

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

5:00 PM CST, 1/27/2013

RFP TITLE: PUBLICATION AND DIFFUSION OF THE ADVANTAGES OF US SOYBEAN PRODUCTS VS. SOUTH AMERICAN ORIGIN

RFP CONTACT:

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PROPOSAL DEADLINE: JANUARY 27, 2023 – 5:00PM CST

INTRODUCTION:

In the past years, important findings on the nutritional value U.S. soybean meal (SBM) compared to other sources in animal diets have been achieved through different USSEC activities. This proposal aims to review, organize, and summarize their work in order to present them in meetings and publish all those more relevant in local magazines, international meetings, and scientific journals. These publications will provide valuable information to differentiate U.S. SBM from other protein and energy sources to managers and nutritionists of the feed compound industry worldwide.

PURPOSE OF RFP:

USSEC seeks a contractor to organize a team of scientists and technical managers to prepare a series of documents on the findings obtained during the past three years on the differentiation of soy products according to origin. In this respect, the aim of this proposal is to prepare different manuscripts to be published in International magazines and Scientific Meetings. In addition, two scientific papers will be prepared to be sent for evaluation and hopefully published in high impact scientific journals

BACKGROUND & PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

In the past years, some relevant works have been published on the chemical composition and nutritional value of soy products (i.e., de Coca-Sinova et al., 2008; Frikha et al., 2012; García-Rebollar et al., 2016; Ibáñez et al., 2020; Aguirre et al., 2022). However, the variability observed in chemical composition and nutritive value because of origin of the beans, year of recollection, weather conditions, and target species, suggests that further information is required to be better

understand the effects of these factors in animal feeding. The information achieved in previous USSEC activities could be very valuable in order to achieve this main objective.

The main objective of the current proposal is to prepare a series of documents on the findings obtained during the past three years on the differentiation of soy products according to the origin of the beans. In particular, the results and knowledge achieved from the different USSEC activities, will be organized and sent to various market “segments” for publication. In this respect, the aim of this proposal is to prepare a series of manuscripts to be published in local and International magazines [i.e., 3&3, Nutrinews, Avinews, Actualidad Agropecuaria (Panamá)] and Scientific Meetings [i.e., AECA-WPSA (World’s Poultry Science Association), ITEA (Zaragoza, Spain), American PSA, Philadelphia (USA)]. In addition, two scientific papers will be prepared for publication at two high impact scientific journals (i.e., Poultry Science, Fundación Española para el Desarrollo de la Nutrición Animal, and Animal Feed Science and Technology).

TARGET AUDIENCE:

The target audience is broad and include USSEC team, PhD students, Scientist and Professors, worldwide Technical Manager nutritionists in feed compound industry and quality control personnel, and veterinarians.

SCOPE (SERVICES) OF WORK:

- Write up the technical and scientific manuscripts with the information available from the last three years on differentiation of soy products according to origin.
- Work with the USSEC team to determine how to prepare, organize, and updated the available information.
- Produce background information and texts for the expert technical team, as requested. It will include, preparing literature reviews in English and Spanish on specific topics.
- Check on main scientific events to be celebrated in 2023 for preparation f Abstracts and posters for presentations at the Congresses.
- Prepare two scientific papers on the data obtained in 2021/2022 on the in vivo trials in broilers and/or quality of raw beans from different countries.

DELIVERABLES:

Completion Date	Description of Deliverables
February 2023	Organization of the work
February to September 2023	Write the manuscripts
March to September 2023	Send the draft of the original manuscripts to Technical magazines (Tres & Tres, Nutrinenews, Avinews, Actualidad Agropecuaria (Panamá)) for evaluation for publication
June 13-14, 2023	Presentation of research work on soybeans in pigs and poultry at ITEA meeting at Zaragoza
June 21-24, 2023	Presentation of the results at the European Congress of Poultry Nutrition, Rimini, Italy
July 10-13, 2023	Presentation of 2 to 4 pieces of research on SBM and soybeans at the Annual PSA meeting, Philadelphia
October 4-6, 2023	Presentation of the results of soy research at AECA meeting at Ávila
October 2023	Send the manuscripts to SCI journals for their evaluation and validation
June, July, and October, 2023	Meeting inscriptions, travel expenses

PROJECT TIMELINE:

The contract will last from February 1st to December 31st, 2023

RFP TIMELINE:

- **RFP Distribution:** January 12, 2023
- **Last Day to Submit Questions:** January 20, 2023 by 5:00PM Central Time
- **Project Proposals Due:** January 27, 2023 by 5:00PM Central Time
- **Selections Made By:** January 30, 2023
- **Prospective Contractors Notified By:** February 3, 2023

INSTRUCTIONS:

Proposals must contain at a minimum the specific criteria listed below:

1. Please email the proposal to RFP@USSEC.ORG by **5:00PM Central Time on January 27, 2023**
2. A description of Prospective Contractor's capabilities, resources and experience. Emphasis should be placed on experience related to this RFP.

