



BC Sustainable Poultry Farming Group

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Status Summary for April 28, 2015 SPFG Committee Meeting

The SPFG Committee met on April 28, 2015. Three new proposals were reviewed:

1. 2015-01 Genomic Analysis of Wetland Sediment as a Tool for Avian Influenza Virus Surveillance in Wild Waterfowl

A project to better understand the source of the H5N2 virus and to predict and prevent future AI outbreaks. Samples are taken from water fowl overnight resting areas and are analysed for the presence of AI. The study may result in an early warning system for AI and may be part of a future AI surveillance system.

Decision: Support the project; approved a partial funding request.

2. 2015-02 The Development and Commercialization of Aerobic Digestion of Poultry Manure to Produce Bio-Active Fertilizers

The second phase of Project 2013-10. The project is working with the bio-digestion of poultry manure to produce bio-active fertilizers that will be further developed for commercialization. The project will build and compare crop yield of two parallel greenhouse water recycling systems. One will use nutrient solutions derived from poultry manure the other will employ synthetic fertilizers.

Decision: Support the project; approved a partial funding request.

3. 2015-03 Development of a Point-of-Care PCR diagnostic platform and assays for the poultry industry

A project to develop the PCR medium (assays) that would be used in low cost PRC machines. The new system will enable samples to be run with little or minimal preparation via on-farm machines in two to three hours. Costs to the producer should be the same as a reference lab. The overall benefit is faster diagnosis and decreased morbidity and mortality to the producer. The project's short term targets are clostridial subtypes and coccidia. The medium term targets are E. coli and salmonella.

Decision: Support the project; approved a partial funding request.

Updates on other SPFG projects:

2013-05 - Advanced Integrated Resource Recovery for Intensive Agriculture (AIRRIA) Project – funding pulled due to delay in the project obtaining funding from other sources.

2014-05 - Broiler Litter and Horse Bedding Gasification Feasibility Study – feedstock analysis is complete: samples have been collected and will be sent away for test gasification soon.

The next SPFG meeting is June 12, 2015.