

United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue,
S.W. - Room 3522
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Room 3522-S, STOP 0239
Washington, DC 20036

Information

Description: **12-3J14-23-B-0054-0001**
Bid invitation number: **2000008895**
Purchasing Group: **AMS-Fruit and Veg**

SOLICITATION

Domestic Commodity Invitation

Bid invitation Overview

Bid Timezone: Central Time
Start Date: 10/28/2022 12:15:00
Offer Due Date : 11/14/2022 13:00:00

Opening date: 11/14/2022 13:00:00

Invitation Type : Definite Delivery

Additional requested information:

Tendering text - Header :

Fresh Fruit, SOLICITATION NO: 2000008895

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) invites offers to sell fresh apples and pears pursuant to the AMS Master Solicitation for use in the National School Lunch Program and other Federal Food and Nutrition Assistance Programs. Acceptances will be announced by midnight, November 30, 2023. Deliveries are to be made between January 2, 2023 and March 29, 2023.

The Contract Specialist handling this purchase will be Nick Wiber at nick.wiber@usda.gov. The Contact Officer handling this purchase will be Kyla Stoufer at Kyla.Stoufer@usda.gov. Please contact the specialist first.

Small Business Set Asides for NAICS code 311991 with a size standard of 500 employees or less are as follows:

100514- APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB- 100% Small Business Set Aside
100521- APPLES GALA FRESH G CARTON-40 LB- 100% Small Business Set Aside
100522- APPLES FUJI FRESH F CARTON-40 LB- 100% Small Business Set Aside
110543- APPLES GRANNY SMITH FRESH CTN-40 LB- 100% Small Business Set Aside
110561- APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB- 100% Small Business Set Aside
111424 - PEARS BARTLETT FRESH CTN#40 LB- 100% Small Business Set Aside
110560 - PEARS FRESH PKG-12/3 LB- 100% Small Business Set Aside

This purchase must meet all relevant requirements such as packing, packaging, labeling, inspection and shipping temperatures of the Commodity Specification for Fresh Fruit July 2019.

(110561)- APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB-

1. Grade - U.S. Fancy. (State grades will be acceptable provided the apples meet the requirements of the U.S. Fancy Grade).

2. Types of Pack and Size Requirement:

- a. Tray pack - minimum size 150; maximum size- 100
- b. Cell pack - minimum size 140; maximum size # 96
- c. Consumer units packed within master containers - minimum size 2 1/8 inches in diameter, maximum size 3 inches in diameter. Consumer units shall be 12/3-pound poly film bags.
- d. Apples, when Tray or Cell packed, in each offer unit ordered delivered by USDA shall contain product of not more than three (3) adjacent sizes nor be in more than three locations at the time of

SOLICITATION
Domestic Commodity Invitation

Information

Description: **12-3J14-23-B-0054-0001**
 Bid invitation number: **2000008895**

inspection. Each size shall be segregated in the shipment with a minimum of intermingling of the sizes. If shipment is by truck, the location and count of each size in the truck (front, center, and tail) shall be noted on the shipping manifest by the contractor.

3. Apples shall also meet the United States Condition Standards for Export.
4. Tenderness and Maturity # not more than an average of five percent in any lot and ten percent in individual containers may be further advanced in maturity than firm ripe.
5. Intermingling of the varieties in the truckload is permitted but not on the pallet.
6. Must be loaded into a refrigerated trailer capable of holding air temperature not to exceed 40° F.
7. Refrigerated shipment at 32° to 38° F air temperature.
8. Varieties: Empire, Fuji, Gala, Red Delicious and Granny Smith.

(110560)- PEARS FRESH PKG-12/3 LB-

1. Grade # U.S. No. 1. Provided that the pears do not contain more than five percent condition defects. State Grades will be acceptable provided that the pears meet the minimum requirements of the U.S. No. 1 Grade (i.e., Oregon/Washington Extra Fancy). Varieties: Anjou and Bartlett.
2. Tenderness and Maturity - not more than an average of 10 percent of the pears in any lot or more than 15 percent in any container, may be further advanced in stages of ripeness than firm.
3. Pack and Size Requirement:
 - a. Pack - Consumer units packed within master containers # 12/3 lb. poly film bags and master containers meeting the specification. Consumer units packed within master containers 12/3 lb. poly film bags (which may include gusseted bags) and master containers meeting the specification.
 - b. Size - Pears should be packed to a minimum size of 2 1/8 inches in diameter and a maximum size of 2 3/4 inches in diameter.
4. The grade, quality, condition, count, size pack, and the stage of firmness requirements referred to herein are defined in United States Standards for Grades of Summer and Fall Pears, and the United States Standards for Grades of Winter Pears.

