USDA

United States Department of Agriculture

Marketing and Regulatory Programs

Agricultural Marketing Service

Washington, DC 20250

Note: New vendors and subcontractors must supply all of the required paperwork (Appendix I, 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-302 Fruit and Vegetable Programs

Date Issued: September 13, 2005

Canned Vegetables, Announcement FV-302, Invitation 044

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) invites offers to sell canned vegetables as indicated below and per the Announcement for distribution to the Needy Family and other domestic food assistance programs. **Offers are due by 1 p.m., Central Time, Thursday, September 15, 2005**. Acceptances will be announced by midnight, September 19, 2005. Deliveries are to be made from September 16, 2005 through October 15, 2005.

Offers are invited from the trade for:

Spaghetti Sauce	24/#300	1,620 cases

No offer will be made to 8(a) vendors on this invitation.

This invitation is to provide USDA commodities to areas affected by Hurricane Katrina, and to replace commodities previously diverted to those areas. Since there is a great need to deliver to destinations on the gulf coast as soon as possible, delivery timeframes on this invitation will begin immediately. **If you are unable to meet the early delivery periods, do not bid on them.** Inspection issues resulting from the need to deliver product quickly will be handled by Commodity Procurement Branch on a case by case basis. **Please note, it's the vendor's responsibility to have timely deliveries and to deliver good quality and condition of the product.**

Note: Effective August 1, 2005, Contractors are required to submit Annual Representations and Certifications via the Online Representation and Certifications Application (ORCA), a part of Business Partner Network (BPN). The internet address for registering in ORCA is http://orca.bpn.gov. The representations and certifications are effective until one year from the date of submission or update to ORCA. A revised abbreviated Appendix 1 dated August 2005 will be required for contractors registering via the ORCA system. A notice to the trade regarding this requirement was issued on June 28, 2005 at http://www.ams.usda.gov/fv/cp/tradenotices.htm

However, Contractors who have previously (prior to August 1, 2005) submitted the Appendix 1 for calendar year 2005 will be relieved from the ORCA online registration until the expiration of their Appendix 1.

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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 this 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://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.

Bidders are cautioned to bid only quantities they can reasonably expect to produce and deliver in accordance with the contract. Inquiries about Announcement FV-302; Appendix-1; the Commodity Specification for Canned Vegetables dated April 2004, as amended; 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 20250-0239, 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.ams.usda.gov/cp.

Purchases of the commodities listed below will be made on a delivered basis, subject to Announcement FV-302, 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.

Split shipments are indicated by a single asterisk (*).

ANNOUNCEMENT : FV302
INVITATION : 044
COMM GROUP : 36 VEGETABLES, CANNED
COMM TYPE : 83 SPAGHETTI SAUCE, MEATLESS, CND
PACK SIZE : 24 24/#300 CAN

ITEM NO	DESTINATION CITY	ST	TRANS RESTR	QUANTITY (CSE)	PRICE PER (CSE)
DELIVERY PERIOD 10/01/05 - 10/15/05					
001	JONESBORO	AR	TRUCK ONLY	711	_____
	LITTLE ROCK	AR	TRUCK ONLY	909	_____

TOTAL QUANTITY FOR COMMODITY TYPE 1,620

TOTAL QUANTITY FOR INVITATION 1,620

Felicitas C. Lofton
Contracting Officer

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.