

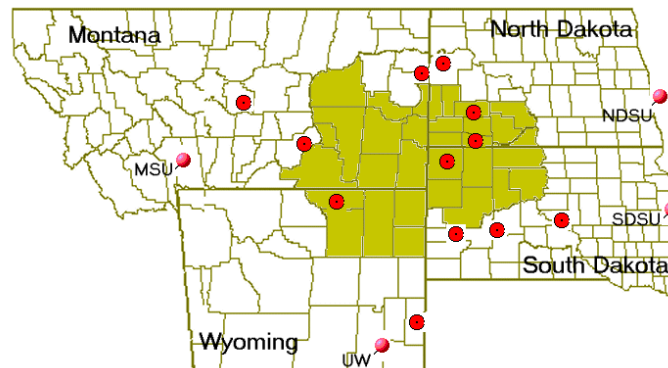
# FOUR-STATE RUMINANT CONSORTIUM

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY – NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY – MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY – UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

## Call for Proposals FY2005

The objective of this integrated research and extension program is to enhance economic development in the semi-arid four-state area of South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming by strengthening and capturing value from the ruminant livestock industry. The general target area for this program is northwestern South Dakota, southwestern North Dakota, southeastern Montana, and northeastern Wyoming. This program will provide the information and technology necessary to develop, implement, and analyze livestock management and marketing strategies. A systems approach to livestock production and marketing will provide viable economic gains for stakeholders residing in the region.

A consortium of four land-grant universities that serve the Northern Great Plains region lead this effort. The universities include South Dakota State University, North Dakota State University, Montana State University, and the University of Wyoming. These institutions will implement research and extension programs that integrate crop and livestock resources in the semi-arid Northern Great Plains.



For FY2005, it is anticipated that approximately \$320,000 will be available to award for integrated research and extension projects at 1862 and 1994 institutions. Additionally, it is anticipated that \$35,000 will be available specifically for 1994 land-grant institutions. For the FY2005 funding cycle, it is anticipated that up to three projects will be funded for up to two-year durations with a terminating date of September 30, 2007. Awards are contingent upon Congressional appropriation of FY05 funds.

### Programmatic Themes

Research scientists and extension specialists from 1862 and 1994 land-grant institutions in the region are invited to develop grant proposals that identify and evaluate alternative crop systems that support livestock production as a means to provide economic development through value-added ruminant animal programs. The integrated approach to crop and livestock production and marketing strategies will involve three components. As such, the research and extension programs must fit within the following integrated components:

**1. Synergistic Crop and Livestock Systems:** Crop and livestock production dominate the economy in the proposed study area. Integration of crops and livestock can be an engine that drives economic development for this region. Programmatic priorities will include:

- Development of alternative cropping systems for the dedicated purpose of capturing value through production of ruminant livestock.
- Enhancing sustainability of the production ecosystem with particular emphasis on crop rotations that provide feed grain and forage as an integrated system for regional use.

**2. Value-added Ruminant Animal Strategies:** This component of the four-state initiative will emphasize value capture mechanisms in livestock production. Programmatic priorities will include:

- Expand backgrounding and finishing of calves and lambs.
- Development of sustainable production strategies for bison, beef, dairy and sheep.
- Development of integrated crop and livestock systems that capture value, enhance ecosystem health, and stabilize economic returns to the farm, community and region.

**3. Risk Management and Product Marketing Strategies:** Value-added production systems often add risk and additional production costs for the livestock producer. Programmatic priorities will include:

- Conduct cost/benefit analysis, risk assessment, and development of risk management strategies.
- Creation of marketing cooperatives.
- Development of niche markets and contracting as an integral part of crop and livestock systems to enhance economic returns.

### **Program Requirements**

1. PIs must be faculty or staff from 1862 or 1994 land-grant institutions in the four states. Partnering with non-land-grant institutions and agencies is permissible, but project leadership must be based at an 1862 or 1994 land-grant institution.
2. Project teams must be multidisciplinary and integrate research and extension activities.
3. Primary personnel must have their roles clearly defined with grant resources effectively shared.

