California Citrus Research Board
Request for Proposals

For the funding period October 1, 2026 to September 30, 2027

Specific instructions for preparing and submitting new proposal concepts, full proposals, continuing research proposals, and progress and completion reports.

Calendar

- **March 2, 2026:** New Project Pre-Proposals Due
- **March 27, 2026:** Requests for New Project Full Proposals sent out
- **April 24, 2026:** New Project Full Proposals Due
- **May 29, 2026:** Continuing Project Full Proposals Due
- **early-June 2026:** Presentations of New Project Proposals
- **mid-June 2026:** Notify PIs for New Projects Moving Forward
- **mid-July 2026:** New and Continuing Project Presentations to Research Committees
- **September 2026:** Annual CRB Meeting to Finalize Research Project Funding Decisions
- **late-September 2026:** Notify Principal Investigators (PIs) of Award Decisions

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2026-27 Funded Project Report Deadlines

- **March 2, 2027:** Progress Report #1
- **June 11, 2027:** Progress Report #2
- **October 30, 2027*:** Annual Project Report
- **November 29, 2027*:** Completion Report, for ending projects
- **Upon Request:** *Citrograph* article

** deadline for projects funded through the full fiscal year. Otherwise, Annual Project Report is due 30 days and Completion Report is due 60 days after contractual project end date.*

All dates are tentative and subject to change at CRB's discretion.

Last updated: February 6, 2026

Introduction

The mission of the California Citrus Research Board (CRB) is to ensure a sustainable California citrus industry for the benefit of growers by prioritizing, investing in and promoting sound science.

The CRB annually evaluates its research priorities for possible funding. Whereas the Board will consider all proposals submitted for the upcoming fiscal year, the current areas of greatest concern are surviving and finding solutions to huanglongbing (HLB) and maintaining market accessibility.

The Board is soliciting both new and continuing research proposals for funding consideration in the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year. This document highlights areas of specific industry need, guidelines for the submission of project proposals and the progress reports to be made during the tenure of CRB funding. Final decisions on projects to be funded will occur at the Annual Citrus Research Board Meeting held in September 2026.

Scope of Research

Research must be *outcome-based*; that is, the "need" or the end result is determined ahead of time, and research is developed in line with the desired outcomes. Priority may be given to those projects that result directly in a product, technology, solution or method that would benefit the California citrus industry.

Therefore, each researcher who intends to apply for CRB funding must be able to clearly articulate how their project will significantly contribute to the improved production, vitality and economic sustainability of the California citrus industry. Furthermore, researchers must explain how this information will be transferred to or shared with commercial growers.

1. Research Categories

There are four research categories that align with the strategies determined by Board and Committee members. These include:

- **5200 – New Varieties**: Breeding, development, selection and evaluation of new varieties.
- **5300 – Vectored Diseases**: Including but not limited to HLB, citrus tristeza virus, leprosis, stubborn and citrus variegated chlorosis.
- **5400 – Production and Post-Harvest Technology**: horticultural factors, food safety, non-vectored, and pre/post-harvest diseases impacting fruit quality and production efficiency.
- **5500 – Pest Management**: Regulatory, endemic and invasive pests including but not limited to Asian citrus psyllid (ACP), fruit flies, thrips, Fuller rose beetle, scales, katydids and mites.

NOTE: Genome projects should be submitted within the category that applies to the organism, e.g., if you intend to propose research on the ACP genome, you would submit your proposal under 5500, the Pest Management category.

Detailed information for each research category is provided below. For new projects, multi-lab, multi-interdisciplinary interactions, and industry collaboration are highly recommended.

5200: New Varieties Development

The goal of this category is to provide the California citrus industry open access to new varieties that will meet the ever-changing market demands, are resistant or tolerant to pests and diseases, and will improve production efficiency. Collaborative efforts are strongly encouraged. All funded projects are expected to follow the agreed upon guidelines.

