

The Nutrient Recycling Challenge



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 American Biogas Council
 American Society of Agricultural
 and Biological Engineers
 Ben & Jerry's
 Cabot Creamery Cooperative
 Cooper Farms
 CowPots
 Dairy Farmers of America
 Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy®
 Iowa State University

Marquette University
 National Milk Producers Federation
 National Pork Producers Council
 Newtrient, LLC
 Smithfield Foods
 Strategic Conservation Solutions
 Tyson Foods
 U.S. Department of Agriculture
 Washington State University
 Water Environment Research Foundation
 World Wildlife Fund

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is partnering with pork and dairy producers, USDA, and environmental and scientific experts to find affordable technologies that take nutrients from livestock manure and create valuable products.

Every year, livestock producers manage over a billion tons of animal manure containing valuable nutrients—nitrogen and phosphorus—that plants need to grow. Manure can be a resource as a renewable fertilizer, but should be used properly to minimize water pollution and build healthy soils.

There is a tremendous opportunity to generate environmental and economic benefits from manure. We could realize this potential with cost-effective technologies that extract manure's nutrients and create products that farmers could use, transport, or sell more easily to where nutrients are in demand.

Scientists and engineers are building technologies that can recover nutrients, but further development is needed to make them more effective and affordable. Now is an optimal time to help cutting-edge innovations advance to the next level.

The Nutrient Recycling Challenge wants you to help us find technologies that are a win-win for the environment, farmers, and the economy.



Farmers across America are asking the question:
"How can I manage nutrients on my farm better and more affordably?"



Photo credit: Cabot Creamery Cooperative

The timeline:

Phase I: Concept Papers	November 16, 2015 – January 15, 2016
Phase II: Designs	Spring 2016
Phase III: Prototypes/Proof of Concept	Summer 2016
Phase IV: Finalists' demonstration pilots on farms	Spring 2017

The prize:

For Phase I, awards will include a total of up to \$20,000 in cash prizes for up to four concepts. Promising applicants will also be invited an exclusive two-day partnering and investor summit in Washington, DC (with additional travel awards), and gain entry to subsequent phases of the challenge with larger awards.

Potential awards for subsequent phases include further funding, incubation support, connections to other innovators, media and publicity, and opportunities to have technologies demonstrated on farms that supply the largest dairy and swine cooperatives and processors in the U.S.

Submissions open November 16th. For more information, visit: www.nutrientrecyclingchallenge.org