

Midwest Dairy Association

Review of Literature Regarding Antibiotic Use in Adult Dairy Cows and Incidence of Antibiotic Resistance in Human Pathogens

Request for Proposals

Background

Dairy producers' primary goal is to produce safe and wholesome dairy foods for human consumption. To achieve that goal, producers are committed to disease prevention through the use of modern animal housing, cow comfort, carefully balanced rations, and biosecurity procedures to minimize disease in their cows. As is true for humans, even the best prevention programs are not perfect and cows sometimes become ill. For illnesses caused by bacteria (e.g., pneumonia, udder infections), antibiotics are responsibly used to try to restore the cow to good health. The prudent use of antibiotics is important to reduce livestock pain and suffering, as well as to minimize both animal and production losses due to disease. Responsible antibiotic use helps to minimize antimicrobial resistance in bacteria, which can impact animal health and food safety. Antibiotic resistance concerns are shared by not only dairy producers, but also by veterinarians, governmental agencies, the public health community and consumers. Guarding against antibiotic resistant bacteria in animals and the potential for subsequent human exposure is a priority for dairy producers and the dairy industry.

Midwest Dairy Association™ is made up of eight geographic divisions across nine states, with each division governed by a dairy farmer board. Midwest Dairy Association implements programs that help increase sales and demand for dairy products and dairy ingredients and help improve the economic well-being of Midwest dairy producers.

Midwest Dairy Association seeks proposals to review existing literature about the extent, occurrence and specific antibiotic therapy use in adult dairy cows in U.S. herds. The review will include an overview of the antibiotic types and modes of use, and the targeted bacteria. The review will also include an overview of antibiotic resistance in human pathogens in the U.S. over the past 50 years. This overview will include rates, incidence and details of specific antibiotic resistance. To extent that information is available in the literature, the review should address issues of antibiotic use in adult cows over the past 50 years and any changes in the extent or character of antibiotic resistance associated with or caused by such use.

The funds are restricted to project expenses related to the review and summarization of literature. These funds must be expended within six months of the award contract approval and will be dispersed in equal increments from the date of the research contract initiation to the time of the interim report (3 months) and approved final report has been received and is found to meet the objectives of the review (six months).

Should the literature reviewer require a no-cost contract extension in order to proceed with journal publication, a request should be made in writing to the project manager 30 days prior to the expected date of the final report.

Deadline

Proposals should be submitted electronically in MS Word to:
Wendy Pinkerton, Project Manager
Demeter Communications
406 S. Edwin St.
Champaign, IL 61821
wendy.demeter@yahoo.com
P: 217-351-1807
C: 217-637-1428

Submissions must be received by 5 pm CT, June 10, 2009

Funding

A \$15,000 award will be made in equal increments (\$7,500) on or around October 15, 2009, and January 30, 2010, and only after the final report is approved and accepted by Midwest Dairy Association.

Fund Management

- The funds will provide support to professional and academic staff to complete the literature review.
- Funds will be limited to project expenses. Regular salaries or other long-term commitments will not be covered.
- Funds may not be used for overhead, indirect costs or direct cost for purchasing equipment by the program, the department, the college and/or the university

Proposal Format

The proposal should not exceed 2 single-spaced pages, excluding budget, documentation and biosketches.

The required font is 11 pt. Times New Roman and the minimum margin width is 1 inch.

All proposals must include:

- Title of work
- Project leader, with phone, email, and mailing address
- Project team members and roles
- Outline of strategy to meet objectives of literature review
- Description of final report format
- Detailed proposed budget
- Biosketches of all participants

Review Process

A review committee made of the Midwest Dairy Association Scientific Advisory Council and Midwest Dairy Association staff will review the proposals and make recommendations for funding. Should a proposal be submitted from an institution represented by a member of the Council, that Council member will be excused from the review of that specific proposal. Funding decision will be made no later than June 25, 2009.

Proposals not following the prescribed format or missing sections will not be evaluated.

For more information, contact:

Wendy Feik Pinkerton

217-351-1807

wendy.demeter@yahoo.com