SOLICITATION
Domestic Commodity Invitation

Information

Description: **12-3J14-23-B-0054-0001**
 Bid invitation number: **2000008895**

5. Intermingling of the varieties in the truckload is permitted but not on the pallet or in the bag.
6. Must be loaded into a refrigerated trailer capable of holding air temperature not to exceed 40° F.
7. Refrigerated shipment at 34° to 40° F air temperature.

Every bidder must include a letter of support with their bid from all current and approved supplier(s). The templates for the letter of support are attached to the solicitation with the required elements. Each letter of support is only good for one solicitation. A new letter of support will be required for every solicitation, from every supplier. The supplier must include the quantity in cases they are committing to the bidder. USDA will not award a quantity that exceeds the sum of all supplier#s committed quantities to a particular bidder.

For a new-to-USDA contractor and existing contractors who are bidding on new products, a probationary period may be implemented in which awards are limited to 10 truckloads per product. Contractor must demonstrate successful delivery of at least five (5) truckloads of product in order to be removed from probationary status on future solicitations. For the purposes of this rule, successful delivery is defined as product delivered on-time and in acceptable condition according to the terms and conditions of the contract. Any delivery problems directly attributable to the Government will not be held against the contractor.

Vendors or subcontractors who are supplying fresh fruit crops to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) must ensure that each of their suppliers/subcontractors who grow, harvest, pack, hold, and handle product have approved and current food safety verification audits PRIOR to the bid opening date of this solicitation. Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Handling Practices (GHP) scopes which are necessary to meet the minimum requirement to be deemed responsive are as follows:

GAP - Farm Review AND Field Harvesting & Field Packing Activities
 GHP - House Packing Facility AND Storage & Transportation

All these requirements shall be met PRIOR to the bid opening date.

Brokers are exempt from the USDA GAP/GHP requirements themselves, HOWEVER suppliers/subcontractors performing under the contract shall have the applicable USDA GAP/GHP certification(s).

Verification audits shall be performed by the USDA, AMS, SCP-SCID representatives only. In order to be found responsive the contractor and/or its subcontractors/suppliers must be in compliance with USDA GAP/GHP certification. Offerors must include in their bid the GAP and GHP Audit Verification attachment, which is found in the attachments section of this solicitation. Offerors who do not complete this form in its entirety, do not include the form as an attachment to their bid, or are missing the required USDA GAP/GHP scopes listed above shall be deemed nonresponsive.

All audits are valid for one year after the date the audit was conducted. More information on USDA GAP/GHP audits can be found here: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/auditing/gap-ghp> or by reaching

SOLICITATION
Domestic Commodity Invitation

Information

Description: **12-3J14-23-B-0054-0001**
 Bid invitation number: **2000008895**

out to scaudits@usda.gov.

Awardees may ship and supply from any location found here:
<https://apps.ams.usda.gov/GAPGHP/reportG01.aspx>

If USDA/AMS finds that suppliers used by the contractor are not in compliance with AMS GAP/GHP certification requirements after the product is delivered, the following courses of action will apply:

1. A cure notice shall be issued informing the contractor of their failure to comply with the required elements of this solicitation. The USDA will then deduct a 50% discount from the invoice for all noncompliant deliveries shipped or invoiced prior to the date listed on the cure notice.
2. If the contractor ships noncompliant product after the date of the cure notice:
 - a. USDA/AMS will deduct a 50% discount from the invoice for all noncompliant deliveries;
 - b. The contract will be terminated for cause; and
 - c. The contractor will be suspended from participating in all future USDA/AMS fresh fruit and vegetable solicitations for a period of one year from the date of contract termination.

This solicitation may show multiple stops on some line items; however, the number of stops will be limited to a maximum of three. To determine the number of destinations, review the "Tendering Text" for the lot, which will indicate the City and State for each stop. Bidders may submit different prices for each stop. However, a price is required on all line items within the lot.

