

2017 Specialty Crop Sample proposal

PROJECT TITLE: HIGH TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE FOR USE IN SPECIALTY CROP FOOD PRODUCTION

ABSTRACT

XYZ University requests funds to support 6 high tunnel workshops in rural ABC County Wyoming. The workshops beginning in January of 2018 through June of 2020 will include the construction of at least one high tunnel per location. Workshops have the goal of enhancing the competitiveness of specialty crops through more sustainable, diverse, and resilient specialty crop systems. The specific objectives include increasing the knowledge of individuals on how to construct and use high tunnels in order to increase the amount of specialty crops available through season extension. These workshops will help overcome the lack of knowledge that can be intimidating in the construction process, encouraged the use of local materials and the use of simple yet sturdy designs that survive Wyoming's challenging weather conditions. Enough of these workshops have been conducted in the past so there is a general knowledge that the XYZ University is the "go to" source for information and the possibility of conducting workshops. Cooperating with local school and nonprofit representatives the schedules and time lines for selected workshops will be developed. For each event the project manager will develop and purchase the needed materials and work with project owners to promote event through advertisement. It is the nonprofits responsibility to publicize and recruit workshop participants. The high tunnel structures are built in a "learn by doing environment". Past public participation in workshops and seminars has exceeded all expectations. The workshops encourage hands-on learning and the opportunity to discuss methods for crop diversity and production. The possibility of building a low cost-high tunnel structure that provides protection against Wyoming's variable growing conditions and extends the growing season piques the interest of frustrated backyard gardeners, commercial producers and nonprofit entities interested in growing local specialty food crops . These workshops last for between 8 to 16 hours of hands-on instructional learning each. This time frame provides ample opportunity to educate participants on the construction and use of these structures. Other educational discussions provided during the workshops will include: the benefit of extending the growing season; how-to-grow traditional and non-traditional crops (items not usually produced in a traditional Wyoming setting), organic verses non organic and pest control strategies. The project owners will manage workshop built high tunnels for educational demonstration and production of crops that will benefit local communities. The primary locations for this grant are focused in ABC County and include nonprofits and schools. All will be built between April of 2018 and June of 2020. Do to the hands on nature of the workshops a team approach of having two people available has proven to be the most successful. To date, over 60 high tunnels have been constructed in Wyoming via these XYZ University

Extension educational workshops. Workshops have been conducted in nearly all counties of the state but demand for more workshops continues to remain high.

DURATION OF PROJECT

Start Date: 1/1/2018

End Date: 9/1/2020

PROJECT PARTNER AND SUMMARY

XYZ University through 6 hands on educational workshops will educate producers on the construction and use of high tunnels to extend the production season of specialty crops.

PROJECT PURPOSE

PROVIDE THE SPECIFIC ISSUE, PROBLEM OR NEED THAT THE PROJECT WILL ADDRESS

Fresh vegetable and fruit production in Wyoming is a challenge. Seasonal temperature fluctuations, wind, and hail can all negatively influence production specialty crop commodities. In addition to protection from the biotic factors listed above, high tunnels also offer season extension benefits. These benefits greatly increase the production and variety of specialty crops available to Wyoming producers in the local food distribution channel. Production of fresh, locally or regionally grown produce and fruit is being demanded by more of the population. The purpose of this project is to educate individuals on construction and management of high tunnels. At the end of each of the six workshops planned they will have gained sufficient knowledge to be able to construct and manage high tunnels. The use of high tunnels allows local producers the opportunity to fill some of this demand for longer periods of time. They have also been popular with schools to augment Farm to School programs and non-profit organizations promoting local food production. This project would also target a potentially underserved audience in ABC County.

PROVIDE A LISTING OF THE OBJECTIVES THAT THIS PROJECT HOPES TO ACHIEVE

Objective 1 Increase the knowledge of individuals on how to construct high tunnels

Objective 2 Increase the knowledge of individuals on use of high tunnels.

PROVIDE A WORKPLAN TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES

(01/2018- 03/2018) Create and market applications for workshops

(03/2018-04/2018) Select workshop sites

(04/2018): Workshop Lusk Wyoming

(06/2018): Workshop Casper Wyoming

(08/2018): Workshop Lander Wyoming

(04/2019): Workshop Riverton Wyoming

(06/2019): Workshop Sheridan Wyoming

(06/2020): Workshop Evanston Wyoming
(04/2018-06/2020) Follow up surveys of workshop attendees' increase in knowledge and high tunnel usage.

PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

Estimate the number of project beneficiaries: 150

Does this project directly benefit socially disadvantaged farmers as defined in the RFA? Yes No

Does this project directly benefit beginning farmers as defined in the RFA? Yes No

STATEMENT OF SOLELY ENHANCING SPECIALTY CROPS

I confirm that this **project solely** enhances the competitiveness of specialty crops in accordance with and defined by [7 U.S.C. 1621](#).

