

## Board Research Initiative Request for Proposals

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### Intestinal Protozoa of Turkeys

#### Background

Intestinal protozoa are a significant health challenge for the US turkey industry. The organisms chiefly associated with disease include *Cochlosoma anatis* and *Trichomonas sp.* Since the withdrawal of roxarsone and nitarsone there are no effective treatments or preventions available for these protozoa. Affected flocks have decreased livability and weight gain and poor feed efficiency and uniformity, resulting in significant economic impact to the turkey industry.

#### Research Questions

- What currently available compounds or products could be used to treat or prevent these protozoal infections when administered through feed or drinking water?
- What are the environmental reservoirs of these organisms and what interventions can be developed to prevent exposure of commercial turkeys to them?
- What husbandry and management practices can be developed to minimize the impact of infection by intestinal protozoa?

#### Areas of Focus

- Objective evaluation of compounds or products for their ability to either prevent infection of turkeys by intestinal protozoa or treat established infections of intestinal protozoa in turkeys. Both feed and drinking water application should be evaluated.
- Identify the environmental reservoirs for the intestinal protozoa. Devise management strategies to prevent exposure of turkeys to intestinal protozoa.
- Develop and evaluate management or husbandry practices to minimize the impact of intestinal protozoa infection in turkeys.

#### Proposal Submission

Researchers should submit only a maximum two-page pre-proposal summary that describes the parts of the objectives they wish to address and what they propose to do. A title, the researcher's name, affiliation, and email address should be included in the pre-proposal. Details of procedures or specifics of the budget should not be included in the pre-proposal submission. Pre-proposals should be submitted in Microsoft Word format to Debbie Jorgensen at [djorgensen@uspoultry.org](mailto:djorgensen@uspoultry.org). **DEADLINE FOR PRE-PROPOSAL SUBMISSION IS NOVEMBER 1, 2017.**

The outcome of the pre-proposal review will be one of three responses from USPOULTRY:

- Send a full research proposal for consideration.
- Please make specific modifications in what you are proposing and send a full proposal.
- Do not send a full research proposal.

Full proposals will follow established USPOULTRY guidelines as seen at [www.uspoultry.org](http://www.uspoultry.org). Funds can be used for graduate students, technicians, research supplies, and work and meeting travel. Funds cannot be used for professional (faculty or postdoc) salaries or equipment purchase. Up to 15% overhead is allowed. No budget, including overhead, may exceed \$125,000.