Researchable areas are prioritized for 2026-27 as follows:

1. Variety development and evaluation of commercially viable California citrus varieties, to include the following areas of emphasis:
    a. Evaluation of citrus varieties in different climactic zones across California [D1, D2, D3] to determine the maturity curve, taking into account the effect of different rootstocks, production, HLB resistance and market potential with an emphasis on grower collaboration and real-world approaches. HLB resistance trial work may be considered or evaluated in other citrus growing regions.
    b. Determine quantitative methods to analyze flavor components in common California commercial varieties through commercial channels (e.g., following harvest, storage and/or shipping).
    c. Identify new varieties or develop new methods to optimize existing varieties to cause consistent cropping, including the following:
        - Reduce the severity of alternate bearing.
        - Identify causes of irregular cropping
    d. Identify new varieties or develop new methods to optimize existing varieties, causing an extended harvest window. The emphasis should not only be on earlier/later harvest timings but also extending the period during which a crop can be harvested and meet commercial quality standards. Example varieties include: late Navels, mandarins.
2. Develop a solution to the physiological effects of '*Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus' (CLas) infection (which may include the role of the ACP in disease epidemiology) with an emphasis on important California citrus scions and rootstocks.
    a. Testing of HLB response in major California citrus varieties to include California CLas strains and fruit quality assessments.
    b. Develop a mechanism to transfer stable tolerance or resistance to the CLas bacterium from rootstocks to scions (with an emphasis on the Carrizo rootstock).
3. Breeding Tool Development
    a. Improve early flowering methods to shorten the breeding cycle.
    b. Development of new technologies and techniques to expedite the breeding process.
    c. Determine fresh citrus market preferences based on sensory (e.g. taste, appearance, feel, smell) and other factors (e.g. health benefits).

Principal Investigators should budget time and funding for familiarity/training regarding regulatory requirements of transgenic material for field use and commercialization efforts if part of the research proposal. Project proposals should identify the minimum standards that are used when breeding material is moved forward to subsequent evaluation stages. Project proposals should define the parameters used to make selections and removal. This should include a standard operating procedure (SOP) from start to finish for each new variety.

5300: Vectored Diseases

The goal of this category is to provide California citrus growers timely and proven information on detection, eradication, control and management strategies and tools for diseases caused by vectored plant pathogens in order to minimize crop damage and economic losses.

High priority researchable areas are equally weighted for 2026-27 as follows:

- Develop tools to prevent pathogen transmission and/or suppress disease development for those diseases of greatest concern to the California citrus industry, including but not limited to: Huanglongbing, Citrus yellow vein clearing and Tristeza.
- Management of existing groves during HLB epidemic.
    - Define on farm and regulatory disease management protocols (development of best management practices) from beginning to end in commercial orchards for CLas and ACP before the disease becomes endemic; synchronization of protocols and area-wide control. Based on the locations of infestation and/or infection, different protocols may be needed.
        - Define epidemic-based phases of management.
        - Develop and recommend appropriate monitoring and sampling protocols for each phase of management. Protocols must include consideration of agronomic and economic realities.
        - Develop monitoring-based economic thresholds to trigger application of specific tactics (insecticides, bactericides, physical barriers, tree removal, block redevelopment, etc.) and transition to the next phase of management.
- Commercialize and/or deploy high-throughput Early Detection Technologies (EDTs) for huanglongbing (HLB) affected trees. Develop and/or evaluate tools to detect CLas/HLB before the development of visual symptoms.
- Research on additional exotic or endemic diseases such as Citrus Variegated Chlorosis and Leprosis that pose a threat to the California citrus industry.

5400: Production and Post-Harvest Technology

The goal of this category is to deliver timely and validated information on horticultural factors, food safety, non-vectored, and pre/post-harvest diseases impacting fruit quality, sustainability, and production efficiency to California growers utilizing both organic and conventional production methods and processors to keep them competitive in the domestic and international markets. Priority will be given to projects that have a clear path to commercialization.