For offshore destinations (Puerto Rico, Hawaii, etc.), offerors have the option to choose to enter their bids direct to the offshore destination or to the port. Purchases will be made on an f.o.b. destination basis to cities on this solicitation. Destination quantities listed are estimates and subject to adjustment based on offerings, changes in recipient needs, market conditions, and program operations.

All prime vendors are reminded that they are prohibited from subcontracting with companies or individuals that have been suspended or debarred.

Offers must be submitted electronically via the Web-Based Supply Chain Management System (WBSCM). Offers submitted by any means other than WBSCM will be deemed nonresponsive. Offerors must be active in WBSCM and have the required bidder roles in order to submit offers under this solicitation. Once connected, follow the online procedures. A "HELP" button provides detailed instructions or call (202) 720-4517 for assistance.

Offerors are cautioned to bid only quantities they can reasonably expect to produce and deliver. Inquiries about the Master Solicitation dated March 2022; The Commodity Specification for Fresh Fruit; or this solicitation should be directed to the Contracting Officer; USDA, AMS, Room 3522-South; 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.; Washington, D.C. 20250-0239. Telephone: (202) 720-4517. FAX: (202) 720-2782.

The USDA prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic

SOLICITATION
Domestic Commodity Invitation

Information

Description: **12-3J14-23-B-0054-0001**
 Bid invitation number: **2000008895**

information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.) To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), or (866) 377-8642 (Relay voiceusers).

See attached documents:

- 1 . CommoditySpecificationforFreshFruitJuly2019
- 2 . USDA GAP and GHP Audit Verification Document
- 3 . Templates for Supplier Agreement Letter
- 4 . Master Solicitation March 1, 2022

Attributes :

OFFEROR CERTIFIES THAT THE OFFER IS MADE SUBJECT TO THE MASTER SOLICITATION; COMMODITY SUPPLEMENT AND/OR SPECIFICATION(S); THIS SOLICITATION; THE AGRICULTURE ACQUISITION REGULATIONS (AGAR) AND THE FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATIONS (FAR).
 Timely performance: Offeror and any subcontractor have completed required performance of any USDA contract prior to this bid opening.

- Permitted values:
- Have been delivered
 - Have not been delivered
 - Have not been delivered, but the Offeror has notified the Contracting Officer
 - There are no existing contracts/purchase orders

OFFEROR REQUESTS HUBZONE SMALL BUSINESS PRICE EVALUATION PREFERENCE. APPLIES ONLY TO FIRMS CERTIFIED IN THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S HUBZONE PROGRAM (FAR SUBPART 19.13).MUST BE THE MANUFACTURER/PRODUCER OF THE PRODUCT TO RECEIVE A PRICE PREFERENCE

Furnish name, title, phone number, fax number, and e-mail address of person submitting this bid (must be an officer of the company or a person authorized to execute contracts/purchase orders on behalf of the bidder).

IS THE OFFEROR AN ENTITY THAT HAS FILED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION IN ONE OF THE FIFTY STATES, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, OR THE VARIOUS TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED STATES? YOU MUST ANSWER THE NEXT 3 QUESTIONS IF THE ANSWER FOR THIS QUESTION IS YES.

HAS THE OFFEROR BEEN CONVICTED OF A FELONY CRIMINAL VIOLATION UNDER FEDERAL OR

SOLICITATION
Domestic Commodity Invitation

Information

Description: **12-3J14-23-B-0054-0001**
 Bid invitation number: **2000008895**

STATE LAW IN THE 24 MONTHS PRECEDING THE DATE OF OFFER?

HAS THE OFFEROR HAD ANY OFFICER OR AGENT OF OFFEROR CONVICTED OF A FELONY CRIMINAL VIOLATION FOR ACTIONS TAKEN ON BEHALF OF OFFEROR UNDER FEDERAL OR STATE LAW IN THE 24 MONTHS PRECEDING THE DATE OF OFFER?

DOES THE OFFEROR HAVE ANY UNPAID FEDERAL TAX LIABILITY ASSESSED, WHICH ALL JUDICIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED/LAPSED, THAT IS NOT BEING PAID IN A TIMELY MANNER PURSUANT TO AGREEMENT WITH THE AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR COLLECTING IT?

