

## Request for Proposals Developing CAHNRS Decision Tools

### **Background**

CAHNRS faculty have been very successful in developing and implementing state-of-the-art decision support systems that: i) link research-based models with real-time or near real-time data to facilitate decision-making by stakeholders; and/or ii) enhance the availability and accessibility of large datasets to users. Examples of CAHNRS decision tools include the [Tree Fruit Decision Aid System \(DAS\)](#), tools on [Ag Weather Network](#) mobile, [Small Grains](#) tools on the web, and the Pesticide Information Online ([PICOL](#)) database.

The intent of this RFP is to support the development or improvement of CAHNRS decision support tools that significantly enhance the ability of our stakeholders to access information that supports informed and timely decision making. This RFP is part of a larger CAHNRS effort, including web and mobile platforms, collectively designed to improve delivery and availability of information from CAHNRS research, academic, and extension endeavors.

Decision support tools require advanced programming skills, as well as access to and integration with appropriate data sources. Currently, the programming expertise necessary to develop decision tools exists in three CAHNRS centers: i) Ag Weather Network (Gerrit Hoogenboom, Director); ii) Tree Fruit DAS (Vince Jones, Director); and iii) CAHNRS Computing and Web Resources (Jim Boyer, Director). CAHNRS faculty who seek to fund development of decision tools through this opportunity should consult with the appropriate Center Director to define the scope and cost of the project before preparing a proposal.

### **Proposal Details:**

- Length: 2 pages, maximum
- Contact/lead and team involved in the project. Identify the programming center (see above) that you will collaborate with to develop the tool. The center Director must be consulted during preparation of this proposal and must agree to the proposed task and budget. Their written affirmation should be included with the proposal.
- Describe the decision tool and stakeholder group served by its development. Describe the existing research and/or other data and information sources that will drive the tool.
- Describe how and where the tool will be made available (existing website, mobile devices, etc.) to users in a stable and durable form.
- Timeline for tool development and process employed to test the tool with stakeholders.

- Itemized budget. Funds can be used to support programmer time to develop the tool, for beta testing, and to facilitate access. The maximum amount for any single award is \$50,000. The budget should be reviewed and signed by certified fiscal personnel.
- Proposals are due **November 15, 2014**. Submit proposals and questions electronically to [extension@wsu.edu](mailto:extension@wsu.edu).
- Funds will be available **January 1, 2015** and must be spent within the calendar year.