Publication List*. A chronological list of all publications in refereed journals during the past five years, including those in press, should be provided for each professional project member for whom a Curriculum Vitae is provided. Non-refereed technical publications that have relevance to the proposed project may be included.

The C.V. and Publication List combined must not exceed four pages per scientist. C.V. and Publication Lists for collaborators or sub-contractors are not required.

Submission Instructions: PIs and Co-PIs are responsible for uploading their own CV/Pubs to the EPS System. CV/Pubs for all secondary scientists should be included in the PI's file. The CV/Pubs will only need to be uploaded one time whether or not the investigator is connected to multiple pre-proposals. File must be uploaded to the EPS System by **September 21, 2010**.

NOTE: Upon successful completion of the ‘Pre-Registration Process’, the user will receive a confirmation e-mail that will include a ‘Help Document’ for navigating the EPS System.

FILE 3: Current and Pending Support (CPS) Form

CPS form can be downloaded from RFP website at http://scabusa.org/research_rfp11#fy11_rfp.

All project pre-proposals must contain completed Current and Pending Support Forms for PI and all Co-PIs listing other current public or private support to which key personnel identified in the pre-proposal have committed portions of their time, whether or not salary support for person(s) involved is included in the budget. Analogous information must be provided for any pending proposals that are being considered by, or that will be submitted in the near future to, other possible sponsors, including other USDA Programs or agencies, and the USWBSI. Concurrent submission of identical or similar proposals to the other possible sponsors will not prejudice pre-proposal review or evaluation by the USWBSI for this purpose. However, a project pre-proposal that duplicates or overlaps substantially with a **proposal already reviewed and funded (or to be funded)** by another organization or agency will not be recommended under this program. The third column (‘Requested/Award Amount’) on the ‘Current and Pending Support Page’ has been divided into two sub-columns: Total \$ Amount and PI \$ Allocation. For each grant/proposal listed, **include both the total (‘Total \$ Amount’) and the amount you have or may receive (‘PI \$ Allocation’)**.

Submission Instructions: PIs and Co-PIs are responsible for uploading their own Current and Pending Support Form to the EPS System. The CPS Form will only need to be uploaded one time whether or not the investigator is connected to multiple pre-proposals. File must be uploaded to the EPS System by **September 21, 2010**.

Pre-Registration

- Proposed Research Form: Information submitted on this form pertains to the proposed research being submitted and will be used by the NFO to configure the EPS System for each PI.
- User Registration Form: The submission of this form will setup the PI's user account within the EPS System.

Pre-Registration Deadline:

August 31, 2010

Check List and Order of Required Items for Individual Project Pre-Proposals

- **FILE 1: Project Pre-Proposal**
 - Application for Funding Cover Page
 - Project Summary Form (*must fit within text box*)
 - Summary of Progress for Ongoing Funded Project(s) – FY10 (*one page maximum per project*)
 - Project Description (*five pages or less written text; ten pages or less in total including figures and tables*)
 - References to Project Description
 - Facilities and Equipment
 - Description of Collaborative Arrangements
 - Letters of intent from each collaborator and/or Co-PI
 - Budget Justification Form
 - Project Pre-Proposal Budget Form (*use either Individual or Multi-PI Budget forms; if 'Multi-PI Budget form is used, it will be uploaded as a separate file to the EPS System*)
- **FILE 2: Curriculum Vitae and Publication List** (*maximum of four pages total per scientist*)
- **FILE 3: Current and Pending Support Form**

Submission of FY11 Pre-Proposal Deadline:

September 21, 2010