

May 29, 2018

Christina Hamilton
NCRA Assistant Director and NIMSS System Administrator

Dear Dr. Hamilton,

As per request of our project's reviewers, we have conducted a search within the Current Research Information System (CRIS) to identify overlaps with other projects. For this, we approached the search in two ways, which will be described in the following paragraphs.


For our first search, we used the words "dairy" AND "management" AND "sustainability" and obtained a total of 29 records. From these 29 records, only 9 included the word "dairy" in the title. From these 9 records, 5 have a TERMINATED status. Of the remaining 4 records, 2 projects (VA-160025 and MICL04105) are Hatch projects from current or former members of NC-2042, 1 project (MICL02361) is a Hatch project that specifically addresses dairy management and sustainability issues of the dairy industry within just the state of Michigan, and 1 project is an AFRI competitive grant related to Bovine Leukemia Virus in dairy cattle, a topic that is beyond the scope of NC-2042.

For our second search, while excluding the word "beef," we included the words "dairy" AND "calves" OR "heifers" and obtained 63 records. From these 63 records, 53 included the word "dairy" in the title. From these 53 records, 36 have a TERMINATED status and 4 are about to terminate. Of the remaining 13 records, 8 of the projects (0217502, 1000495, 1000704, 1000802, 1001283, 1002683, 1002054, 1013011) are Hatch projects from current or former members of NC-2042.

The remaining 5 projects specifically address mastitis (1015602), reproductive performance (1007421), genomic selection (1006669), feed efficiency (1005971), and animal welfare (1005111). Although very relevant to dairy farm profitability, the NC-2042 multi-state project does not address mastitis, reproductive performance, and genetics in specific ways. Different to project 1005971 (MI station), which specifically addresses feed efficiency of milking cows, the NC-2042 multi-state project addresses feed efficiency in both, milking cows and growing calves and heifers. Similar to project 1005111 (TN station), the NC-2042 multi-state project addresses animal welfare. Despite this overlap, animal welfare is one of the many diverse and integrated areas covered by the group.

In conclusion, based on these two CRIS searches we are quite confident that the NC-2042 multi-state project does not substantially overlap with other projects despite the broad scope of the project and provides an important platform for collaboration and integration of dairy nutrition and management research across institutions.

Sincerely,



Dr. Gonzalo Ferreira
Past-Chair NC-2042

CC: Dr. Jill Anderson (Current-Chair); Dr. David Benfield (Project Administrative Advisor)