Indiana Corn Marketing Council
Request for Proposals (RFP)

New Uses Initiative
FY 2017 Sponsored Research Program
Deadline: 5:00pm December 9, 2016

Introduction
This request for proposals (RFP) encourages researchers to present proposals that address specific corn research needs identified by the Indiana Corn Marketing Council (ICMC).

Specific Research Goals
The mission of the ICMC research program is to use ICMC and Research Checkoff (SPARC) funds to sponsor, support and encourage research that will give the highest possible return to Indiana corn producers. ICMC’s new uses research strategic plan is to identify and fund corn focused projects that result in commercialization of corn-based products or technology. Specific goals for the FY 2017 sponsored research grants program are as follows:

1. Create new corn-based products

Questions regarding the goals and priorities of ICMC’s New Uses initiative can be directed to Robyn Shelley at rshelley@indianacorn.com.

Funding
SPARC funds are not intended to replace other sources of funding; rather the corn growers’ “seed money” should generate other sources of funds to enlarge and expand research efforts or to initiate new research efforts. Collaborative efforts among researchers, departments, institutions and organizations are encouraged.

Single- and multi-year projects may be submitted. Projects are funded on an annual basis. If a multi-year project is proposed, the progress, results, and continued relevancy of the project will be reviewed annually prior to granting of additional funding.

No funds granted by ICMC are permitted to be used for lobbying activities.

Instructions for Submitting Grant Applications
Attached to this notice is the format required for research project proposals submitted to ICMC for the funding year 2017. Each form bears the title “FY 2017 Research Grant Application.”

Use of forms generated from your computer is acceptable, but you must use the format and headings as indicated in the attached instructions. Proposals should be written in clear language and be as short as possible, while relaying a complete picture of the proposed research.

Submit a copy by email of the attached research grant application no later than 5 p.m., Friday, December 9, 2016 to Robyn Shelley at rshelley@indianacorn.com.

Proposal Review Process
The proposal review process will involve peer as well as industry review of scientific and technical merit. Proposals will be considered privileged information and will be made available on a
confidential basis only to selected peer reviewers, technical industry reviewers, the ICMC Demand Committee and staff of ICMC. Confidentiality will be protected insofar as possible.

Any proposal received by ICMC in response to this RFP will be considered an offer, which may or may not be accepted by ICMC. Researchers submitting proposals should realize that this grant program is funded by Indiana Corn farmers. Evaluations and funding decisions will be made by the farmer research committee.

ICMC will not review pre-proposals. Applicants may be invited to make a brief presentation and answer questions at the ICMC new uses committee meeting. This meeting will be scheduled to occur in early 2017. The specific date and time have not yet been determined.

**Final awards will be made by February 28, 2017.**

**Reporting Requirements**
Principal investigators who receive grants must submit:

1. Quarterly progress reports in a supplied format,
2. A summary written in lay-person’s language, suitable for news media purposes to facilitate producer information,
3. A year-end technical report including all data.
4. Presentation of final results to ICMC during an on-site meeting (video conferencing available if necessary).

**Additional Proposal Guidelines**

Researchers conducting projects involving human subjects must be able to demonstrate that the required precautions are in place to safeguard the rights and welfare of individuals who participate as subjects in research activities supported by ICMC. It is the responsibility of the applicant organization to assure that all research involving humans is conducted under established policies and procedures specifically instituted for the protection of human subjects.

Researchers conducting projects involving animals must be able to demonstrate that the appropriate policies and procedures are in place for assuring the humane care of all animals as generally understood by the scientific community.
I. Title Page
Use the Title Page provided (or reasonable replica of it). Include signatures of the principal investigator and others required by your organization. The title should be as descriptive as possible to interested laypersons. Broad, generalized titles should be avoided. Please do not use exactly the same title used for a project ICMC previously funded or is currently funding.

II. Rationale for Research Proposal
State specifically how this project will benefit Indiana Corn farmers also, explain in terms of financial impact and corn utilization. Explain the problem or issue the proposal seeks to address, how it addresses ICMC’s specific research goals, why farmers care about the topic, and the expected impact.

III. Proposal Narrative
The narrative portion (abstract, objectives, rationale, economic impact, research design and methods, previous work and references cited) must be limited to seven or fewer pages. Transfer all headings to your typed proposal. It is extremely important to use lay language in writing proposals. Overly technical language will seriously jeopardize the chances of being awarded a grant.

A. Abstract
Present the abstract on a separate page; do not exceed two pages. State the proposal’s broad, long-term objective and the number of years to complete that specific objective. Describe concisely how each of the objectives described in II.B, below help further this long-term objective. If this proposal is a continuation of a previous or currently funded project(s), describe the specific accomplishments of the previous or currently funded project(s) as it relates to the long-term objective. This abstract is meant to serve as a succinct and accurate description of the proposed project when separated from the application and must be written in language appropriate for non-technical persons.

B. Objectives
List separately each objective to be accomplished during the funding period. Provide a detailed overview of past results for each objective. Provide a brief work plan for achieving each objective. Describe how this objective relates to other research, either currently underway or previously completed. List interactions with other researchers as it relates to this objective. List how, when, and to whom the accomplishments of this objective will be communicated. Repeat this format for each objective.