Researchable areas are equally prioritized for 2026-27 as follows:

- Conduct field trials of novel or innovative and current cultural practices including but not limited to fertigation, soil health, tree health and water use efficiencies to improve yield, extend harvest window, maintain consistent cropping, fruit size and quality in citrus orchards.
- Develop mechanical harvest technology and/or robots to reduce production cost and increase productivity.
- Develop data on food safety issues of citrus to mitigate regulatory action or to satisfy new regulations for growers, in orchards, and at processing facilities.
- Secure adequate data to support industry positions dealing with trade activities and barriers to the citrus export industry.
- Conduct field trials in citrus orchards to explore the causes of post-bloom and preharvest fruit drop.
- Evaluate existing and newly developed chemistries, treatments and practices to minimize pre- and post-harvest fruit deterioration to improve conventional and organic grower returns.
- Determine the potential introduction of exotic non-vectored or graft-transmissible pathogens of citrus that would threaten production and/or market access both domestically and internationally.
- Develop new, non-chemical technologies to mitigate and/or minimize losses due to non-vectored or graft-transmissible pathogens, e.g., irradiation, variable radio frequency, electromagnetic methods.
- Develop an understanding of the horticultural, handling and genetic levers to influence flavor and other sensory characteristics.
- Research on the use of plant growth regulators and other treatments for handling of late navels and/or other cultivars.

5500: Pest Management

The goal of this category is to provide California citrus growers timely and scientifically valid information on eradication, control and management strategies and tools against pests to minimize crop damage and economic losses and to maintain market accessibility of foreign and domestic markets. Priority will be given to projects that have a clear path to implementation and/or commercialization and fit within these priorities.

Researchable areas are prioritized for 2026-27 as follows:

Identify new and/or improve currently developed control strategies, including chemical, biological and cultural controls for both conventional and organic citrus.

1. Asian citrus psyllid & other exotic pests.
    - Improve detection methods, sampling methods and economic thresholds.
    - Determine pesticide efficacy for both organic and conventional situations.
    - Develop non-pesticide methods of control (biological & cultural).
    - Evaluate the efficacy of the California ACP treatment programs and develop year-round regional IPM programs for ACP in California.
    - Monitor for and manage pesticide resistance.
2. Endemic pests including (but not limited to) thrips, scales, mites, earwigs, mealybugs, snails and katydids.
    - Improve detection methods, sampling methods and economic thresholds.
    - Pesticide efficacy (pests) and selectivity (natural enemies).
    - Innovative, non-pesticide technologies to minimize losses.
3. Regulatory and export pests of concern including (but not limited to) Asian citrus psyllid, Fuller rose beetle, bean thrips, mites and fruit flies.
    - Develop pre- and post-harvest methods of disinfesting citrus fruit.

Within this research category biocontrol research priorities include:

- Improvements to *Tamarixia radiata* production, including but not limited to, evaluating genetic diversity and potential fitness of Tamarixia lines and improvements in commercial production of *T. radiata*.
- Research to promote the reduction of Asian citrus psyllid populations.

2. New Pre-Proposals

A novel, innovative research project submitted to the CRB that addresses the needs of the California citrus industry can be considered in one of two ways: a well-defined, full-scale project or a scaled-down project that intends to develop a proof-of-concept. The CRB may request that a project demonstrate the potential applicability of a concept before considering a larger-scale project. The CRB process for new pre-proposals includes:

- Completion of a pre-proposal application, to be submitted online by **5 pm PT** on **March 2, 2026**.
- Review of pre-proposals by the Research Priority Screening Committee during **March 2026**.
- If the pre-proposal is accepted, the researcher will be invited by **March 27, 2026** to submit a full project proposal.

***Submission Instructions*:**
Researchers should complete a pre-proposal form online for each new project concept. The link to begin this process can be found at: https://citrusresearch.org/for-researchers. *Please review all Technical Notes before initiating the submission process.*

This pre-proposal will include basic information such as project title, name and contact information for the Principal Investigator (PI), Co-PI(s) and Collaborator(s)[1]. Researchers also need to provide information regarding:

1) ***Challenge/Opportunity*** What research priority are you proposing to address with this project?
    a) Describe how this project will address the targeted research priorities identified by the California citrus industry. [*250 words**]
    b) Indicate if this proposal is applied research, basic research, or both.
2) ***Concept Definition, Hypothesis and Research Potential*** Describe how this project will address or mitigate the priority of the California citrus industry.
    a) Explain the hypothesis underlying the proposed investigation (e.g., application of X to Y aspect of the target problem). [*500 words**]
    b) Describe how the project will build upon, support, or complement related previous work. [*500 words**]
    c) Describe the specific aims and activities of the proposed research project [*750 words**]

