The Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources (CSANR) Biologically-Intensive Agriculture and Organic Farming (BIOAg) program builds sustainable agriculture for healthy farms, communities, and ecosystems by fostering the development, understanding, and use of biologically-intensive and organic strategies.

Sustainable agriculture is economically viable, environmentally sound and socially responsible.

Goal:

The goal of this proposal solicitation is to engage a broad, interdisciplinary spectrum of WSU faculty in projects that further the development, understanding, and use of biologically intensive and/or organic principles, practices, and technologies to improve the sustainability of agriculture and food systems in Washington State. Addressing critical issues and producing meaningful change will require both interdisciplinarity that crosses departments, colleges, natural/social/economic sciences; and integration of WSU’s mission areas of research, extension, and education. Collaboration between research, extension, and teaching faculty, and non-WSU entities (producers, agencies, non-profit organizations) is encouraged in both project development and in translating results into impacts. In addition, BIOAg funding is used to meet three objectives: to stimulate new research initiatives, to augment critical gaps in existing areas of knowledge, and to move existing, game-changing research out into the real world.

Context:

The challenges and demands for sustainable agriculture and food systems are ever increasing. Rising input costs, climate change, environmental consequences of farming and transportation, and socioeconomic effects of farm policy are just a few of the pressures on our natural resources, infrastructure, and people engaged in agriculture and the larger food system. The BIOAg Program was established through a collaborative effort of WSU CSANR and concerned Washington stakeholders with the goal of meeting these challenges and building sustainable agriculture and food systems by developing, verifying, and furthering
the use of effective biologically intensive or organic strategies on all types of farms and all aspects of Washington’s agriculture and food systems.

**Priority areas for FY12***:

Priority consideration will be given to projects that address at least one of the following areas.

- Biologically intensive and organic approaches to sustainable management of:
  - Livestock and animal health;
  - Weeds, diseases, or pests;
  - Fertility;
  - Soil quality; or
  - Organic wastes
- Innovation and diversification to increase the resiliency and sustainability of farming and food systems in the face of climate change, volatile energy markets, or challenging economic conditions.
- Breeding, varietal selection, management practices, processing, or marketing practices to increase food quality, nutrition, safety or access.
- Assessment of the environmental, economic, and/or social sustainability of agriculture and food systems.

*We specifically encourage proposals in FY12 related to livestock or economics.*

**Previously Funded BIOAg Projects:**

The CSANR Grants Database [http://csanr.wsu.edu/db2011/Home](http://csanr.wsu.edu/db2011/Home) is designed to showcase the research funded through the Center by providing project reports, research outcomes, and publications resulting from funded research. The database can be navigated by year, researcher, project type, or topic. Users may also choose to browse all projects. FY12 BIOAg applicants are encouraged to browse the database to get a sense of the breadth of projects funded. Each project has a unique project ID number. In some cases CSANR has funded a single project for more than one year. In that case, project reports for each funded year are listed under the single project ID number.

**For FY12 CSANR solicits grant proposals of 4 types.**

- BIOAg Project Grants (Research, Extension, or Integrated)
- Planning Grants
- Outreach/Extension Curriculum Mini-Grants
- BIOAg Learning Site Project Grants
General Details:

- Final decisions regarding allocation of funding are dependent on the availability of funds.
- **The Lead PI must be a current WSU faculty member.**
- Application Instructions are included in the linked proposal forms below for each grant type.
- Proposals must be submitted through the electronic templates provided.
- Proposals are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to integrate research, extension, and education wherever this would improve project value.
- Projects that are leveraged with other grant or gift support are encouraged.
- Upon award notification, REX Lite Form will be required for awarded projects prior to funds being transferred.

Specific Details

1. **BIOAg Project Grants** *(Research, Extension, or Integrated)* are due by December 22, 2011

Description: Projects that develop, investigate, or demonstrate sustainability on farms or in food systems using BIOAg principles. These project grants are intended to seed exploration of new research ideas, overcome remaining technical/economic/social barriers to the use of existing BIOAg practices, and ensure that existing research is utilized. *Use of BIOAg Project grants to support graduate students is highly encouraged.*

A Letter of Intent is requested by November 18, 2011 to help us prepare for proposal review. **Proposals are DUE December 22, 2011.** Funding decisions will be finalized by mid-February 2012. Funding is expected to be used between March 2012 and June 2013. Potential may exist for renewal funding, depending on review and the availability of future funding. Excellent progress and efforts at leveraging funding will be expected.

