



FISCAL YEAR 2010 APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES

Recipient: Cheyney University of Pennsylvania

Location: 1837 University Circle, Cheyney, PA 19319

Amount Requested: \$300,000

Project Description: Funding will support the Aquaculture Research Education Center at Cheyney University, which conducts research on the commercialization of aquaculture. The strategic plan developed by the Joint Subcommittee on Aquaculture states that there is a need for expanded research and development within our country if the United States is to become a leader in aquaculture development. The goal of this initiative is to provide opportunities for the university to become a leader in aquaculture and to support development of a sustainable solution to food production, especially in areas where farmland is scarce or coastal waters are too polluted for conventional fishing. In addition, this program will seek to address the need for expanded services and training in the areas of animal health, marketing and economic support services.

Recipient: The Rodale Institute

Location: 611 Siegfriedale Rd., Kutztown, PA 19530

Amount Requested: \$270,028

Project Description: The Rodale Institute and Pennsylvania State University will develop collaborative research trials to provide science-based alternatives to help Pennsylvania farmers adopt more sustainable farming practices. These projects are being carried out at Pennsylvania State University research farms and at Rodale Institute's experimental farm, with assistance and input from collaborating farmers. The Rodale Institute and Pennsylvania State University also offer workshops and technical assistance sessions to share farming practice innovations with Pennsylvania farmers. This research at the Rodale Institute focuses on agricultural profitability balanced by environmental responsibility.

Recipient: Pennsylvania State University

Location: 117 Old Main, University Park, PA 16802

Amount Requested: \$800,000

Project Description: Milk safety funding provides a tool to respond quickly to emerging issues within the dairy industry. Continued progress in science-based solutions to food safety in the dairy industry is necessary to maintain consumer protection and confidence and to support the position of United States dairy products in the international market. Funding will support the development of tactics to enable dairy producers to reduce food-borne pathogens at the farm level, new technologies for processors that will contribute to economic sustainability and improvements in the supply chain that will ensure continued delivery of a high quality, affordable and safe product to consumers.

Recipient: Pennsylvania State University

Location: 117 Old Main, University Park, PA 16802

Amount Requested: \$550,000

Project Description: The structure of the dairy industry continues to undergo significant changes indicating important research is needed on improved dairy management practices. The Pennsylvania State University is currently undertaking several projects focusing on the economic and social dimensions of dairy farming, risk analysis, animal health programs and the adoption of technology. This research on dairy farm profitability works to improve practices helping dairy farmers increase their profits.

Recipient: Pennsylvania State University

Location: 117 Old Main, University Park, PA 16802

Amount Requested: \$400,000

Project Description: This Pennsylvania State University program delivers farm and community-level educational programs and assistance. The primary focus of this initiative is to assist small farmers in developing and maintaining economically viable enterprises and helping build community capacity to sustain growth and development of local agriculture and food sectors. Farm-level programs focus on developing alternative enterprise opportunities, generating business and marketing plans and providing market research and feasibility studies. Community-level programs focus on the assessment and strength of the local agricultural business climate and the development of regional marketing alliances.

Recipient: Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence at the University of Pittsburgh

Location: 230 S. Bouquet St., Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Amount Requested: \$1 million

Project Description: Funding would be used to promote innovative models for agriculture and food production based on entrepreneurial principles, advanced information technologies and business technical support. The Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence will work directly with farmers in western Pennsylvania to implement agricultural growth strategies through one-on-one farm consultations. This program will encourage, develop, invest in and support new methods of farming, food production, marketing and distribution.

Recipient: Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

Location: 2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Amount Requested: \$225,000

Project Description: The Cooperative Livestock Protection Program provides Pennsylvania agriculture producers technical and operational assistance in identifying, controlling, and abating damage and economic loss caused by certain nuisance wildlife species. The average Pennsylvania livestock farmer experiences thousands of dollars in wildlife induced losses annually due to recent increases in populations of damaging wildlife species. To meet the growing need to control these wildlife species' effects on farm profitability, the Cooperative Livestock Protection Program will develop and disseminate strategies to address current damage and prevent economic loss for the Pennsylvania agricultural industry. This initiative is a top priority of the Pennsylvania Agriculture Secretary Dennis Wolff.

Recipient: Pennsylvania Center for Dairy Excellence

Location: 2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Amount Requested: \$240,000

Project Description: The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Center for Dairy Excellence provides producers and industry professionals with the tools to help improve on-farm profitability, while also providing consumers and policy makers with information on the value of dairy in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania's dairy industry will lose dairy farms at an accelerated rate if profits cannot be improved above current levels. The dairy center provides technical and financial assistance to dairy farmers to assist Pennsylvania farms in moving towards increasing profitability.

Recipient: Pennsylvania Center for Beef Excellence Funding

Location: 2300 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Amount Requested: \$160,000

Project Description: Modeled after the largely successful efforts of the Pennsylvania Center for Dairy Excellence, a Center for Beef Excellence is being developed in Pennsylvania to support, promote and expand the beef industry in the Commonwealth. The goal of the Center for Beef Excellence is to encourage increased profits, more beef production and a stronger agricultural economy as a whole. Funding for the Center for Beef Excellence will be used to design and administer technical assistance programs, as well as work with individual beef producers to help increase profitability. The center will help identify, create and enhance economic opportunities for Pennsylvania's beef producers.

Recipient: Monell Chemical Senses Center, Wildlife Services Methods Development Cooperative Agreement

Location: 3500 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104

Amount Requested: \$1 million

Project Description: Monell has worked with the United States Department of Agriculture's National Wildlife Resources Center (NWRC) since 1977. The funding would expand a current project between Monell and the NWRC, creating a field station in Philadelphia. Specifically, funding would be used to directly address increased health issue concerns from threatening diseases such as Lyme, Avian Flu, Swine Flu and Rabies. The goal of this project is to identify better ways to survey for and detect animal pests and diseases based on scientific findings and research. Critical objectives that could benefit from additional funding are: developing rapid detection systems for avian and swine influenzas that threaten humans and improving vaccine baits to slow the spread of disease and reduce potential human exposures.

Recipient: Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas (ATTRA)

Location: Nationwide, including Shavertown, PA

Amount Requested: \$3 million

Project Description: This program provides farmers with fast, free and up-to-date information on a wide range of issues facing the agricultural community, including pest control, sustainable agriculture, marketing and soil fertility. ATTRA provides one-on-one technical assistance on sustainable agriculture and marketing to all 50 states. ATTRA recently opened an office in Shavertown, PA, which provides critical in person assistance to Pennsylvania farmers.