Offeror attached the required Supplier Agreement Letter for every supplier they intend to subcontract

Bid invitation Item details

Item	Material Description	Required by	ZipCode	Quantity	
10	FRUIT, FRESH				
20	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB				
30	GARDEN GROVE CA				
40	110561 APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	02/13/2023-02/15/2023	92841	980.000	CS
50	SAN DIEGO CA				
60	110561 APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/09/2023-01/11/2023	92121	980.000	CS
70	ORLANDO FL				
80	110561 APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/02/2023-01/04/2023	32805	980.000	CS
90	110561 APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/16/2023-01/18/2023	32805	980.000	CS
100	110561 APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/23/2023-01/25/2023	32805	980.000	CS
110	110561 APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	02/06/2023-02/08/2023	32805	980.000	CS
120	110561 APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	02/27/2023-03/01/2023	32805	980.000	CS
130	110561 APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	03/27/2023-03/29/2023	32805	980.000	CS
140	SAVANNAH GA				
150	110561 APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/30/2023-02/01/2023	31404	980.000	CS
160	GENEVA IL				
170	110561 APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	03/27/2023-03/29/2023	60134	980.000	CS

SOLICITATION
Domestic Commodity Invitation

Information

Description: 12-3J14-23-B-0054-0001
 Bid invitation number: 2000008895

Item	Material	Description	Required by	ZipCode	Quantity	
180 SPRINGFIELD IL						
190	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	02/13/2023-02/15/2023	62703		CS
					980.000	
200 BALTIMORE MD						
210	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	03/20/2023-03/22/2023	21227		CS
					980.000	
220 FORT WORTH TX						
230	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/09/2023-01/11/2023	76107		CS
					980.000	
240	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/23/2023-01/25/2023	76107		CS
					980.000	
250	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	02/06/2023-02/08/2023	76107		CS
					980.000	
260	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	02/20/2023-02/22/2023	76107		CS
					980.000	
270	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	03/06/2023-03/08/2023	76107		CS
					980.000	
280	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	03/20/2023-03/22/2023	76107		CS
					980.000	
290 HOUSTON TX						
300	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/09/2023-01/11/2023	77029		CS
					980.000	
310	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/23/2023-01/25/2023	77029		CS
					980.000	
320	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	02/06/2023-02/08/2023	77029		CS
					980.000	
330	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	02/20/2023-02/22/2023	77029		CS
					980.000	
340	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	03/06/2023-03/08/2023	77029		CS
					980.000	
350	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	03/20/2023-03/22/2023	77029		CS
					980.000	
360 LOT: 589223737 BATESVILLE MS / JACKSO...						
Tendering text - Item : LOT: 589223737 BATESVILLE MS / JACKSON MS /						
370	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	02/20/2023-02/22/2023	38606		CS
					245.000	
380	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	02/20/2023-02/22/2023	39201		CS
					735.000	

SOLICITATION
Domestic Commodity Invitation

Information

Description: 12-3J14-23-B-0054-0001
 Bid invitation number: 2000008895

Item	Material	Description	Required by	ZipCode	Quantity	
390 LOT: 632886051 BATESVILLE MS / JACKSO...						
Tendering text - Item : LOT: 632886051 BATESVILLE MS / JACKSON MS /						
400	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/23/2023-01/25/2023	38606	245.000	CS
410	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/23/2023-01/25/2023	39201	735.000	CS
420 LOT: 638795626 BOSTON MA / LOWELL MA /						
430	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/16/2023-01/18/2023	02118	735.000	CS
440	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/16/2023-01/18/2023	01854	245.000	CS
450 LOT: 813442268 BOSTON MA / LOWELL MA /						
460	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	03/13/2023-03/15/2023	02118	735.000	CS
470	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	03/13/2023-03/15/2023	01854	245.000	CS
480 LOT: 975010471 LAFAYETTE LA / NEW ORL...						
Tendering text - Item : LOT: 975010471 LAFAYETTE LA / NEW ORLEANS LA /						
490	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	02/06/2023-02/08/2023	70505	490.000	CS
500	110561	APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	02/06/2023-02/08/2023	70123	490.000	CS
Total Quantity for APPLES FRESH PKG-12/3 LB						28,420.000
510 APPLES FUJI FRESH F CARTON-40 LB						
520 LORTON VA						
530	100522	APPLES FUJI FRESH F CARTON-40 LB	01/02/2023-01/04/2023	22079	924.000	CS
Total Quantity for APPLES FUJI FRESH F CARTON-40 LB						924.000
540 APPLES GALA FRESH G CARTON-40 LB						
550 EXETER CA						
560	100521	APPLES GALA FRESH G CARTON-40 LB	01/23/2023-01/25/2023	93221	924.000	CS
570 IRVINE CA						
580	100521	APPLES GALA FRESH G CARTON-40 LB	01/23/2023-01/25/2023	92618	924.000	CS

