



2015 AMS Industry Meeting for USDA Foods Contractors and Suppliers

Six Questions to Stakeholders

Dear USDA Foods Contractors and Suppliers,

The Agricultural Marketing Service believes in continual improvement of the programs and services we provide to industry and recipients. Your open and honest input is vital to this process.

As we begin this year's Industry Meeting, I ask that you take some time to consider the following questions regarding the USDA Foods commodity purchase programs. These questions will help shape future discussions and changes to our programs, and I will be discussing these in greater detail during the General Session on Day One:

1. The Web Based Supply Chain Management System (WBSCM) is used for all major business functions, including all procurement activity. If there was one thing you could change about WBSCM's functionality, what would it be?
2. For the product(s) you supply through USDA Foods (please indicate what they are), what purchase schedule might help maximize access to available domestic supply and supplier response, and be more suitable for your company? What is the frequency (i.e. monthly, quarterly, yearly, long-term) of contract and commitment that is ideal for those products? What timeframe lines up best with commercial practice?
3. What specific components of USDA Foods procurement and the purchase programs (i.e., WBSCM features, timing of purchases, contracting methods, etc.) work well? Why?
4. What are the primary barriers or challenges that hinder companies from doing business with AMS? How would you propose to remove these barriers?
5. What other challenges of the AMS procurement program do you believe CPS should address over the next year? How would you address those challenges?
6. AMS recently launched a new agency-wide website. Does the new website meet your needs? How can the website be improved?

David Tuckwiller
Director

Together We're Making a Difference: American Agriculture for the American People.

Agricultural Marketing Service, Commodity Procurement Staff
1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 3522-S, STOP 0239
Washington, DC 20250-0239
Voice 202.720.4517 Fax 202.720.5871