

For Immediate Release

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association

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USPOULTRY Accepting Board Research Initiative Preproposals on *Ornithobacterium rhinotracheale* in Turkey Production

USPOULTRY and the USPOULTRY Foundation are accepting research preproposals addressing *Ornithobacterium rhinotracheale* from colleges, universities and research facilities through Nov. 1. *Ornithobacterium rhinotracheale* (ORT) causes a highly contagious respiratory disease in poultry and has been identified as a top disease of concern by industry veterinarians in the turkey industry since 2016.

Currently, there is no commercial vaccine approved for the industry to utilize, and options for preventing infection are limited to production practices such as biosecurity and water management. In addition, treatment options for ORT are limited. Because of the similarity of symptoms of ORT infections to other respiratory pathogens, infections may often be misdiagnosed. Therefore, a reliable and accurate diagnostic tool would benefit the poultry industry.

The goal of this initiative is to isolate appropriate strains through strain characterization to allow for vaccine development and to develop prevention practices and products that will reduce ORT infections. Research should also answer the question, “Can diagnostic methods be identified or further developed to more accurately identify flocks which have been infected with ORT?”

Visit the USPOULTRY [website](#) for complete instructions to submit a preproposal.

About USPOULTRY

U.S. Poultry & Egg Association (USPOULTRY) is the All Feather Association progressively serving its poultry and egg members through research, education, communications and technical services. Founded in 1947, USPOULTRY is based in Tucker, Georgia.

About USPOULTRY Foundation

The USPOULTRY Foundation's mission is to support the recruitment and training of the brightest students, seek and fund scientific research, foster student scientists and promote careers in the poultry and egg industry.