3. A thorough proposal outlining Prospective Contractors planned work, deliverables and timeline to complete the work.
3. Resumes for each of the Prospective Contractor's personnel assigned to work directly on the implementation of the contract.
4. Provide a minimum of two names and contact information for other similarly sized clients for reference purposes.
5. Detailed Budget
 - All bids for services must provide a breakout of how the fee was derived including but not limited to a breakdown of hourly rate and the amount of effort they anticipate to do the work.
6. Proposals should be no longer than **10 pages** (8 ½" x 11").

NOTES:

- Prospective Contractors are hereby notified that proposals will be duplicated for internal review only. Every effort will be made to maintain confidentiality of all information presented. The appropriate representatives from staff and legal counsel will review proposals. Proposals will not be returned.
- USSEC reserves the right to retain all proposals submitted. Submission of a proposal indicates acceptance by the submitter of the conditions contained in the request for proposal, unless clearly and specifically noted in the proposal submitted and confirmed in the contract between USSEC and the contractor selected.
- Confidentiality - Without USSEC's prior written consent, Prospective Contractors and its officers, employees, agents, representatives, affiliates, and subcontractors shall not disclose to any third party any documents, materials or information that the Prospective Contractors learns from or is provided in relation to the RFP request.
- During the evaluation process, USSEC reserves the right to request additional information or clarifications from proposers, or to allow corrections of errors and omissions.
- USSEC reserves the right to reject any proposal that is in any way inconsistent or irregular. USSEC also reserves the right to waive proposal defects or deficiencies, to request additional information, and/or to negotiate with the Prospective Contractor regarding the proposal.
- Prospective Contractor agrees that Fees are in lieu of any and all other benefits, including, but not limited to, repayment of any and all taxes related to contractor service fees, health and life insurance, administrative costs and vacation.

- Prospective Contractor agrees that any income taxes, value added taxes or any other form of direct or indirect taxes on compensation paid under the contract shall be paid by Contractor and not by USSEC or Funding Sources.
 - Prior to any payment to a Contractor, a contractor must provide a W-9, W-8, or W-8BEN upon agreement signature
- Non-Competition. Contractor shall not act as agent or representative for any product or service directly or indirectly competitive with U.S. soybeans or soybean products for the length of the contract.
- USSEC and Prospective Contractor agrees to comply with the provisions of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO). USSEC provides EEO to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, marital status, amnesty, or status as a covered veteran in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND BACKGROUND

BUILDING A PREFERENCE FOR U.S. SOY

USSEC's strategy can be found here: <http://ussec.org/about-ussec/vision-mission/>

USB's Long Range Strategic Plan can be found here: <http://unitedsoybean.org/about-usb/strategic-planning/>

We are a dynamic partnership of key stakeholders representing soybean producers, commodity shippers, merchandisers, allied agribusiness and agricultural organizations.

Through a global network of international offices and strong support in the U.S., we help build a preference for U.S. soybeans and soybean products, advocate for the use of soy in feed, aquaculture and human consumption, promote the benefits of soy use through education and connect industry leaders through a robust membership program.

Our 15-member board of directors is comprised of four members from the American Soybean Association (ASA), four members from the United Soybean Board (USB), and seven members representing trade, allied industry, and state organizations.

New board members are seated annually. We are receiving funding from a variety of sources including soy producer checkoff dollars invested by the USB and various state soybean councils; cooperating industry; and the American Soybean Association's investment of cost-share funding provided by the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Foreign Agriculture Service.

The United Soybean Board, created by the 1990 Farm Bill to manage and direct the National Soybean Checkoff, is dedicated to marketing and research for the soybean industry. USB is comprised of 73 volunteer soybean farmers representing the interests of fellow growers nationwide. Each board member is nominated by Qualified State Soybean Boards (QSSBs) and appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

Because of the limitations on administrative and salary costs established in the Act, USB outsources the majority of its program management responsibilities to USB's three primary contractors:

- SmithBucklin-St. Louis for domestic marketing, new uses, production research and Board initiative activities;
- Osborn & Barr Communications for communications/public relations activities and;
- U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC), Inc. for international marketing and global opportunities activities.

As one of these three primary contractors USSEC may also undertake initiative activities on behalf of USB. USB considers primary contractor staff (approximately 60 people) as core USB staff. These three primary contractors use a number of subcontractors and, together, these entities carry out approximately 450 projects each year for USB. USB also manages approximately 10 subcontractors.

Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Civil Rights Clause

Contractor agrees that during the performance of this Agreement it will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status, parental status or protected genetic information. Contractor further agrees that it will fully comply with any and all applicable Federal, State and local equal employment opportunity statutes, ordinances and regulations, including, without limitation, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and the Equal Pay Act of 1963. Nothing in this section shall require Contractor to comply with or become liable under any law, ordinance, regulation or rule that does not otherwise apply to Contractor.