



Canadian Cattlemen's Association
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2011 COMPETITION FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS

The Beef Cattle Research Council, a division of the Canadian Cattlemen's Association, invites proposals for research. **The deadline is September 30, 2011.**

Research priorities are highlighted on the following page. Please refer to the priorities before deciding to submit a proposal. Research proposals will be evaluated for their likelihood to help the Canadian beef industry remain competitive and sustainable over the short and long-term, based on four criteria:

1. Relevance to the identified research priorities stated on the following pages,
2. Scientific merit,
3. A clear communication and technology transfer plan to facilitate the uptake of research results by the beef industry,
4. Significant leveraging of BCRC research funds with other industry and government research funds.

A list of ongoing projects is available on the CCA website: <http://www.cattle.ca/projects-in-progress>

Due to the narrow funding timelines, the BCRC will be bypassing its usual call for Letters of Intent and instead is requesting the submission of full proposals. Proposals must be prepared on the form provided by the BCRC. Copies of the form, together with additional details concerning the 2011 competition can be downloaded from the following address:

<http://www.cattle.ca/information-for-researchers-essential-documents>

Project Timeframe - Preference is given to projects that will be completed in three years or less.

Submission of Proposals for Research

Full Proposals must be submitted by September 30, 2011 in both electronic and hard copy format. Signatures are not required on the electronic versions, but must be included on the hard copy version. In addition to the proposal please submit electronic CV's, which are no longer than 8-10 pages in length, for the Principal Investigator and collaborating researchers. Proposals & CV's should be submitted to:

Linda Wakeling
Canadian Cattlemen's Association
310, 6715 8th St. NE
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Email: wakelingl@cattle.ca

PRIORITY AREAS FOR RESEARCH - 2011 COMPETITION

For the 2011 competition, the Beef Cattle Research Council welcomes any proposal that aligns with the priorities outlined below:

Program Objectives & Priorities

The Beef Cattle Research Council has defined two core research objectives:

- To *reduce costs of production* through enhance feed and forage production, increase feed efficiency, and decreased impact of animal health and welfare issues.
- To *improve beef demand and quality* through improved food safety; defining quality and yield benchmarks supporting the Canadian Beef Advantage; and improved beef quality.

In support of achieving the above objectives priority areas have been identified and include:

1. Beef Quality
 - Evaluation of Canadian carcass lean meat yields and cutout in support of the Canadian Beef Advantage and Canadian Grading system
 - Development and validation of cut-specific aging recommendations
 - Nutritional strategies to improve carcass value
 - Independent validation of marker panels for beef tenderness
2. Food Safety
 - Prevalence, transmission, and management of food borne pathogens
 - Quantification and mitigation of potential food safety and water quality issues associated with livestock cattle operations
3. Feed Efficiency
 - Develop and validate economical methods of identifying beef cattle with improved feed efficiency
 - Identification of alternative management, feeding strategies and technologies to reduce feed costs
4. Forage & Grassland Productivity
 - Economically improving the productivity of forage and pasture land
 - Survey of wintering practices in Canadian cow-calf operations (confinement, feed sources and methods used, length of feeding period, feed testing, and marketing practices)
5. Animal Health, Production Limiting Diseases, & Animal Care
 - Management strategies to minimizing the economic impact of lameness in the feedlot; causes, risk factors, avoidance and mitigation strategies
 - Improving the health of weaned calves; reduced antimicrobial use in feedlots
 - Effects of transit times and feed, water and rest breaks on transportation outcomes, shrink, and health and growth performance of weaned calves
 - Subacute ruminal acidosis; incidence, risk factors, avoidance and mitigation
 - Survey of current herd health practices in Canadian cow-calf operations (herd profile, health management and vaccination practices, disease incidence and treatment rates)

Additional information, including information on projects currently funded, is available from the following address <http://www.cattle.ca/learn-about-the-bcrc/>