[1] The Principal Investigator (PI) is the person with the primary responsibility for project management and completion. Each project has only one PI. A Co-PI is someone who receives support or material of significant value from the project; there can be more than one Co-PI for any given project. A Collaborator is a person who provides data, materials or advice for the projects and/or carries out activities mutually beneficial to the project. A Collaborator does not receive support or material of significant value from the project; there can be more than one Collaborator for any given project.

d) Describe the expected deliverables of this proposed research (e.g., a new variety, practice, method, assay, software, hardware, or other technology). [*200 words**]

e) Describe how the intended results of the proposed research will directly benefit or otherwise impact the California citrus industry. Identify the specific sector(s) that will benefit from the work (i.e., nursery, grower, marketers, etc.). [*250 words**]

***Word count limits**. Maximum word limits are noted in parenthesis. The Citrus Research Board reserves the right to cut any response longer than the limit provided.*

Technical Notes

- To submit a proposal, you must have an account with the CRB Proposal System. For new users, a valid email address and current contact information will be needed to create an account. **Please note, once an account is created and a submission is initiated, the system identifies the submitter as the Principal Investigator.** Therefore, all Principal Investigators are encouraged to create submissions through their own accounts.
- After account creation, you immediately will receive notification to verify your email address. (Do not use a general email account. You will want to use your specific email address when setting up your account. e.g. *jane.smith@citrusresearch.org*).
- If your e-mail address has changed, contact *research@citrusresearch.org* to request your e-mail address be updated.
- **If you add Co-PIs or collaborators to your Pre-Proposal and that individual has not previously created an account on the system, a new account will be created at this time for them. Once you submit their names and e-mail addresses, each Co-PI and collaborator you add will IMMEDIATELY be notified by email that you have initiated an account on his/her behalf.**
- Once you have verified your email address and logged into the system on the CRB website, you can create and edit your pre-proposal(s). Once you have completed all edits and are ready to send the pre-proposal for review, click SUBMIT.

Once you click SUBMIT, you will be unable to make any further changes. Your submitted pre-proposal will be provided to the CRB Research Priority Screening Committee for review after the submission window has closed. Following committee review, an email will be sent to the PI to notify him/her of the committee's decision regarding the pre-proposal.

3. New Full Proposals

Researchers invited to submit a full proposal for a new project must complete and submit a full proposal for each project online according to the guidelines specified in ***Section 5. Guidelines for Full Research Proposal*** (below). The CRB review process for new full proposals is as follows:

- New, full proposals are to be received by the CRB Research Department by **April 24, 2026** at **5 pm PT**. Full proposals will be reviewed by the Research Priority Screening Committee and ad hoc scientific reviewers.
- The PI will present to the Research Priority Screening Committee in **early-June 2026**.
- The Research Priority Screening Committee will review and evaluate full proposals, ad hoc reviews and presentations. Based on this information, the committee will select proposals for Citrus Research Board consideration.
- If approved, PIs will present to the appropriate Research Committee during **mid-July 2026**.
- Proposals are reviewed by the Research Department and Committees. Any requested workplan changes must be completed before funding recommendations are sent to the full Board.
- A final funding decision is made by the full Board at the annual meeting in **September 2026**.

Submission Instructions: All new full proposals must be completed and submitted through the online submission portal available at: *https://citrusresearch.org/for-researchers* .

4. Continuing Project Proposals

Regardless of the anticipated duration of the project, all researchers currently receiving CRB funding must re-apply each year. The Full Project Proposal Form for 2026-27 should be completed and submitted within the online submission portal available at: *https://citrusresearch.org/for-researchers* for each project according to the guidelines specified in Section 5 below. The window to submit a continuing project proposal will close on **May 29, 2026,** at **5 pm PT**.

If an ongoing CRB funded project is currently in its final year of funding, the CRB strongly supports that the project reach completion as scheduled. Any related new projects will need to go through the new project proposal pathway.

