



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

STOP 0249 – Room 2092-S
1400 Independence Avenue, SW.
Washington, DC 20250-0249

February 2002

NOTICE TO THE TRADE

ANNUAL INDUSTRY CONFERENCE FOR CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS IN USDA'S MEAT PURCHASE PROGRAMS

The Livestock and Seed Program of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), an Agency in the Marketing and Regulatory Programs mission area, invites interested contractors and meat suppliers to participate in our annual conference to discuss the AMS commodity purchase and distribution program.

Topics of discussion will include specification updates, certification issues, and other purchase program initiatives. Starting July 1, 2002, AMS will only accept bids submitted through the Domestic Electronic Bid Entry System (DEBES). Informational sessions on submission of bids through DEBES will be provided at the Industry Conference.

The date and location of the conference are as follows:

When: Thursday, May 2, 2002
7:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Where: Holiday Inn KCI
11832 Plaza Circle
Kansas City, Missouri 64153
Phone: (816) 464-2345

Shuttle service is available from the airport. Lodging is approximately \$90 per night. A breakfast buffet will be available in the hotel restaurant. Participants must make their own lodging arrangements.

Pre-registration for the conference is requested. Please return the attached form by April 12, 2002. We invite you to submit questions and comments in advance so time can be allocated for discussion. If you would like additional information, please call Sue Olson or Dorothy Borja on (202) 720-2650.

We value your participation and hope you can attend.

/s/ William Sessions
William T. Sessions, Acting Deputy Administrator
Livestock and Seed Program

Attachments

REGISTRATION FORM

**ANNUAL LIVESTOCK AND SEED PROGRAM
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE**

MAY 2, 2002

AT

**HOLIDAY INN KCI
11832 PLAZA CIRCLE
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64153**

For lodging reservations, call (816) 464-2345 and request Livestock and Seed Conference rate.

SPONSORED BY USDA'S AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Fax this registration form to Dorothy Borja at: (202) 720-9538 by April 12, 2002

COMPANY NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

BUSINESS PHONE: _____

PARTICIPANT'S
FIRST AND LAST NAME, TITLE

DELI BUFFET LUNCH
(NO COST TO PARTICIPANT)

(Circle One)

_____	_____	YES NO

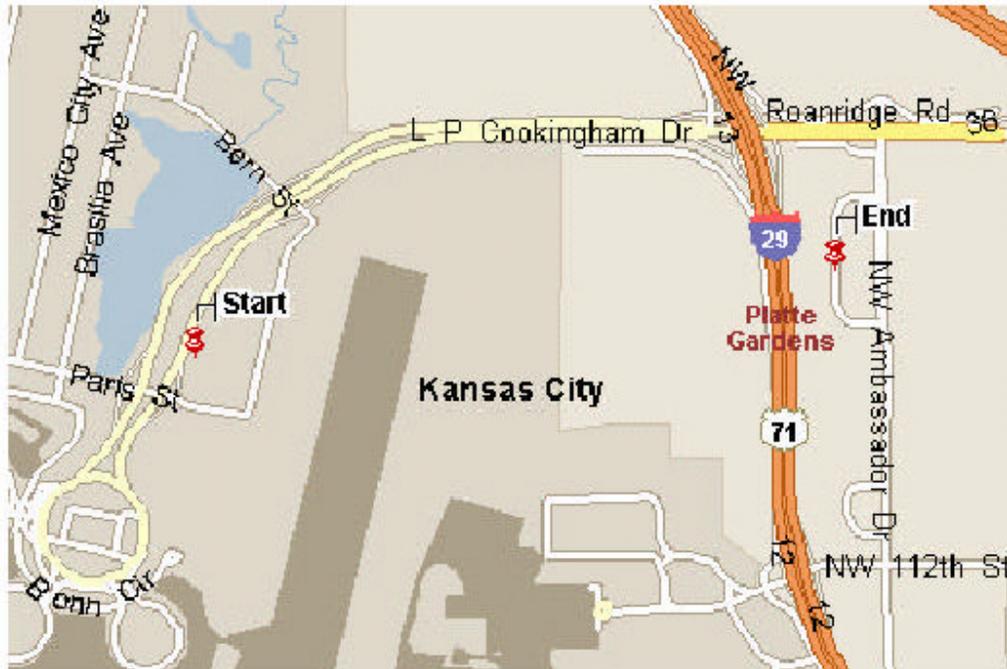
Informational sessions for the electronic bid system will be held during the following time periods.

Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Thursday: 11-11:30 a.m., 11:30-12:00 p.m., and 3:30-4:30 p.m.

However, space will be limited, so please sign up at the conference.

Questions/Comments for discussion:



DIRECTIONS:

Depart KCI Airport on Local Road (West).

Turn **RIGHT** onto L P Cookingham Drive.

Turn **RIGHT** onto NW Ambassador Drive.

Turn **RIGHT** onto NW Plaza Circle.

Turn **RIGHT** into Holiday Inn's Parking Lot: 11832 NW Plaza Circle, Kansas City, Missouri.