



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Marketing and  
Regulatory  
Programs

Agricultural  
Marketing  
Service

Washington, DC  
20250

**Please Note: New vendors and subcontractors must supply all required paperwork (Appendix 1, Financial Statement, and 3 Reference Letters) and must register in the Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA). In addition, all vendors must also be registered in the CCR, within 48 hours after bid opening or your company may be considered non-responsive.**

FV-307

Fruit and Vegetable Programs

Date Issued: August 21, 2008

Dried Fruit, Announcement FV-307, Invitation 069

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) invites offers to sell dried fruit as indicated below and per the Announcement for distribution to needy family and other domestic food assistance programs. Offers are due by **1 p.m., Central time, Wednesday, September 10, 2008**. Acceptances will be announced by midnight, September 29, 2008. Deliveries are to be made from November 1, 2008 through December 15, 2008.

Offers are invited from the trade for:

<b>Natural Thompson (sun-dried) Seedless Raisins</b>	<b>24/15 oz. pkg.</b>	<b>3,456 cases</b>
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**No offer will be made to 8(a) vendors on this invitation.**

**Note:** The raisins purchased under this invitation must be Natural Thompson (sun-dried) Seedless Raisins as defined in the U.S. Standards Type (I) - Seedless Raisins (1) Natural or (2) Vine-dried (DOV).

The product must be 100% grown, processed and packed in the United States from the 2007-08 or later crop year of Natural (sun-dried) Seedless raisins which have not been reconditioned by washing and drying.

**Destinations with split shipments that are unspecified on the invitation are indicated by a single asterisk (\*).**

All prime vendors are reminded that they are prohibited from subcontracting with companies or individuals that have been suspended or debarred.

All invitations with orders for the state of New York must have the pack date stamped on the outside of each carton. The pack date should be annotated as per the following example: (05/01/2003). Orders for the state of New York requiring the special marking will be indicated by (\*\*). This applies to New York orders "Only," if and when they appear on an invitation.



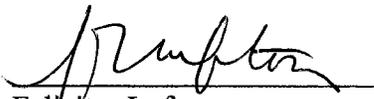
Bids must be submitted electronically via the Domestic Electronic Bid Entry System (DEBES) on the internet. Offerors who submit bids using other than DEBES, will be deemed non-responsive. Offeror must be assigned a Logon ID by USDA to access the site. The Internet address is: <http://www.usda.gov> which translates into a connection of <http://www.usda.gov/procurement/>? Once connected, follow the online procedures. A "HELP" button provides detailed instructions for using the system or call 202-720-4517 for assistance.

**Bidders are cautioned to bid only quantities they can reasonably expect to produce and deliver in accordance with the contract.** Inquiries about Announcement FV-307, Appendix-1, the Commodity Specification for Dried Fruit dated May 2004 or this Invitation should be directed to the Contracting Officer, USDA/AMS/ Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Commodity Procurement Branch STOP 0239, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410, telephone (202) 720-4517. An electronic version of this Invitation can be obtained through the World Wide Web via the Commodity Procurement Home Page at <http://www.usda.gov/procurement/>.

Purchases will be made on a delivered to destination basis, subject to Announcement FV-307, to the listed locations. Destination quantities are estimates and are subject to adjustment based on offerings, changes in recipient need, market conditions, and program operations. Delivery by trucks or railcars is optional to the contractor, except for those destination(s) which specify delivery by truck only or rail only.

**ANNOUNCEMENT : FV307**  
**INVITATION : 069**  
**COMM GROUP : 35 FRUITS, DRIED**  
**COMM TYPE : 40 RAISINS**  
**PACK SIZE : 50 24/15 OZ PKG**

ITEM NO	DESTINATION CITY	ST	TRANS RESTR	QUANTITY (CSE)	PRICE PER (CSE)
DELIVERY PERIOD 11/01/08 - 11/15/08					
001	GALLUP	NM	TRUCK ONLY	1,728	_____
DELIVERY PERIOD 12/01/08 - 12/15/08					
002	CARTHAGE	MO	TRUCK ONLY	1,728	_____
<b>TOTAL QUANTITY FOR COMMODITY TYPE</b>				<b>3,456</b>	
<b>TOTAL QUANTITY FOR INVITATION</b>				<b>3,456</b>	

  
 Felicitas Lofton  
 Contracting Officer  
 Commodity Procurement Branch  
 Fruit and Vegetable Programs

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.