



FACT SHEET

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative

Inter-Disciplinary Engagement in Animal Systems (A1261)

The Inter-Disciplinary Engagement in Animal Systems (IDEAS) is a cross cutting program that focuses on interdisciplinary research anchored in animal and veterinary medical sciences to support food and agriculture production. The priority of this program is to seek to bridge the traditional disciplinary divides to address complex issues in animal agriculture and aquaculture. With the many challenges facing the food and agriculture industry in the United States, there is a need for inter-disciplinary work to inspire innovation, creativity, and develop solutions.

IMPORTANT FACTS

- IDEAS program was launched in FY 2019 as one of NIFA's Crosscutting Programs within the AFRI Foundational and Applied Science Program.
- IDEAS funds Standard, Conference, and FASE (Strengthening Standard, New Investigator, Strengthening Conference, Seed, Equipment, and Sabbatical) Grants [only](#).
- Projects must be Integrated (Research and Extension or Education) [only](#).
- Project budgets are \$1,000,000 per project for project periods of up to five years.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- Colleges and universities
- 1994 Land-Grant Institutions
- Hispanic-serving agricultural [colleges and universities](#)

PROGRAM AREA PRIORITIES

Precision animal management

- Develop technologies to enhance animal production and increase productivity
 - Use of spatial and temporal resources
 - Resource-smart feeding, monitoring, breeding, and management
- Optimize animal management for improved product quality, animal health and human health

Environmental synergies of animal production

- Optimize animal management for environmental health
 - Manage emissions to the atmosphere and hydrosphere to achieve synergy between animal production and environmental quality
 - Recycling, reusing co-products of animal agriculture - manure management for efficient nutrient use

NIFA invests in and advances agricultural research, education, and extension and seeks to make transformative discoveries that solve societal challenges.



Societal aspects of animal welfare

- Identify and resolve factors that influence building trust around animal agriculture, bridging between consumers and producers
- Examine consumer life experiences and socioeconomic factors that influence perceptions of agricultural animal welfare how production systems should respond
- Explore opportunities for meaningful public engagement

APPLICANT RESOURCES

*Projects funded in the IDEAS program: [https://cris.nifa.usda.gov/cgi-bin/starfinder/0?path=fastlink1.txt&id=anon&pass=&search=\(GC=A1261\)&format=WEBTITLESGLIY](https://cris.nifa.usda.gov/cgi-bin/starfinder/0?path=fastlink1.txt&id=anon&pass=&search=(GC=A1261)&format=WEBTITLESGLIY)

More information and detailed application instructions can be found in the AFRI Foundational and Applied Science RFA: <https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/agriculture-and-food-research-initiative-foundational-applied-science-program>

Additional AFRI Request for Applications Resources can be found here:

<https://nifa.usda.gov/resource/afri-request-applications-resources>

AFRI FAQs: <https://nifa.usda.gov/resource/afri-frequently-asked-questions-faq>.

PROGRAM AREA PRIORITY CONTACT

Dr. Andres Cibils, andres.cibils@usda.gov

Dr. Ganesh Bora, ganesh.bora@usda.gov