

FOOD PURCHASE REPORT

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

DATE: July 20, 2004

USDA TURKEY TACO FILLING PURCHASE PROGRAM ANNOUNCED:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) today announced plans to purchase frozen cooked turkey taco filling for school lunch and other domestic food nutrition assistance programs. Frozen cooked turkey taco filling must be produced from ground turkey (ready-to-cook nonbasted, young turkeys or turkey carcasses and parts, and turkey skin) and spices/seasonings. The commodity must be packaged in 3- to 5-pound (1.36- or 2.27-kg) packages to a net weight of 30 pounds (13.61 kg) in each fiberboard shipping container. A purchase unit will consist of 1,300 shipping containers totaling 39,000 pounds (17,690 kg). **Interested offerors must ensure that the Contracting Officer receives the technical proposal and two pre-bid samples not later than 1 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday, Aug. 16, for evaluation. Announcement PY-289 and the Commodity Specification for Turkey Taco Filling dated July 2004 provide detailed instructions for submission of samples and the factors used for evaluation.**

Offers will be invited from approved suppliers only. Invitation No. 1, inviting offers from approved suppliers will be issued the week of Aug. 16th. Offers will be due by 12 noon, Central Time, Monday, Aug. 23, with acceptances announced by midnight, Friday, Aug. 27. Deliveries will be made in accordance with notices-to-deliver.

There are important changes to this year's program. Other than the final freezing process for finished, packaged commodity, the commodity must not be derived from turkey meat that has been frozen more than one time. Additionally, the contractor/producer must immediately report all complaints received on the commodity to the Contracting Officer. As with last year's program, suppliers approved under the previous year's announcement (PY-274) remain approved and need not re-submit a Technical Proposal or samples. However, product must be produced under the Technical Proposal that was previously approved. Certifications, representations, and warranties will be made annually and are contained in Appendix-1. The certifications will be

made one time only for all Poultry Program Announcements for the program year. Certifications must be received by the Contracting Officer prior to submitting a bid. Information regarding these requirements is contained in Announcement PY-289, which is being distributed to the trade.

Offerors are urged to review the bid format and product specifications and are cautioned to offer only quantities they can reasonably expect to produce and deliver during the contracted delivery period.

Although most other provisions of the program are similar to the program operated last year, offerors are urged to carefully read all applicable terms and conditions of USDA-1, as amended, Announcement PY-289, Appendix-1, the Commodity Specification for Turkey Taco Filling dated July 2004, and Invitation No. 1.

Inquiries may be made by telephoning (202) 720-7693 or addressing the Contracting Officer, USDA/AMS/Poultry Programs, Commodity Procurement Branch STOP 0260, PO Box 96456, Washington, DC 20090-6456. An electronic version of this Food Purchase Report can be obtained through the world wide web via the Commodity Procurement Home Page at:

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/cp> .

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