

**AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT**

1. CONTRACT ID CODE

PAGE OF PAGES

2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NUMBER

3. EFFECTIVE DATE

See Block 16C

4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQUISITION NUMBER

5. PROJECT NUMBER (If applicable)

6. ISSUED BY

CODE

United States Department of Agriculture  
 Agricultural Marketing Service, Commodity Procurement Staff  
 1400 Independence Ave SW  
 Room 3522-S, STOP - 0239  
 Washington, DC 20250-0239

7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6)

CODE

See block 6

8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (Number, street, county, State and ZIP Code)

9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NUMBER

9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11)

10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NUMBER

10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)

CODE

FACILITY CODE

**11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS**

The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers  is extended.  is not extended.

Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods:

(a) By completing items 8 and 15, and returning \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or electronic communication which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by letter or electronic communication, provided each letter or electronic communication makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)

**13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS. IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NUMBER AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.**

CHECK ONE

A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NUMBER IN ITEM 10A.

B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation data, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).

C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:

D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority)

**E. IMPORTANT:** Contractor  is not  is required to sign this document and return \_\_\_\_\_ copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)

16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print)

15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR

15C. DATE SIGNED

16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

16C. DATE SIGNED

(Signature of person authorized to sign)

(Signature of Contracting Officer)

Previous edition unusable

**STANDARD FORM 30 (REV. 11/2016)**

Prescribed by GSA FAR (48 CFR) 53.243

Subject: Request for information response for solicitation 12-3J14-24-B-0600 (2000010312) for the procurement of fresh apples in bags and cartons under section 32.

Q. What should a vendor do if they can't get a GAP or GHP Audit done in time to use their company or another supplier as a valid supplier on their bid and USDAGAP GHP verification form?

**A. Suppliers who do not meet scopes for GAP or GHP prior to the bid due date may not be used in this solicitation and should not be listed on the USDA GAPGHP verification form.**

From the solicitation:

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

Q. Are there any delays in scheduling GAP or GHP audits out of the Michigan area?

**A. Due to the volume of inspection and audit work requested in MI the audit scheduling process has taken longer than expected. Audits are being scheduled as soon as possible.**

Q. I am curious where this list of varieties came from for the new 600lb bin.

(111 10) - APPLES FRESH VARIOUS TYPE BIN - 600 LB

Varieties: Yorks, Ida Reds, Pink Lady, Gold Rush, Autumn Crisp, Cameo, Crimson Crisp, Ginger Gold, Golden Supreme, McIntosh, Stayman, Winesap, Romes, Golden Delicious, Cortland, and Enterprise.

Many of the varieties on the approved list is made up of varieties that are on life support. They are mostly on life support because there are better eating varieties. Programs like this that give them special preference will only keep them on life support longer. Please consider adding in the varieties I have listed below on future 600 bids. These are the varieties consumers enjoy and are purchasing when they have a choice. Not just when they are given away at a food bank.

What about: Honeycrisp, Gala, Fuji, Wild Twist Envy Jazz, Cosmic Crisp, Lady Alice

A. Yorks, Ida Reds, Pink Lady, Gold Rush, Autumn Crisp, