

NPF&VGA CALL FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS

The Niagara Peninsula Fruit & Vegetable Growers' Association (NPF&VGA) invites research proposals that address grower-identified priorities in apples, tender fruit, grapes, and vegetables. **The budget for projects commencing in 2026 is \$50,000 and will be disbursed as required to fund all approved projects.** NPF&VGA funding is intended as seed money to leverage additional support and advance projects with direct benefits to growers. All approved projects are contingent on the applicant receiving matching funding, if applicable, and submitting proof thereof.

Process:

- Applicants must complete both Part A: Project Summary and Part B: Full Proposal.
- The Research Committee will first review Part A to assess alignment with NPF&VGA priorities.
- Only proposals deemed relevant will proceed to a full review of Part B.

Particulars:

- Single-year projects will require a project results report due no later than 12 weeks after the project completion date.
- Multi-year projects will be reviewed annually via summary report due November 30th of each year, and the final results report will be due no later than 12 weeks after the project completion date stated below.
- If the project is approved for funding support greater than \$5,000 from NPF&VGA, 15% of the total funding will be withheld in the first year and will be released after the final report is received.
- Oral presentations for both single and multi year projects may be requested by NPF&VGA.

PART A: PROJECT SUMMARY (FOR COMMITTEE SCREENING)

Applicant Information

Lead Researcher:

Institution / Organization:

Contact Email & Phone:

Project Snapshot

Project Title:

Duration (from – to):

Total Budget Requested:

Other Funding Sources (if applicable):

Relevance to NPF&VGA Priorities (check all that apply):

- ☐ Production Efficiency
- ☐ Pest & Disease Management
- ☐ Climate Adaptation
- ☐ Soil, Water & Nutrient Management
- ☐ Crop Quality & Marketability
- ☐ Sustainability / Environmental Stewardship
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

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Objectives:

Approach:

Expected Outcomes / Benefits to Growers:

Knowledge Transfer:

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PART B: FULL PROPOSAL (REVIEWED IF SUMMARY PASSES SCREENING)

(Suggested maximum: 5–7 pages)

1. Background & Rationale – problem statement, literature review, industry context.
2. Detailed Objectives – expanded from summary.
3. Methodology – research design, data collection, analysis, collaborators.
4. Deliverables & Outcomes – anticipated results, potential adoption by growers.
5. Knowledge Transfer Plan – extension activities, outreach to growers, publications.
6. Budget & Justification – breakdown of costs (salaries, supplies, travel, indirect costs, etc.), indicate other funding sources.
7. Timeline – milestones by season or year.
8. Research Team & Collaborators – bio/CV of researcher(s) and/or key personnel.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

- Submit as a single file with Part A first, followed by Part B.
- Deadline: **Friday, December 5, 2025, at 5 p.m.**
- Email submissions to: npfvga+research@gmail.com