



Mint Industry Research Council

MIRC REQUEST FOR 2006 RESEARCH PROPOSALS AND 2005 RESEARCH REPORTS

The Mint Industry Research Council (MIRC) is now in the process of requesting research proposals for the 2006 calendar year for commercial mint varieties. These varieties include *Mentha piperita* L.-Peppermint; *Mentha spicata* L.-Native spearmint; *Mentha cardiaca*-Scotch spearmint.

Research Goals

The focus of the MIRC research program is to fund scientific research which addresses the agronomic production of quality commercial mint oil production while keeping the goal of the MIRC in mind. The goal of the MIRC is effectively summarized within the MIRC mission statement which states: "**THE PURPOSE OF THE MINT INDUSTRY RESEARCH COUNCIL IS TO FUND, DIRECT, AND COORDINATE RESEARCH NEEDED TO SUSTAIN AND ENHANCE THE PRODUCTIVITY OF A HIGH QUALITY UNITED STATES MINT INDUSTRY**". This mission statement inherently states the obvious importance of research projects which have a national or regional emphasis in their scope. Research proposals must show cooperation and communication within a region and emphasize national issues. This emphasis can further be broken down into major MIRC research priority areas:

- * Biotechnology / Varietal Improvement
- * Disease Management
- * IPM
- * Other (i.e., special projects)

Deadlines

Research proposals are due by November 15, 2005. 2005 Research Reports are also due on November 15th. Research proposals received after this deadline and research proposals from researchers who received MIRC funding in 2005, for which no research report has been submitted by November 15th will not be considered for funding. Note: All funded research projects must also submit a mid-program progress report no later than August 15, of each year. **Proposals and/or reports that do not conform to MIRC proposal format will not be considered for funding.**

Research proposals, reports and/or inquiries should be sent to:

Rocky Lundy
Mint Industry Research Council
P.O. Box 971
Stevenson, WA 98648
Phone: 509-427-3601
Fax: 509-427-7849 e-mail: mirc@gorge.net

PROPOSAL CONTENT

Proposals must be prepared in enough detail to permit realistic evaluation of the goals set forth within the proposal and to allow reviewers with sufficient information to judge the merit of each proposal in its own right. Research proposals will be considered based upon the entirety of their scope and technical content. **Proposals must be single-sided with at least a one inch margin in Arial 12 pt. font. Do not send proposals on diskette or on diskette with report.**

- 1. Abstract** – Proposals must include an abstract (not to exceed one page) which includes a statement of purpose, summary of objectives, actions to be taken, and anticipated results.
- 2. Principal Researcher(s)** - The research proposal must clearly identify the researcher(s) who will be involved with each project, the university or entity for which they work and their capabilities, and the funding requested for each segment of the proposal.
- 3. Statement of Research** - This must include a section which adequately describes the anticipated benefits and include a pertinent literature review which will clearly illustrate how the research will complement the current body of knowledge.
- 4. Research Project Goals and Objectives** - Each proposal must describe each of the proposed project's objectives and test designs in enough detail to allow assessment of the scientific merit of the proposal. Attention should be given to providing an adequate description of the aspects of the research to permit evaluation of national or regional relevance. Benefits from opportunities of intra or interdisciplinary collaboration should be emphasized.
- 5. Success Criteria and Timing**- Each proposal must include a detailed description of project benchmarks and how achievement will be measured. The approximate time needed to achieve each benchmark for each objective must also be addressed. Future funding is dependent upon meeting project benchmarks.
- 6. Budget**- A complete and comprehensive budget must be included to indicate the details of the requested funding over the duration of the proposed project. Costs

for each project objective must be separate and outlined individually. Detailed budget cost of personnel (including benefits), travel, land costs, materials, and other project related costs must be provided. Plans for cost sharing and distribution of funding between participating entities must be included.

- 7. Biographical Sketches and Individual Support-** A short biographical sketch for each researcher must be included . A table summarizing all current or pending research must be provided, along with the names of the supporting organization, if permissible.

Evaluation of Proposals - Review and screening of the proposals will be conducted by the MIRC Scientific Affairs Committee which may include an outside technical review. Recommendations on the funding of proposals will be made to the MIRC Board of Directors. Research grant applicants will be notified via written acknowledgement of finalized decisions in early February. Proposals should be approximately three to six pages in length excluding abstract and bibliography/literature review.

***Note:** The MIRC retains the right to fund all or part of a research proposal. The MIRC also retains the right to discontinue project funding, if in the judgment of the MIRC, the goals, objectives, and/or benchmarks of a project are not being accomplished.

REPORT CONTENT

Research reports must be single sided with at least a one inch margin in Aerial 12 pt. font. In addition to a hard copy of the report an electronic copy on diskette must also be submitted for inclusion into the electronic mint library. Reports must be received no later than November 15th.

- 1. Abstract-** Reports must include an abstract (not to exceed one page) which includes a statement of purpose, summary of objectives, actions taken, and results.
- 2. Principal Researchers-** Reports must clearly identify the researcher(s) who were involved in the research, to what extent, and their entities.
- 3. Statement of Purpose-** Reports must include a section which adequately describes the benefits of the conducted research and how the results compliment the current body of knowledge.
- 4. Materials & Methods-** An in-depth listing and discussion of which materials and what methods were used to conduct the research must be included in this section of the report.
- 5. Research Project Goals and Objectives-** Reports must include how the research met it's proposed goal(s) and objective(s) .

- 6. Success Criteria and Timing-** Each report must include a detailed description of how the research project was successful in meeting it's proposed benchmarks and timelines.
- 7. Data Analysis-** Reports must contain a detailed section on how the data was analyzed.
- 8. Results and Discussion-** Reports must include an in-depth discussion of the research project's results.
- 9. Conclusion-** A section which summarizes the research project must be included in the report.

Caution Proprietary Information

Proposals/reports may contain information that is the property of individual researchers, their research institutions, and/or the Mint Industry Research Council. Information contained in the proposal/report may be both potentially patentable and subject to trade secret protection under applicable State and Federal laws, including Wash. Rev. code 19.108.010-19.108.010 and 35 U.S.C. 202(c) & 205. Proposals/reports are submitted for the limited purpose of required reporting to Mint Industry Research Council members only and does not constitute a publication of any ideas contained therein. Any further publication or use of this proposal/report , including commercial use, of any idea contained therein requires the express written consent of the individual researchers, their research institutions, and/or the Mint Industry Research Council.