C. Analysis of Economic Impact
Explain and quantify the results expected and the intended beneficiary of the proposed research. Describe the methods proposed to provide self-evaluation of the progress and effectiveness of the study regarding the specific objectives and the return on Corn producers’ investment. Quantify the results expected, including a measurement of the Corns or corn products estimated to be used as a result of this research. If the proposed research is expected to provide cost savings or revenue potential, explain and quantify the estimates.
D. Research Design and Methods
Describe concisely the research design and methods for achieving the objectives listed. Include the means by which data will be collected, analyzed and interpreted. Describe any new methodology to be used and its advantage over existing methodologies. Discuss the potential difficulties and limitations of the proposed procedures and alternative approaches to achieve the aims. Provide a tentative sequence or timetable for the investigation, including the time estimated to be required to gain the long-term results. Include methods planned for disseminating the results of the proposed research.

E. Principal Investigator(s)' Previous Work
Describe research conducted by and experience of the principal investigator(s) that is directly related to the proposed research. Discuss how this research and experience is likely to contribute to successfully achieving the objectives of the proposal. List any preliminary results that may aid in the evaluation of the proposed research. Indicate the time and attention that the principal investigator will make available for the project. Also describe the adequacy of facilities and equipment. List recent and relevant publications of the principal investigator(s).

F. References Cited
List complete references for all literature cited in previous sections.

III. Proposed Research Budget
Complete the Proposed Research Budget form provided. ICMC will not pay indirect costs in excess of 15% of ICMC’s contributed funds. ICMC generally will not fund the salaries or fringe benefits of the principal investigators or capital equipment purchases. Any requests for principal investigators’ salaries/benefits or for capital equipment must be fully justified in writing on a separate page. Also include supplemental detail for any line item of $5,000 or more.

IV. Current and Pending Support Disclosure
Complete the Current and Pending Support Disclosure provided, referring to the instructions on the form. Submission of a proposal to other funding organizations will not prejudice its review, but proposals not including this completed form will not be considered. Proposals that leverage additional outside funds are encouraged, but ICMC should be kept informed of other grantors.
Goal(s) (check all that apply):

- Create new corn-based products

Check that all are included (in this order):
- Title Page
- Rationale for Research Proposal
- Proposal Narrative
- Proposal Research Budget
- Current and Pending Support
- Disclosure

Title of Proposal:

Principal Investigator(s):

Name: 
Title: 
Affiliation: 
Business Address: 
Phone Number: 
Fax Number: 
E-mail Address: 

Name: 
Title: 
Affiliation: 
Business Address: 
Phone Number: 
Fax Number: 
E-mail Address: 

Organization to Which Award Should Be Made:

Financial Officer’s Name: 
Title: 
Business Address: 
Phone Number: 
Fax Number: 

Proposed Starting Date: 
Proposed Ending Date: 

Approval Signatures:

Principal Investigator(s) 
Title 
Date 

Department Head or Research Director 
Title 
Date 

Organization Representative 
Title 
Date
Title of Proposal:  
Principal Investigator(s):  
Project Starting Date:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line-Item Budget Summary</th>
<th>Funds Requested</th>
<th>Total Funds Requested</th>
<th>Your Organization’s Investment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Attach supplemental detail for line items of $5,000 or more)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Salaries and Wages</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Principal Investigator(s)*</td>
<td>− 0 −</td>
<td>− 0 −</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Senior/Post-Doctoral Associates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Other Professionals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Graduate/Undergraduate Students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Secretarial/Clerical Staff</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Other Staff (technical, shop, other)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Fringe Benefits* (Sum for all personnel, except P.I.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Nonexpendable (Capital) Equipment**</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Expendable Materials and Supplies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Travel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Publication Costs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Computer Costs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. All Other Direct Costs (Attach supporting data. List name and dollar amount for each item.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. SUBTOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Indirect Costs (Not to exceed 15% of project cost. Show balance as Your Organization’s Investment.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. TOTAL AMOUNT OF THIS REQUEST</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- ICMC generally does not fund the salaries or fringe benefits of the principal investigator(s). They should be funded from other sources. Any requests for principal investigators' salaries/benefits must be fully justified on a supplemental page. ICMC strongly discourages requests for nonexpendable (capital) equipment in research proposals. If such equipment is essential to the research proposal, submit a separate request for funding with justification. 
- No funds granted by ICMC are permitted to be used for lobbying activities.
**Instructions:**
1. Record information for all active and pending projects/proposals, as well as all proposed research that is being considered by, or will be submitted to, other possible sponsors in the near future. (Concurrent submission of a proposal to other organizations will not prejudice its review.)
2. All current research to which principal investigator(s) and other senior personnel have committed a portion of their time must be listed, whether or not salary/benefits for the person involved are included in the budgets of those projects.
3. Use additional sheets if necessary.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME(S) OF PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR(S)</th>
<th>SUPPORTING AGENCY</th>
<th>TOTAL $ AMOUNT</th>
<th>EFFECTIVE AND EXPIRATION DATES</th>
<th>% OF TIME COMMITTED</th>
<th>TITLE OF PROJECT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pending:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>