



National
Institute
of Food
And
Agriculture

To Advance Knowledge
For Agriculture, the
Environment, Human
Health and Well-being,
and Communities



Features of USDA SBIR Program

- Award Grants Only - Ideas are Investigator-Initiated
- Awards Based on Scientific and Technical Merit, PI and Company Qualifications, and Commercial Potential
- Proposals Reviewed by Confidential Peer Review Using Outside Experts From Non-profit Organizations
- Funds Allocated to Topic Areas in Proportion to Number of Proposals Received
- Subcontracting to Universities and USDA Labs Permitted and Encouraged

SBIR



Features of USDA SBIR Program

- Phase I Grants = 8 Months/\$100,000
- Phase II Grants = 2 Years/\$600,000
- 12 Month No-cost Extension Available
- Commercialization Assistance Programs for Both Phase I and Phase II Winners
- Contact with SBIR Program Available Anytime
- Priority given to projects that involve a CRADA with a USDA Lab.

SBIR



Topic Areas

- Plant Production & Protection – Biology
- Plant Production & Protection - Engineering
- Animal Production & Protection
- Aquaculture
- Food Science & Nutrition
- Biofuels and Biobased Products
- Air, Water and Soils
- Forests and Related Resources
- Rural and Community Development
- Small & Mid-Size Farms

SBIR



Solicitation/Proposal Schedule:

Phase I

- FY 2019 Solicitation was Released on July 23, 2018
- Phase I Proposal Deadline will be October 25, 2018
- Panels will Meet in January & February of 2019
- Award Decisions will be Made in Early March 2019
- Phase I Grant Period will be from June 1, 2019 to January 31, 2020

Phase II

- FY 2019 Solicitation will be released in late November of 2018 (only prior USDA Phase I winners are eligible)
- Phase II Proposal Deadline Date will be February 28, 2019
- Phase II Grant Period will be from September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2021

The logo for the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program, consisting of the letters 'SBIR' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below the text is a thick blue horizontal bar, and below that is a thinner green horizontal bar.

**U.S. Department of Agriculture
Small Business Innovation Research Program**

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SBIR



Whole Trees, LLC

Technology Developed

- Structural Testing of Branched Timber and Truss Assemblies
- Round timber can substitute for steel and concrete in medium and large scale construction under Type IV: "Heavy Timber Framing."

Commercialization Success

- The company will provide the ceiling joists of the 57,000-square-foot Festival Foods grocery store which will include ash trees being removed from the city of Madison due to emerald ash borer infestation.
- Raised \$1.6M in private equity funding since the initial SBIR grant.

SBIR History

- Phase I – 2011 (\$99K)
- Phase II – 2012 (\$362K)
- 8.1 Forests and Related Resources

