FOOD PURCHASE REPORT

United States Department of Agriculture | **Agricultural Marketing Service**

DATE: March 13, 2006

OFFER TO BUY: Frozen Strawberries

The Department of Agriculture announced it is planning to purchase frozen strawberries for distribution to the Child Nutrition Program according to Robert C. Keeney, Deputy Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service.

The anticipated purchases will be made from offers that must be submitted on a delivered-to-destination price basis. Deliveries will be required from July 16 through December 16, 2006.

Products, container sizes, and approximate quantities sought are as follows:

Product	Container Size	U.S. Grade	No. of Pounds (millions)
Frozen IQF Strawberries	30 pounds	A	1.2
Frozen Sliced Strawberries	30 pounds	A	2.1

PLEASE NOTE: This announcement does not commit USDA to purchase specific quantities or particular products. The quantities described in this FOOD PURCHASE REPORT are estimates and are intended to provide only general notice of USDA purchasing plans. Those plans are subject to change. Actual purchases will depend upon prices and quantities offered as well as possible adjustments in user requirements.

Invitations to bid, including final details and specifications, will be sent to processors. **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://pcsd.usda.gov/debes which translates into a connection of https://pcsd.usda.gov:3077/mdbc1000.exe? Once connected, follow the online procedures. A 'HELP' button provides detailed instructions for using the system or call 202-720-4517 for assistance.**

Further information can be obtained from the Commodity Procurement Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 2546-South Building, Washington, DC 20090-6456, telephone (202) 720-4517 or our Internet Site: http://www.ams.usda.gov/cp