**Student Poster Competition for the New Mexico Sustainable Agriculture Conference (Student Abstract/Poster Guidelines)**

The 15th New Mexico Sustainable Agriculture Conference will be held on December 12, 2018 in Los Lunas at the University of New Mexico, Valencia Campus from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. The theme for the conference this year is “Issues in Sustainable Livestock Production in the Rocky Mountain Southwest”. This yearly event is sponsored by WSARE (Western Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program) with the goal of providing professional development opportunities for growers, educators and agriculture support professionals to advance solutions to challenges related to sustainable agriculture.

We are soliciting **Poster Presentations** from students on research related to sustainable agriculture in New Mexico. Students must first submit their abstracts to be screened for their relevance to sustainable agriculture prior to poster submission approval.

Only one abstract should be submitted per student.

Invited posters will be entered into a **Poster Competition** that will be judged by a panel of NM WSARE Advisory Committee members and agricultural professionals. First to third best posters will be selected and the respective students will be awarded a ‘**New Mexico Sustainable Agriculture Research Award**’ with cash prizes of $100 for first place, $50 for second place and $25 for third place.

**Abstract Guidelines**

Send your abstract of not more than 400 words to Dr. Stephanie Walker ([swalker@nmsu.edu](mailto:swalker@nmsu.edu)) no later than November 12th, 2018. Notification of selected abstracts will be sent out no later than November 16th, 2018. In the abstract, clearly state the title of your project in no more than 20 words. Give a description of why the project was done, the results of the project, and how the project supports sustainable agriculture. The scope of agricultural sustainability encompasses economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainability. Definition of sustainable agriculture can be found on the WSARE website (<http://www.westernsare.org/About-Us/What-is-Sustainable-Agriculture>).

In short, Sustainable Agriculture is:

**Economically Viable**: If it is not profitable, it is not sustainable.

**Socially Supportive**: The quality of life of farmers, farm families and farm communities is important.

**Ecologically Sound**: We must preserve the resource base that sustains us all.

**Poster Preparation Guidelines & Requirements**

**DISPLAY BOARD SIZE**

The total area of the display board available for presentation of your poster will be 47 inches length x 47 inches height. A poster number will be sent to you after your abstract has been accepted for presentation. This number will be placed in either the upper left or right corner of the poster board.

**TITLE**

Your title must contain the following information:

1. Title as submitted on your abstract

2. Presenting author and all co-authors

3. Affiliation(s)

**BASIC CONTENT REQUIREMENTS**

Your poster presentation should contain a clear description of the following:

1. An outline of your project (why you did this work)

2. The method(s) used to achieve a solution

3. The results obtained

4. The conclusions about the importance of your work to sustainable agriculture

Transportation for student participants will be provided to the conference. Please contact Dr. Stephanie Walker ([swalker@nmsu.edu](mailto:swalker@nmsu.edu)) if you need additional information.