SOLICITATION
Domestic Commodity Invitation

Information

Description: 12-3J14-23-B-0054-0001
 Bid invitation number: 2000008895

Item	Material	Description	Required by	ZipCode	Quantity	
590 SAN ANTONIO TX						
600	100521	APPLES GALA FRESH G CARTON-40 LB	01/23/2023-01/25/2023	78227		CS
					924.000	
610	100521	APPLES GALA FRESH G CARTON-40 LB	03/20/2023-03/22/2023	78227		CS
					924.000	
Total Quantity for APPLES GALA FRESH G CARTON-40 LB						CS
						3,696.000
620 APPLES GRANNY SMITH FRESH CTN-40 LB						
630 LAS VEGAS NV						
640	110543	APPLES GRANNY SMITH FRESH CTN-40 LB	01/09/2023-01/11/2023	89030		CS
					924.000	
Total Quantity for APPLES GRANNY SMITH FRESH CTN-40 LB						CS
						924.000
650 APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB						
660 LAS VEGAS NV						
670	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	02/06/2023-02/08/2023	89030		CS
					924.000	
680 AKRON OH						
690	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	02/27/2023-03/01/2023	44307		CS
					924.000	
700 PLANO TX						
710	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	01/02/2023-01/04/2023	75075		CS
					924.000	
720	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	01/30/2023-02/01/2023	75075		CS
					924.000	
730 LOT: 371324080 SARASOTA FL / TAMPA FL /						
740	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	03/06/2023-03/08/2023	34240		CS
					462.000	
750	100514	APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB	03/06/2023-03/08/2023	33605		CS
					462.000	
Total Quantity for APPLES RED DELICIOUS FRESH CTN-40 LB						CS
						4,620.000
1220 PEARS BARTLETT FRESH CTN#40 LB						
1230 CHICAGO IL						
1240	111424	PEARS BARTLETT FRESH CTN#40 LB	01/16/2023-01/18/2023	60632		CS
					980.000	
1250	111424	PEARS BARTLETT FRESH CTN#40 LB	02/06/2023-02/08/2023	60632		CS
					980.000	

SOLICITATION
Domestic Commodity Invitation

Information

Description: **12-3J14-23-B-0054-0001**
 Bid invitation number: **2000008895**

Item	Material	Description	Required by	ZipCode	Quantity	
1260	111424	PEARS BARTLETT FRESH CTN#40 LB	02/27/2023-03/01/2023	60632	980.000	CS
1270	111424	PEARS BARTLETT FRESH CTN#40 LB	03/20/2023-03/22/2023	60632	980.000	CS
Total Quantity for PEARS BARTLETT FRESH CTN#40 LB					3,920.000	CS
1280 PEARS FRESH PKG-12/3 LB						
1290 IRVINE CA						
1300	110560	PEARS FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	03/20/2023-03/22/2023	92618	980.000	CS
1310 SAVANNAH GA						
1320	110560	PEARS FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	03/13/2023-03/15/2023	31404	980.000	CS
1330 GENEVA IL						
1340	110560	PEARS FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/09/2023-01/11/2023	60134	980.000	CS
1350 LAS VEGAS NV						
1360	110560	PEARS FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/23/2023-01/25/2023	89030	980.000	CS
1370 HOUSTON TX						
1380	110560	PEARS FRESH PKG-12/3 LB	01/16/2023-01/18/2023	77029	980.000	CS
Total Quantity for PEARS FRESH PKG-12/3 LB					4,900.000	CS
Total Quantity for Invitation					47,404.000	CS

Amendment Details

Amendment : 12-3J14-23-B-0054-0001 Date : 10/28/2022

Action	Item	Material	Description	Type
		Field	Old Value	New Value

See comments in the amendment header text for specific details.



Kyla Stoufer
 Contracting Officer
 Commodity Procurement Division