Researchers currently funded by the CRB with an ongoing project that has not yet reached its final year are invited to submit a Full Project Proposal Form for each project online according to the guidelines specified in ***Section 5. Guidelines for Full Research Proposal*** (below). The CRB review process for continuing project proposals is as follows:

- PIs complete and submit online a Full Project Proposal Form by **5 pm PT** on **May 29, 2026**. The Full Project Proposal Form can be found at: *https://citrusresearch.org/for-researchers.*
- PIs present an oral presentation of proposed research to the Research Committees **mid-July 2026**.
- Proposals are reviewed by Research Department Committees with any requested workplan changes addressed before funding recommendations are sent to the full Board.
- A final funding decision is made by the full Board at the annual meeting in **September 2026**.

5. Guidelines for Full Research Proposals

Every full proposal must include the following contact information for each PI, Co-PI and Collaborator:

- name
- affiliation (mailing address including Department)
- email address
- telephone number

Any PI or Co-PI requesting support must provide contact information for their contracts and financial officers.

An appropriate contact outside of this project should be identified as a reference for additional information and/or an explanation of this type of research. The contact should be able to adequately address scientific questions regarding the project but should not be a current Co-PI or Collaborator in the proposed proposal or any other CRB-funded projects.

For each identified Co-PI and Collaborator, you must provide a letter from that person, submitted as an online attachment, certifying that they:

- have read the proposal
- have been adequately briefed about the proposal
- understand their specific role as Co-PI or collaborator in the proposed research
- can meet the milestones outlined for the project

A brief CV *(two pages maximum*) should be submitted as a PDF attachment for the PI and each identified Co-PI. The CV should include name, affiliation and relevant experience (employment, relevant publications, etc.). *Any CV longer than two pages will be cut off after the second page.*

Questions to be addressed in the Full Proposal include the following:

1) ***Project Abstract*** *[250 words*]:* The project abstract briefly -
    a. Identifies the priority research area that is being addressed.
    b. Describes the work proposed.
    c. Describes how the work proposed will address the targeted research priority areas identified in the RFP.
2) ***Concept Development: Proposed Approach*** *Describe how project objectives and milestones will be achieved. In layman's terms, describe your experimental design and, as appropriate, list site locations for proposed trials.*
    a. Itemize the specific objectives for this project. Each objective should include the necessary milestones and the tasks that comprise each milestone. Identify how long it will take to accomplish each milestone (in months), and if any of the milestones are dependent upon the success of previous milestones. [*1,000 words**]

b. Describe how each objective will be managed if there are delays, unexpected results, failures, etc. [*300 words**]

c. List any permits, licenses or regulatory approvals required to use materials, facilities, equipment or other inputs during this project. Indicate which are currently in place. [*500 words**]

   - For those permits, licenses or regulatory approvals not in place, identify when the requests will be submitted and the estimated time to approval.

d. Does the researcher have access to the appropriate materials, facilities, equipment or other inputs needed to complete the proposed work? [*250 words**]

e. List any research elements currently under commercial patent that require licensing to conduct the proposed research and indicate if they are or when they will be executed by the research team. [*250 words**]

f. Describe the Roles and Responsibilities of each research team member for the proposed project and their relevant experience. [*200 words per person**]

g. Indicate if commercial partners are involved in this proposal. If so, describe their commitments to the project and identify any financial or in-kind contributions. [*300 words**]

h. A Gantt Chart of Progress needs to be completed and submitted. Proposals should use the template available in the online proposal system which can be accessed at: https://citrusresearch.org/for-researchers. The "Objectives" and "Tasks" you intend to complete should be clearly and succinctly stated. You must assign "Milestones" to each task which indicates the time that will be necessary to complete each task. Accuracy in work plan development is recommended as this will be a major criterion used by the Board when evaluating projects for continued funding.

   Once completed, the Gantt Chart must be uploaded with your proposal.

3) ***Concept Development: Expected Results*** *Describes how the work proposed will significantly help solve the issue or problem.*

a. Describe the potential or envisioned product or service the California citrus industry would receive as a result of this proposed research and identify the specific practical application(s) of the expected results. How will the results from this project be implemented and by whom? [*500 words**]

b. Identify whether the project result (a) is implementable at the conclusion of this project; (b) has near-term commercial application (<3 years); or (c) will require longer-term development (>3 years).

c. Describe how and to what degree the objectives, if successfully achieved, will directly impact the targeted priority research areas. [*250 words**]

d. Does the researcher anticipate that it is likely that elements of this project will be patentable?

