



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

## Yuma Center of Excellence for Desert Agriculture

### Desert Ag Seed Funding Program Request For Applications

#### This program provides funding for two types of projects:

- Type 1 - Preliminary applied research in support of a future grant program application.
- Type 2 - Proof-of-concept of new agricultural applications for a new or existing technology.

**Available funding:** Up to \$10,000 of new funding per quarter, unspent funds will roll over to the following quarter. A maximum total budget of \$10,000 is available per project. Matching funds may be available to University of Arizona researchers, contact YCEDA staff for more information.

**Duration of project:** Projects will have a maximum duration of four quarters.

**Due dates:** Proposal evaluation will begin on the first day of each quarter (Jan., April, July & Oct.). Proposals submitted to [YCEDAseedfunding@cals.arizona.edu](mailto:YCEDAseedfunding@cals.arizona.edu) by 11:59pm MST on the last day of each quarter will be evaluated the following quarter (e.g. proposals submitted between Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup> will be evaluated in April). Unsuccessful proposals may be resubmitted if reviewer feedback is addressed.

#### Project requirements:

- The project or technology this funding will support must directly benefit the desert agriculture industry. Priority will be given to issues identified by the YCEDA Advisory Council.
- Only one project per principal investigator will be accepted each quarter.
- At least one stakeholder letter of support is required to be submitted with a proposal.
- A one-page final report will be required thirty days after the project end date.

#### Application Instructions:

Proposals must be submitted on the YCEDA "Application for Seed Funding" form. The following sections must be completed for application consideration.

1. Non-Technical Abstract (250 word limit): This section will be published online. Industry stakeholders are the audience for this section.
2. Introduction (400 word limit): Type 1-Include a succinct description of the problem that this work will begin to address, or Type 2-Describe the problem that will be addressed and how the technology will benefit the industry. Availability to the industry and economic feasibility must be described with a new technology.
3. Objectives (200 word limit): List each objective for this project.
4. Method (600 word limit)s: Briefly describe the project methods.
5. Timeline with milestones (200 word limit): List milestones by quarter.
6. Expected results and next steps (350 word limit): Describe the next steps following completion of this project's objectives. Type 1 - Include the funding program to which you expect to apply, the focus of the application, and the expected application date. Type 2 - Describe the steps that must be taken for commercialization, the advantages and expected cost for implementation to the industry.
7. Budget and budget justification (250 word limit): **This funding program will not fund indirect costs,** equipment, repairs or maintenance contracts, publication, conference registration or conference travel. Funding may not include PI salary.

**Project development:** YCEDA staff are available to advise on project development and industry and academic collaboration. This seed funding program is one of many ways to participate in desert agriculture research, please see the document "Why Work with YCEDA?" or contact YCEDA staff for more information.

**Review process:** Proposals will be reviewed first by an ad hoc scientific advisory committee followed by a stakeholder review panel. The stakeholder panel will make all funding decisions. YCEDA staff do not make funding recommendations or decisions.

For forms and more information visit [DesertAgSolutions.org](http://DesertAgSolutions.org) or contact [YCEDAseedfunding@cals.arizona.edu](mailto:YCEDAseedfunding@cals.arizona.edu)