**Project Grant Budgets:** $1,000 – $40,000 (as appropriate)

**Letter of Intent for BIOAg Project Proposals** - Requested by November 18, 2011 The letter of intent will be used to identify appropriate reviewers and potential additional collaborators. Please follow the format in the application instructions and submit to goldsmitht@wsu.edu as a Word Document.

**Application Form and Instructions for BIOAg Project Proposals** - Due December 22, 2011
The following proposal types will be reviewed separately from the BIOAg Projects and will be considered on rolling basis (no deadline). Awards will be made based on successful review and available funding.

2. **Project Planning Grants**

   **Description:** Planning grants are designed to support appropriate direct costs associated with preparing a project proposal for extramural funding consideration. Planning grant proposals must designate the specific extramural program(s) that the PI(s) intend to apply to.

   **Project Budgets:** Up to $10,000

   [Application Form and Instructions for Planning Grants](http://csanr.wsu.edu/pages/BIOAg_Grant_Program) - Rolling deadline until designated funds are expended

3. **BIOAg Outreach/Extension Curriculum Mini-Grants:**

   **Description:** Tours, workshops, curriculum, and other outreach that demonstrate or provide learning opportunities on sustainability and working BIOAg approaches on farms or in food systems. Proposals that develop “durable” products (i.e. webinars, videos, documents) rather than single-opportunity events are encouraged.

   *Special consideration in FY12 will be given to Outreach and Extension curriculum proposals that build new or expand existing Extension/Outreach programs based on previously funded BIOAg research projects (does not necessarily require prior BIOAg research). Please visit the CSANR Grants Database ([http://csanr.wsu.edu/db2011/Home - browse by topic](http://csanr.wsu.edu/db2011/Home/browse_by_topic)) for examples of previous research areas with substantive results.*

   **Project Budgets:** $100 – $5,000

   [Application Form and Instructions for Outreach/Extension Curriculum and Learning Site Proposals](http://csanr.wsu.edu/pages/BIOAg_Grant_Program) - Rolling deadline until designated funds are expended

4. **BIOAg Learning Site Project Grants:**

   **Description:** Tours, workshops, projects, and improvements at BIOAg Learning Sites (see below) that demonstrate BIOAg in action and/or increase the quality of outreach at the Learning Site. Learning Site proposals must be discussed and planned with one or both liaisons to the site (listed below).

   **Project Budgets:** $100 – $3,000
Application Form and Instructions for Outreach/Extension Curriculum and Learning Site Proposals - Rolling deadline until designated funds are expended

BIOAg Learning Sites

Learning Site Projects and proposals must be discussed and planned with one or both of the site liaisons listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Site</th>
<th>Liaisons</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quillisascut Farm, Rice</td>
<td>Chad Kruger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Circle Farm, Carnation</td>
<td>Doug Collins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maple K Farm, Colfax</td>
<td>Steve VanVleet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Selection Farms, Sunnyside</td>
<td>Chad Kruger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Nicholson Orchard, Peshastin</td>
<td>David Granatstein</td>
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<tr>
<td>S &amp; S Homestead Farm, Lopez</td>
<td>Lynne Carpenter-Boggs</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Aeschliman Farm, Colfax</td>
<td>Steve VanVleet, Chad Kruger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Acres, Woodinville</td>
<td>Chad Kruger, Doug Collins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSU-Puyallup R&amp;E Station</td>
<td>Craig Cogger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSU-Pullman Organic CSA</td>
<td>Lynne Carpenter-Boggs</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Learning site liaison email phone #
Lynne Carpenter-Boggs lcboggs@wsu.edu 509-335-1553
Craig Cogger cogger@wsu.edu 253-445-4512
Doug Collins dpcollins@wsu.edu 253-445-4658
David Granatstein granats@wsu.edu 509-663-8181 x222
Chad Kruger cekruger@wsu.edu 509-663-8181 x242
Steve VanVleet svanvleet@wsu.edu 509-397-6290