   - If so, specify the elements the researcher expects will be patentable. [*200 words**]

- For which elements does the researcher intend to pursue patent protection? [*100 words**]

4) ***Project Investment: Requesting indirect costs (IDC) as a portion of a research budget is strongly discouraged.*** *While the Research Proposal form allows investigators to include budget requests for up to three years, the PI is required to submit an annual Full Proposal Form and fulfill progress reporting milestones. Complete the budget form as specified. For projects involving funding distribution to multiple researchers, the PI must prepare a project budget to include both PI and Co-PI funding.*

   a. Provide a total budget for this project (for project durations >12 months) and annual budget. For continuing projects, include funding levels for the current year (FY 2025-26). Indicate whether you expect to have any carry-over funds from the current funding year in the Budget Justification section.

   b. Budget Justification: Describe how funds will be used, including details, to complete the proposed work. [*1,000 words**] Justification must be organized under the following categories:

      - Salaries: divided up as Postdocs/Research Assistants, SRAs, or Lab/Field Assistance. Professors/PIs should note salary requests under Postdocs/Research Assistants subcategory.
      - Benefits: should be separated out for each salary subcategory listed above.
      - Supplies and Expenses: Expenses to include all tangible property other than those described in the definition of *equipment* in this section needed to support the project.
      - Equipment: clearly state equipment to be purchased including a description, expected usage, justification for the equipment's necessity and equipment disposition at the end of the project. CRB defines equipment as: non-expendable (having a normal life expectancy of one year or more), tangible (can be appraised for value), free standing (complete in itself, does not lose its identity when affixed to or installed in other property); and having an acquisition cost of $5,000 or more. Do not use your institution's definition of equipment when including requests in your proposal.
      - Operating Expenses: expenses to include contractual services, consulting services, sub-awards, rent, subscription services, memberships, internet (hotspots), publication costs, intercampus orders/recharges, equipment maintenance/repairs, rental cars, etc. Those performing work in the California Citrus Research Foundation Biosafety Level-3P facility, should include user fees and space allocation costs here.
      - Travel – separated out as travel to CRB-Related Meetings and Other; to include but not limited to travel purpose, number and location of trips, rental fees, mileage, lodging, etc. **for each person** traveling.

- UC-LREC Charges: to include acreage fees, field number, pack line hours, field hours, greenhouse space, cold storage, and other recharge costs for those projects taking place at the Lindcove Research and Extension Center.

c. Other Funding Sources: List any outside sources of funds or in-kind contributions for the proposed project and describe how other funds or contributions may enhance and/or impact the timing of this project. Identify if you plan to use CRB project funds as matching funds for other projects. [*250 words**]

d. Identify the sources and amounts of all current and potential or pending non- CRB sources of support for citrus-related projects. Include those for which the PI and Co-PIs currently have funds or commitments for funding, have applied for funds or intend to apply for funds for support in the requested fiscal year.

   Information provided should include:

   - Principal Investigator/Co-PI of CRB-funded project proposal
   - Principal Investigator of externally funded or proposed project
   - Project Title
   - Funding Agency
   - Amount (to PI/Co-PI)
   - Start and End Dates
   - Proposal status: Approved or Pending

e. How do these other projects, their objectives and resources relate to or support the proposed work? Specifically note any potential complementary, overlapping or redundant work. [*500 words**]

NOTE:

1) The Committees anticipate presentations during the 2026-27 FY proposal review process. Travel expenses for this meeting should not be requested if presentations are virtual.
2) The Lindcove Research and Extension Center (LREC) provides Land, Labor and Facilities (LLF) for projects approved by the UC Research Advisory Committee. On the 'LREC Charges' budget line of the CRB proposal, the PI should estimate the expenses that the research project will incur at LREC.

