



Swine Health Information Center

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The Swine Health Information Center is soliciting proposals to address the following priorities for African Swine Fever research in Vietnam. The Center is interested in supporting U.S.-based researchers with research memorandums of understanding or direct contacts with university or pork production animal health researchers in Vietnam. Proposal may be completely Vietnamese laboratory and/or field based or may contain a U.S. laboratory component (non-USDA laboratory only) but, if that is proposed, it must also include a field validation or field trial component in Vietnam. The objective of these researchable priorities is to help Vietnamese pork production respond and recover from the ASF epidemic and to help U.S. pork producers learn lessons about ASF epidemiology and management, in preparation should the virus enter the U.S.

There is a pool of approximately \$1,000,000 available for the research, averaging \$100,000 per project but individual projects should be expected to be lower or higher. Collaborative projects demonstrating the most ***urgency and timeliness of completion***, as well as efficient use of funds, ***will be prioritized*** for funding.

Please respond with your priority topic(s) of interest via email to psundberg@swinehealth.org by March 4, if you intend to submit a proposal. Full proposals should be in the standard Word, SHIC proposal format, which will be sent in response to your confirmation of interest. The full proposal should be no more than three pages to describe the project objectives, procedures to achieve the objectives, a description of the quality assurance/quality control plan, the timeline for the proposed research and the institution's certification of the proposal. Additional to those three pages are the proposed budget page and letters of cooperation or collaboration with the appropriate Vietnamese researchers. **Full proposals should be submitted via email to research@swinehealth.org. The deadline for proposal submission is 5:00 PM CST, March 30.** For questions, contact Dr. Paul Sundberg at psundberg@swinehealth.org or (515) 451-6652.

Research priorities for ASF study in Vietnam, in random order:

- Determining diagnostic specificity and sensitivity of ASF ELISA antibody detection.
- Understanding protocols for biocontainment of initial infection on the farm into one barn, allowing other biosecure barns to remain in production.
- Researching innovative disinfection protocols that result in disinfection and a negative result using a commercially available ASF PCR test.
- Verifying carbon composting materials, time and temperature under different environmental conditions that will result in ASF inactivation.
- Identifying pathways of entry of the virus onto farms to enhance information for improving biosecurity.
- Investigating ASF neutralization during or following composting.
- Investigating biosecurity of feed, feed components and delivery as a risk for ASF introduction.
- Validating protocols for the targeted removal of individually housed sows when infected to move the herd to negative status.
- Researching the possible role of mice and rats as vectors for ASF infection.
- Comparing sensitivity and specificity of pen-side tests for ASF detection.
- Understanding ASF persistence in manure slurries or pits and identifying protocols or procedures to inactivate the virus in this material.