# Why did they pick bugs for us to eat? It's becoming clearer. The bugs will be fed garbage and if the crickets don't die from it, we will be fed the crickets.

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MERYL NASS FEB 19, 2024







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USDA United States Department of Agriculture Research, Education & Economics Information System





### Source: MIGHTY CRICKET LLC submitted to

### DEVELOPING PRE-CONSUMER WASTE AS LOW-COST CRICKET FEED FOR SMALL FARMING **OPERATIONS**

Sponsoring Institution National Institute of

**Project Status** 

NEW

Food and Agriculture

**Funding Source** 

SMALL BUSINESS

Reporting Frequency

Annual

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Accession No. Project No.

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2023-00566

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**Program Code** 

8.12

**Project Start Date** 

Jul 1, 2023

Project End Date

Feb 29, 2024

**Grant Year** 2023

## **Project Director**

SCHLAFLY, S.

**Recipient Organization** 

MIGHTY CRICKET LLC 1614 WOLF TRAIL RD WILDWOOD, MO 63021 **Performing Department** 

(N/A)

Project Director SCHLAFLY, S.

Recipient Organization MIGHTY CRICKET LLC 1614 WOLF TRAIL RD WILDWOOD,MO 63021 **Performing Department** (N/A)

#### **Non Technical Summary**

The research proposed in this application addresses the need for more cost-efficient production of crickets as a sustainable protein source. Compared to conventional proteins, cricket protein retails for over twice the cost. This is even after factoring out water weight (crickets are generally sold dry roasted or powdered). The two biggest factors driving up the cost include lack of innovation and economies of scale. Unlike the beef, pork, poultry, and soy industries, there has been very little innovation invested into farming crickets. Most of the global production occurs in Thailand, where goods are generally produced via manual labor versus automation. In addition to labor costs, electricity and feed comprise the next two biggest costs in cricket farming. Utilizing solar energy and insulation helps address electrical costs, meanwhile this research proposal seeks to address feed costs. As innovations reduce the cost of cricket production, it opens the door to more buyers, in turn improving economies of scale. This research proposal also addresses the need to recapture food waste in the US, diverting a portion of food waste from landfills. The problem of food waste is significant. According to the USDA, "In the United States, food waste is estimated at between 30-40 percent of the food supply. This estimate, based on estimates from USDA's Economic Research Service of 31 percent food loss at the retail and consumer levels, corresponded to approximately 133 billion pounds and \$161 billion worth of food in 2010." Food is the largest component of municipal landfill waste, accounting for an average of 22%. All of this food waste creates a huge opportunity for Mighty Cricket to procure cricket feed at lower cost than what is available on the market. Mighty Cricket will then be able to pass along the cost savings to buyers of cricket protein. These include consumers purchasing Mighty Cricket products at retail outlets along with manufacturers of pet food, pharmaceuticals, and bioplastics. In the last 10 years, global demand for alternative proteins has spiked. It is projected to increase at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 18% through 2032, reaching \$497.6 Billion USD. The increase in demand is driven by public awareness of the need for more sustainable food sources. Conventional protein production poses a substantial strain on the ecosystem, requiring unsustainable quantities of water, land, and feed as inputs. Furthermore, animal based proteins are also a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions, estimated at 14.5% of all greenhouse gas emissions. Today's food system can only feed 3.4 billion people sustainably. To sustain the world's growing population, food production practices need to dramatically shift towards resource conservation, and consumers are demanding change. Cricket farming poses one solution to the challenge of food production, as it requires a fraction of consumable inputs compared to conventional proteins. This is why the UN Food and Agriculture Organization recognizes edible insects as a viable alternative to producing food and feed security. Mighty Cricket will collect data on how the cricket feed produced from waste performs comparesto standard feed on the market. The success of the project will be measured on the following objectives: cost savings of the feed, cricket growth, and mortality rates. Ultimately, the company hopes to lower production costs and the environmental footprint of the US food system.

The USDA gave
a grant to
"Mighty
Cricket" to feed
the crickets
garbage and
measure
growth and
death rates

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https://portal.nifa.usda.gov/web/crisprojectpages/1029854-developing-pre-consumerwaste-as-low-cost-cricket-feed-for-small-farming-operations.html



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You can thank our low life politicians from both parties for not putting a stop to this insanity! In Italy where my wife is from they bounced these Great Reset mobsters on their ass for introducing bugs! Italians in Italy still value the quality of their food!

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