6. Guidelines for Written Reports

There will be two written progress reports, one annual report due for all projects funded by the CRB in FY 2026-27. A *Citrograph* article may also be requested annually based on project progress with a final report due at project end. Additionally, PIs with projects in their final year (or when project has been terminated) will be requested to submit a Completion Report *and* accompanying data files summarizing final project results.

Progress reports will be due **March 2, 2027** and **June 11, 2027** by **5 pm PT.** The annual report will be due thirty days after September 30, 2027 or at project completion, whichever comes first. Completion Reports and accompanying files will be due sixty days after project completion. Reports must be prepared following the report guidelines and forms to be made available at *https://citrusresearch.org/for-researchers.* **Failure to submit timely and quality reports may result in premature termination of the project and cessation of funding**.

The goal of the progress, annual and completion reports are to document progress and accomplishments made over the following time periods:

- Progress Reports – continuing projects should report on work since previous progress report submission; new projects should report out from project start.
- Annual Reports – over the entire course of the fiscal year.
- Completion Reports – over the length of the entire project.

Reports should restate project objectives and milestones as described in the funded proposal, summarize activities that were undertaken to accomplish each objective, and explain progress made toward each goal. Comments on collaborations, data summaries, and graphs are to be provided as appropriate. Reports must relate accomplishments to practical application for the California citrus growers and industry.

For each CRB-funded project, you may be requested to submit one full-length Progress Report article (1,500-word maximum) or a Research Report written in layperson language for publication in *Citrograph*. *Citrograph* is the CRB's quarterly magazine written specifically for the California citrus growers to share the purpose and actionable results of the research that their assessment dollars funded. A Final Report article (2,000 words) will be requested once the project is completed and may take the place of a Progress Report article. *Citrograph* editorial staff will inform you when your article is due.

Regardless of report type, your report may be returned to you for revision. Adherence to *Citrograph Author Guidelines* is required. Guidelines are available at: https://citrusresearch.org/citrograph. This report is NOT geared toward other researchers, and *Citrograph* is NOT a peer-reviewed journal.

7. Guidelines for Oral Presentations

It is expected that PIs with ongoing research projects will give an oral presentation to the Research Committees in July 2026 to explain intended research plans for the following fiscal year. **Presentations must follow the "Presentation Template"** which will be made available on the CRB website. Presentations must accurately indicate the planned objectives and timeline necessary to complete each.

8. Expectations of Funded Principal Investigators

In addition to the expectations and requirements listed previously, it is expected that every funded PI will do the following:

- **Any publications, presentations and other public releases directly resulting from CRB-supported work must be provided to the CRB Research Department for review at least 30 days prior to release**.
- The PI must acknowledge the Citrus Research Board as the funding source along with the CRB research project number in all relevant presentations, press releases and publications where research findings are disclosed. (e.g., Work supported by the Citrus Research Board, Project #5100-123.)
- Submit any verbal or written reports if requested by the Board or assigned Research Committee outside of the Progress Reports, Completion Report and Annual Report.
- If you anticipate that additional time will be necessary to complete the proposed research, you will be required to complete and submit a "No Cost Project Extension Request" form. **The extension period will be decided by the Citrus Research Board based upon funds remaining and progress made toward proposed research goals.**
- All expenditures must follow CRB budget guidelines.
- All patentable inventions will be disclosed to the CRB Research Department. As part of its mission, the CRB is interested in moving research developed through CRB- funded research projects out to the California citrus growers. As such, those projects with commercial interest may be requested to meet with CRB staff and consultants or provide additional information to assist in commercialization efforts.
- As part of its mission, the CRB sponsors informational meetings for members of our industry and the general public. As a benefit of attending these meetings, we offer California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR)-approved Continuing Education (CE) Units of value to certain licensed professionals working in our state. As a CRB- funded researcher, you may be asked to make a presentation of your research at one or more of these meetings. CRB staff may request a brief, 150 word or less, description in layperson terms how your proposed research is directly relevant to pesticides, pesticide laws and regulations, or the management of one or more citrus pests. This information is needed in CE unit requests for the meeting. Descriptions may be subject to revision by staff.
- Sign CRB's contract of funding acceptance and abide by all terms, including all bullets above. The CRB reserves the right to modify the deliverables indicated in this RFP and will so state in the research contract.