### **Program Preferences**

1. Proposals from project teams with personnel from two or more of the four states will be given preference.
2. Projects with significant activities conducted within the targeted region, such as on farm cooperator lands, will be given preference.

### **Past Awards**

A listing of past awards through the Four-State Ruminant Consortium can be viewed through the following URL <http://sdaes.sdstate.edu/multistate/fourstate/>.

## What to Submit

Proposals for one-year and two-year projects will be accepted. Proposals are limited to **six** pages with font no smaller than 11 pt. and 1 inch margins (left-right), (items B - G, below) and must include the sections listed below. Proposals not adhering to this format will be considered non-responsive and will not be reviewed.

**A. Cover Page:** Proposal title; Principal Investigators and their respective departments/states; percent effort for each PI should be indicated; cooperators involved and their respective responsibilities/states; names and spaces for authorizing signatures of the respective department heads.

**B. Summary (limit to no more than 1 page):** Provide a succinct and rational statement of the proposed work, including objectives, methodology, expected outputs, and relevance.

**C. Introduction:** List and briefly describe the objectives. Briefly review the current status of the proposed work and include any pertinent published or preliminary data. Exhaustive literature reviews are not necessary. List and briefly describe projected outputs.

**D. Experimental Plan:** Clearly and succinctly describe the experiments or investigations in the sequence in which they will be performed. Include adequate, but not excessive, detail on techniques, protocols, and data analysis procedures.

**E. Impact Plan:** A clear plan for dissemination of information and application of results by regional stakeholders must be included. Include a plan that specifically includes participation of the Cooperative Extension Service.

**F. Timeline:** Include a timeline that includes activities and milestones of the project.

**G. Literature Cited:**

**H. One page Vita:** for each team investigator

**I. Supplementary Proposal Information:**

**Budget:** The CSREES-2004 budget form can be found at the USDA website, where a complete *standard application form* can be downloaded. <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/forms.html>

Use the CSREES-2004 budget form to provide budgets for the total project and for each institution requesting funding. No indirect or tuition costs are allowed.

Be sure to include budget justifications per CSREES instructions.

## Current & Pending

**Support:** Include a Current and Pending Support Form using the USDA Form CSREES-2005 downloaded from the USDA Website. Your current proposal in response to this RFP should be listed under "Pending" on this form.

## Assurance

**Statement:** Include an Assurance Statement signed by the Principal Investigator using CSREES-2008, downloaded from the USDA website. If you answer "no" to all the questions, the Principal Investigator should sign this form. If you checked "yes" to any of the questions on the Assurance Statement, you will need to have your Authorized Organization Representative at your university sign the form. Proposals dealing with human subjects, biosafety or animal management issues must complete the appropriate IRB, IBC and/or IACUC forms.

## **Project Reporting Requirements**

Awarded projects will be required to submit annual progress and termination reports to the consortium coordinator. Progress reports will be expected during the annual consortium conference. Awarded projects must complete the usual CRIS reporting forms (AD416 and AD417) and form AD421 on an annual basis.

## **WHERE AND WHEN TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS**

Proposals must be submitted **via email** by **November 30, 2004**. Faxed submission will not be accepted.

Proposals should be sent as MS Word or Adobe Acrobat attachments to the South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station (james.doolittle@sdstate.edu).

*If you have any questions regarding the mechanics of proposal submission, please contact Jim Doolittle at: 605-688-4149 or by e-mail.*

## **NOTIFICATION OF AWARD**

Award notifications will be sent by **January 15, 2005**. Funds will be distributed when made available by CSREES.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

For more information, contact your campus AES or CES office or either of the coordinators listed below.

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### **Non-Discrimination Policy**

It is the policy of South Dakota State University, Montana State University, University of Wyoming and North Dakota State University not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or Vietnam Era Veteran status in the offering of benefits, services, and educational and employment opportunities.

Project Leader(s) understand and agree to follow the respective University's non-discrimination policy in the conduct of this research program and dissemination of findings.