

## REAL SCIENCE INITIATIVE Submission Guidelines

### Potential Areas of Research May Include but are Not Limited to:

1. New applications of existing products, new product concepts, or new delivery technologies that will result in improved efficacy of nutrient utilization in livestock production.
2. Increase the understanding of the linkage between nutrition and the immune system to facilitate the design of dietary regimes that will reduce disease susceptibility in livestock and optimize the production of safe and nutritious food products.
3. Increase the understanding of ruminal nitrogen metabolism and metabolizable amino acid requirements to improve protein efficiency in ruminants.
4. Increase the understanding of choline metabolism, including interactions between choline and other nutrients involved in one carbon metabolism in transition and lactating cows.

### Pre-Proposal Submission

Pre-proposals, no longer than two pages (Single spaced; Times New Roman 12 font; 1 inch margins) must be submitted by 5:00 pm EDT on October 1, 2016. An electronic copy of the pre-proposal should be sent to: [researchproposal@balchem.com](mailto:researchproposal@balchem.com). Pre-proposals must include:

1. **Project title and principal investigator contact information** (affiliation, postal address, email address, and phone number).
2. **Specific aims** – State goals and expected outcomes. List the specific objectives of the research proposed.
3. **Significance** – Explain how the research will
  - a. address an important problem or question,
  - b. improve scientific knowledge or technical capability, and
  - c. drive changes in methods, technologies or concepts in the field of animal nutrition.
4. **Innovation** – Brief description of how the application is innovative.
5. **Approach** – Describe the research design and methods used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. Discuss potential problems or anticipated limitations.
6. **Anticipated outcomes and their potential benefits.**
7. **Estimated project funding.** List total funds requested for entire project and timeline for project. Projects should be completed within two years. The total of direct and indirect costs should not exceed US \$150,000 for the complete project.

Balchem will acknowledge receipt of all pre-proposal submissions. Pre-proposals will be reviewed by research and technical staff of Balchem by October 15, 2016.

## Criteria for Review

1. **Innovation** – Research that seeks to shift current paradigms or understanding by utilizing novel concepts or approaches.
2. **Significance** – Likelihood of advancing knowledge of animal nutrition and health, relevance to Balchem.
3. **Approach** – Probability of successful accomplishing the specific aims of the project.
4. **Budget and Period of Support** – Budget and the requested period of support are fully justified and reasonable in relation to the proposed research.

All materials submitted must be non-confidential and should not contain any markings indicating confidentiality. While we have no intention of publicizing a submission, we can assume no obligation to keep it confidential. A formal notification on the status of the application will be sent once a decision is reached. Authors of pre-proposals showing the greatest merit will be asked to submit a full proposal by 5:00 pm EDT on November 15, 2016. An electronic copy of the full proposal should be sent to: [research-proposal@balchem.com](mailto:research-proposal@balchem.com).

## Full Proposal Submission

Full Proposals will expand on the pre-proposal. At this juncture, a confidentiality agreement may be sought by Balchem, so as to protect the potential interests of Balchem and those individuals submitting a Full Proposal, and in an effort to ensure the most comprehensive and informative Full Proposal submissions. Full Proposal Submission shall include:

1. Title page including the title of the project and contact information (affiliation, postal address, email address, and phone number).
2. Proposal body (not to exceed 6 pages; Single spaced; Times New Roman 12 font; 1 inch margins) including:
  - a. Specific aims – State goals and expected outcomes. List the specific objectives of the research proposed.
  - b. Significance – Explain how the research will
    - i. address an important problem or question,
    - ii. improve scientific knowledge or technical capability, and
    - iii. drive changes in methods, technologies or concepts in the field of Animal Nutrition.

- c. Innovation – Brief description of how the application is innovative.
- d. Approach - Describe the research design and methods used to accomplish the specific aims of the project. When applicable, provide details on experimental design, experimental units and extent of replication, analytical methodology, and statistical analysis. Discuss potential problems or anticipated limitations.
- e. Anticipated outcomes and their potential benefits.
- f. Timeline for completion of the project including milestones, interim report (half-way point), and final report.
- g. References.
- h. Budgetary details including (when applicable):
  - i. Salaries and fringe benefits (research assistantship and other required labor)
  - ii. Animal per diem
  - iii. Supply and expenses
  - iv. Travel
  - v. Publication costs
  - vi. Indirect costs
  - vii. Total budget request
  - viii. Institutional contribution to the project (e.g. salaries)

3. Curriculum vitae for principle investigator (not to exceed 2 pages).

Final decisions on grant funding for full proposal(s) will be made by research and technical staff of Balchem by December 15, 2016. Criteria for selection will be the same as for pre-proposals with increased emphasis on experimental and statistical methodology. Evidence of institutional matching contributions will be a factor in the final decision on funding for the proposal(s).

### **The Final Report**

A final report will be required. It should be in the form of a manuscript following guidelines from a peer-reviewed journal of the investigator's choice.

Sponsored Research Agreements and Publications: Proposals chosen for awards will administered through a Sponsored Research Agreement between Balchem and the investigator's institution.



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