

APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM OREGON HOUSE DELEGATION FISCAL YEAR 2010

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: FEBRUARY 20, 2009

PLEASE NOTE: As required by the House Appropriations Committee, all requests will be made public on the requesting Member's website.

1. Project Title: Organic Cropping Research (OR)

2. Organization Name and address:

Oregon State University
Corvallis, Oregon 97331-4501

3. Primary Contact name, phone number, mobile phone number, fax number and email:

4. Project Location Address (if different from Organization):

Throughout Oregon and the Pacific Northwest

5. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities, and whether it is a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity:

Public University. Oregon State University is one of only two U.S. universities designated a land grant, sea grant, space grant and sun grant institution. Its more than 20,300 students come from all 50 states and more than 80 countries. OSU programs touch every county within Oregon, and its faculty teach and conduct research on issues of national and global significance.

6. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (please keep to 500 words or less.)

Oregon's growing organic agriculture industry has developed strong links between producers and consumers and provides important economic benefits to the citizens of the state. In 2006, Oregon's 357 certified organic farms generated more than \$52.1 million in organic products from approximately 59,200 certified acres. Certifiers issued 142 processor and 25 handler certificates, a significant increase from 65 in 2005, resulting in over \$76.3 million in trade. Certified organic acreage increased 41% to 83,280 acres in 2007. Oregon's strong agricultural infrastructure and unique climate make Oregon's agriculture uniquely positioned to continue to grow dramatically in its market share of organic dairy and meat, tree fruits, specialty seed, berry crops, wine grapes, and processed and fresh market vegetables.

For example, western Oregon organic dairy farmers have an increasingly strong competitive edge as cows graze nearly year-round, facilitating access to the outdoors and reducing the cost of providing 100% organic feed. Also, Oregon's location on the 45th parallel, mild winters, dry summers, access to irrigation water, and experienced organic farmers position Oregon to become a world leader in

organic specialty seed production. Research directed at problems facing these commodities will enhance Oregon agriculture's competitiveness in the marketplace. Last year's research activities created a "Organic Fertilizer Calculator"; determined appropriate size and spatial distribution of beetle banks for pest suppression; assessed availability of, established selection criteria for, and evaluated vegetables for organic farming systems; developed weed management strategies for producing organic legume and grass hay; and began the development of an organic cereal production system.

7. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years?

Yes

7a. If yes, please provide fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.

Project funded through the USDA's CSREES account

FY08: \$138,897

FY09: funding pending

8. Federal agency and account from which funds are requested (Please be specific –e.g. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account):
USDA/CSREES

9. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?

This project will contribute to the vitality and sustainability of urban and rural farms and communities. The increasing demand for organic food and farm products that are locally and regionally produced will increase employment and ownership opportunities, capacity for transitioning farms, and enhance environmental quality of farm ecosystems.

10. Have you requested funding for this project from other Members of Congress?

If so, who? Support is being sought from the entire Oregon Congressional Delegation

11. Funding Details:

a. Total project cost (all funding sources and all years): \$800K annually

b. Amount being requested for this project in Fiscal Year 2010: \$800K

c. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please provide specific dollar amount or percentage.)

Historically the state has contributed approximately \$500,000 in salary with benefits annually. Faculty contributed between 10 and 100% of their time for organic cropping systems research and outreach. With respect to other external funding from grants and contracts, including competitive grants and commodity commission support, an estimated additional \$360,000 supports organic cropping systems research.

d. Do you expect to request federal funding in future years for this project? Yes

e. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project in FY 2010.

(e.g. salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000):

Assuming half of the funds go to WSU, following is the possible breakdown of funds:

4.0 FTE Graduate Research Assistantships (\$120,000)

1.0 FTE Postdoc or Faculty Research Assistant (\$60,000)

2.0 FTE other salaries (students, technicians, etc.) (\$120,000)

Travel, publications, supplies, technical equipment, and services (\$100,000)

f. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project:

Center for Rural Affairs

Oregon Organic Coalition

Organic Materials Review Institute

Oregon Blueberry Commission

Oregon Tilth

Organic Seed Alliance

Northwest Farmer to Farmer Exchange

g. Is this project scalable? (i.e. if partial funding is awarded, will the organization be able to use the funds in FY 2010?): Yes