CONTINUATION PROJECT INFORMATION

HOW THIS PROJECT DIFFERS FROM AND BUILD ON THE PREVIOUS EFFORTS

Interest remains high in high tunnel construction and production, and additional grant funds would be used to continue to expand the audience in Wyoming. This project would also target a potentially underserved audience on and around the Wind River Indian Reservation.

OUTCOMES OF THE PREVIOUS EFFORTS

772 people participated in a total of 47 workshops (average 16 participants per workshop). To date, over 60 high tunnels have been constructed via XYZ University Extension educational workshops. These workshops have been conducted in nearly all counties of the state.

LESSONS LEARNED ON POTENTIAL PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS

Nearly every survey respondent (from previous educational workshops) indicated they had increased knowledge. We are planning on using a new self-assessment form to more easily extrapolate the captured data. In the past we have not provided much information maintenance of high tunnels and this has caused some issues with lack of maintenance damage to several structures. We plan on including more information on structure maintenance in additional workshops.

THE LIKELIHOOD OF THE PROJECT BECOMING SELF-SUSTAINING

The grant funds will be used to train additional people on how to build and use high tunnels for specialty crop production. We hope to increase the subset of the population that can build their own projects using local materials that are cost effective and not dependent on grant funds.

OTHER SUPPORT FROM FEDERAL OR STATE GRANT PROGRAMS

The SCBGP will not fund duplicative projects. Did you submit this project to a Federal or State grant program other than the SCBGP for funding and/or is a Federal or State grant program other than the SCBGP funding the project currently?

Yes

No

EXTERNAL PROJECT SUPPORT

External project support by organizations not involved in the project include the BCD Conservation District, CFF Elementary School, the EFG Community Garden in Lander, the Ag Canyon Center, the FGH Honor Farm Correctional Facility, and Native Ag Associates.

EXPECTED MEASURABLE OUTCOMES

OUTCOME(S) AND INDICATOR(S)/SUB-INDICATOR(S)

Select the outcome measure(s) that are applicable for this project from the listing below.

- Outcome 1:** Enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops through increased sales (required for marketing projects)
- Outcome 2:** Enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops through increased consumption
- Outcome 3:** Enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops through increased access
- Outcome 4:** Enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops through greater capacity of sustainable practices of specialty crop production resulting in increased yield, reduced inputs, increased efficiency, increased economic return, and/or conservation of resources
- Outcome 5:** Enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops through more sustainable, diverse, and resilient specialty crop systems
- Outcome 6:** Enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops through increasing the number of viable technologies to improve food safety
- Outcome 7:** Enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops through increased understanding of the ecology of threats to food safety from microbial and chemical sources
- Outcome 8:** Enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops through enhancing or improving the economy as a result of specialty crop development

OUTCOME INDICATOR(S)

Outcome 5: Enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops through more sustainable, diverse, and resilient specialty crop systems

Indicator 8: 90 individuals will have gained knowledge about science-based (high tunnel construction, maintenance and production) through the workshop outreach and education program. 60 gardeners and/or students will have use of the high tunnels build from workshops.

DATA COLLECTION TO REPORT ON OUTCOMES AND INDICATORS

Individuals who complete the workshop will be surveyed for pre and post knowledge on high tunnel construction, maintenance and production. Participants will be asked to provide contact information in order to perform a follow-up survey post program. Nonprofit groups using the high tunnels built during workshops will be surveyed at end of grant for additional educational information.

BUDGET NARRATIVE

Budget Summary	
Expense Category	Funds Requested
Personnel	
Fringe Benefits	
Travel	3928
Equipment	
Supplies	14,812
Contractual	5760
Other	
Direct Costs Subtotal	
Indirect Costs	0

Total Budget	24,500
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In-kind as required by State

Extension Educator time: The XYZ University will utilize two extension educators to work on portions of this project. In-kind salary of \$8,200 will be used as match.

TRAVEL

#	Trip Destination	Type of Expense (airfare, car rental, hotel, meals, mileage, etc.)	Unit of Measure (days, nights, miles)	# of Units	Cost per Unit	# of Travelers Claiming the Expense	Funds Requested
1	ABC County area	hotels	nights	12	\$89	1	\$1068
2	ABC County area	hotels	nights	4	\$89	1	\$356
3	ABC County area	miles	580 miles	6	.34 x 580= \$197	1	\$1182
4	ABC County area	miles	445 miles	2	.34 x 445= \$151	1	\$302
5	ABC County area	Per diem	3 days	6	2 days 2x.75x\$51 plus	2	\$765

					one day @\$51=\$127.50		
6	ABC County area	Per diem	3 days	2	2 days 2x.75x\$51 plus one day @\$51=\$127.50	2	\$255

Travel Subtotal	\$3928
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TRAVEL JUSTIFICATION

- Trip 1 (04/2018): Workshop Lusk Wyoming**
- Trip 2(06/2018): Workshop Casper Wyoming**
- Trip 3(08/2018): Workshop Lander Wyoming**
- Trip 4(04/2019): Workshop Riverton Wyoming**
- Trip 5(06/2019): Workshop Sheridan Wyoming**
- Trip 6(06/2020): Workshop Evanston Wyoming**

These educational hands on portion of these workshops require 24 hours to complete including travel time and prep time.

