

Minnesota Wheat Research and Promotion Council

RESEARCH PROPOSAL GRANT APPLICATION

1. NAME AND ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION TO WHICH AWARD SHOULD BE MADE Name: Regents of the University of Minnesota Address: Sponsored Projects Administration 454 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street SE Minneapolis, MN 55455-2070		
2. TITLE OF PROPOSAL Salary Support for Dr. Danielle Fiebelkorn-Wrucke		
3. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR(S) Jochum Wiersma	4. PI #1 BUSINESS ADDRESS Northwest Research & Outreach Center 108 Agricultural Research Center 2900 University Avenue Crookston, MN 56716-5001	
PI# 2 Name:		
PI# 3 Name:		
5. PROPOSED PROJECT DATES (calendar years) July 1, 2025 –June 30, 2027 Note: Research Reports are Due November 15th of Each Year	6. TOTAL PROJECT COST \$ 109,380	7. PI #1 PHONE NO. 218-281-8629
8. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES: (List objectives to be accomplished by research grant) The purpose of this grant proposal is to secure the funding for Dr. Danielle Fiebelkorn-Wrucke salary and keep her gainfully employed as the small grains trial coordinator overseeing the disease screening nurseries at the Northwest Research & Outreach Center and the on-farm yield trials that are conducted in cooperation with Drs. James Anderson and Kevin Smith		
Signature Of Principal Investigato 	Date 01/28/25	Phone Number 218-281-8629
Signature Of Authorized Representative	Title	Date
Address Of Authorized Representative		Phone Number

Minnesota Wheat Research and Promotion Council
RESEARCH PROJECT PROPOSAL
(2-pages maximum)

Project Title: Salary Support for Dr. Danielle Fiebelkorn-Wrucke

Importance of this project to the profitability of wheat producers: The disease screening nurseries at the NWROC continue to be critical to the breeding efforts past and present at the University of Minnesota and is one of the two trial locations that provide the FHB disease rating of nearly all commercially available HRSW varieties in Minnesota. Without the repeatability of the mist irrigated and inoculated disease screening nurseries, the breeders would have to rely on natural occurring infections, which history showed fell short in selecting varieties with improved genetic resistance.

Procedures: N/A

Regional linkage to other research activities: The disease screening nurseries at the NWROC include the Uniform Regional Scab Nursery that is coordinated by Dr. Andrew Read at the USDA-ARS unit in St. Paul and the tristate BLS screening nursery coordinated by Dr. Ruth Dill-Macky.

List current or potential other funding sources for this project: Currently about 70% of the salary and fringe benefit of Dr. Danielle Fiebelkorn-Wrucke is paid for from an allocation from the Small Grains Initiative. This allocation is not expected to increase in the next three years.

Research Group: The research group includes an interdisciplinary team of staff and faculty based at the NWROC (Jochum Wiersma, Extension Agronomist and Danielle Fiebelkorn-Wrucke, small grains trial coordinator) and the main campus in St. Paul. The team includes plant pathologists Brian Steffenson (St. Paul), Ruth Dill-Macky (St. Paul), and Rebecca Curland (St. Paul), plant breeders James Anderson (St. Paul) and Kevin Smith (St. Paul)

Relationship to past projects: The Fusarium Head Blight (FHB) nursery effort has been ongoing in Crookston since 1995. In subsequent years, the screening effort has expanded to include nurseries for other diseases such as leaf rust, tan spot, net blotch, Septoria leaf spot, and Bacterial Leaf Streak (BLS).

Estimate the budget requirements: The forecasted salary and fringe expenditures are based on the following assumptions:

- 1) Salary and fringe allocation from the Small Grains Initiative is capped at \$ 75,000 annually
- 2) Fringe rate is kept at 36.6%
- 3) The projected Cost of Living Adjustment is 2% annually
- 4) The proposed salary increases bring Dr. Danielle Fiebelkorn-Wrucke to a target salary index of ~ 0.85 over a four to five year period

The historic fringe rates as well as the salary projections are available in an Excel spreadsheet to allow you (and me) to adjust each of the above stated assumptions with actual data as it becomes available.

References: N/A

Minnesota Wheat Research and Promotion Council

RESEARCH PROJECT PROPOSAL BUDGET

Project Title: Salary Support for Dr. Danielle Fiebelkorn-Wrucke			
Principal Investigator(s) / Project Director(s) Jochum Wiersma	<u>Funds Requested For</u>		
	Year 1 (FY26)	Year 2 (FY27)	Year 3 (FY28)
A. Salaries and Wages	\$	\$	\$
1. Co-principal Investigator(s)			
2. Senior Associates – Researcher 5	\$ 22,242	\$ 26,871	\$ 30,960
3. Research Associates – Post Doctorate			
4. Other Professionals			
5. Graduate Students			
6. Prebaccalaureate Students			
7. Secretarial - Clerical			
8. Technical, Shop and Other			
B. Fringe Benefits	\$ 8,141	\$ 9,835	\$ 11,331
C. Consulting and Professional Services			
D. Supplies and Services			
E. Travel			
F. Sub-Contracts			
G. Repairs & Maintenance			
H. Rentals & Lease			
I. Other Expenses			
TOTAL AMOUNT OF THIS REQUEST (per year)	\$ 30,383	\$ 36,706	\$ 42,291