2011 Guidance Document and Pre-Award Presentation Now Available

The 2011 Guidance Document and 2011 Pre-Award Presentation is now available on the home page of the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program web site at www.ams.usda.gov/gov.

You will find that Appendix D of the Guidance document is now an application checklist. This checklist is very similar to the checklist the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program staff uses to review State department of agriculture grant applications. You and your potential applicants may find the checklist useful in ensuring all information is included in each project proposal.

For example, under the Outreach section, the checklist includes 6 questions, one being "Is a plan included indicating what steps were taken to conduct outreach to specialty crop stakeholders to receive and consider public comment to identify state funding priority needs, including any focus on multi-state projects in enhancing the competitiveness of specialty crops?" Under the expected measurable outcome section, one of the four questions on the checklist asks "Does this section include how performance towards meeting the outcomes will be monitored?"

This checklist replaces the Budget Narrative format that was Appendix D in the 2009 Guidance Document, which is now included in Appendix C “State Plan Format”.

You can also find the Sample State Plan on the front page of www.ams.usda.gov/scbgp. We encourage you to reference or include this guidance in your requests for proposals.

Please note that there is a change under the 2011 Guidelines pertaining to salary caps for contractual and consultant staff. This requirement is noted at the beginning of the Guidance document.

Free Webinar Offered in December

On Thursday, December 16, 2010 at 2 p.m. Eastern Time, the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program will conduct a free Red Book University webinar entitled “Grant Opportunity: Enhancing the Competitiveness of Specialty Crop”.

The webinar will provide information on how specialty crop stakeholders can apply for grant funds to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops.

We encourage you to notify potential specialty crop applicants within your state about the upcoming webinar. The registration form can be found on the front page of the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program website at www.ams.usda.gov/scbgp.

For more information about the webinar, contact Christopher Purdy, Business Development Specialist, USDA, AMS Fruit and Vegetable Programs, tel. (202) 720-3209, Christopher.purdy@ams.usda.gov.
### Delivery of Funding

#### 2009
- Competitive Grants: 78%
- State Programs: 21%
- Other: 1%

#### 2010
- Competitive Grants: 82%
- State Programs: 17%
- Other: 1%

### Project Types

#### 2009
- Marketing & Promotion: 42%
- Pest & Plant Health: 13%
- Production: 6%
- Research: 15%
- Other: 5%
- Education: 12%
- Food Safety: 7%

#### 2010
- Marketing & Promotion: 38%
- Pest & Plant Health: 12%
- Production: 10%
- Research: 13%
- Other: 5%
- Education: 18%
- Food Safety: 4%

### Project Sub-Types

#### 2009
- Direct Marketing
- Beginning, and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers
- Developing Local and Regional Food Systems
- New and Improved Specialty Crop Varieties/Uses

#### 2010
- Direct Marketing
- Beginning, and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers
- Developing Local and Regional Food Systems
- New and Improved Specialty Crop Varieties/Uses

### Bar Chart

- **Child and Adult Nutrition**
- **Direct Marketing**
- **Beginning, and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers**
- **Developing Local and Regional Food Systems**
- **New and Improved Specialty Crop Varieties/Uses**

- **Millions**: $7, $6, $5, $4, $3, $2, $1

- **Years**: 2009, 2010