CONFORMING WITH YOUR TRAVEL POLICY

By checking the box to the right, I confirm that my organization’s established travel policies will be adhered to when completing the above-mentioned trips in accordance with [2 CFR 200.474](#) or [48 CFR subpart 31.2](#) as applicable.

SUPPLIES

Item Description	Per-Unit Cost	# of Units/Pieces Purchased	Acquire When?	Funds Requested
High Tunnel material package	\$1972	3	Spring of 2016	\$5916
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Replacement Ryobi batteries	\$100	10	Spring of 2016	\$1000
Ryobi combo tool kits	\$300	3	Spring of 2016	\$900
Workshop manuals	\$12	90	Spring of 2016	\$1080

Supplies Subtotal	14,812
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SUPPLIES JUSTIFICATION

High tunnel material kits needed to construct high tunnels at workshops.

Item	Cost Per Unit	Quantity	Total Cost
1. Plastic PVC Pipes 2 in. x 20 ft.	20.00	11	\$ 220.00
2. Plastic PVC Pipes 2 in. x 10 ft.	7.00	6	42.00
3. Rebar ½ in. x 24 in.	2.00	40	80.00
3. Glue / Primer Set 16 oz.	20.00	1	20.00
4. Screws (Decking Screws)			
1 in. Box 150 Screws (1 lb.)	9.00	2	18.00
2 in. Box 150 Screws (1 lb.)	9.00	1	9.00
3 in. Box Screws (1 lb.)	9.00	1	9.00
4 in. Box Screws (1 lb.)	9.00	1	9.00
5. 1 x 4 Wood Boards			
1 in. x 4 in. x 10 ft.	7.00	16	112.00
1 in. x 4 in. x 8 ft.	6.00	6	36.00
6. 2 x 4 Wood Boards			
2 in. x 4in. x 12ft.	5.00	4	20.00
2 in. x 4in. x 10ft.	4.00	10	40.00
2 in. x 4in. x 8ft.	3.00	15	45.00
7. Plastic Cover (11 mil) 28 ft. x 54 ft. (price of plastic, shipping costs are extra)	400.00	1	400.00
8. Batten Tape	45.00	1	45.00
9. Hinges	5.00	6	30.00
10. Latch	8.00	2	16.00
11. Paint	25.00	2	50.00
<hr/> Sub Total			\$ 1230.00

Dutch doors add 2- 2x4s, 2 latches and 4 hinges - \$58

To add rollup sides you will need to add 70 lineal feet of 1x4 boards, two additional 2"x20', three 2"x10' pvc pipes as well as change the plastic size to 24' x 54' and add a second plastic piece that measures 4' by at least 65 feet. - \$125

Raised beds 10x2x16's @25.90adds \$259

Vents 4 @ 75 = \$300.00

Total cost of kit \$1972.00

Additional replacement batteries are needed for tools used during workshops. Batteries have limited recharge life span.

Additional Ryobi combo tool kits required for workshop participants for teaching purposes at the workshop

Manuals are needed to provide reference material for workshop participants.

CONTRACTUAL/CONSULTANT

#	Name/Organization	Hourly Rate/Flat Rate	Funds Requested
1	John Doe	6@ \$40 per hour x 24 hours	\$5760

Contractual/Consultant Subtotal	\$5760
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CONTRACTUAL JUSTIFICATION

The project activities of the consultant will include planning, conducting and surveying of participants for 6 high tunnel workshops to meet the objectives and outcomes of the project. Due to the limited amount of time available for Mr. Smith and Mr. Jones plan and market the workshops a contractor will to be used to help meet the anticipated outcomes and objectives.

Contractor duty for each activity.

Identify 3 potential locations for HT workshops.	John Doe, contractor.	January – March 2018
Conduct 3 HT workshops and survey pre and post knowledge	John Doe, contractor. John Smith and Bill Jones, UW Extension Educators.	April 2018 – August 2018
Identify 3 potential locations for HT workshops.	John Doe, contractor.	January 2019
Conduct 3 HT workshops survey pre and post	John Doe, contractor. John Smith and Bill Jones, UW Extension	May 2019 – June 2020

knowledge	Educators.	
Post participant survey to identify individuals who have used information, used the additional high tunnels or used the workshop knowledge gained to build their own high tunnels.	Jon Doe, contractor.	Through September 2020

I confirm that my organization follows the same policies and procedures used for procurements from non-federal sources, which reflect applicable State and local laws and regulations and conform to the Federal laws.

PROGRAM INCOME

Source/Nature of Program Income	Description of how you will reinvest the program income into the project to solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops	Estimated Income
		0.00

Program Income Total	0.00
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No program income is anticipated.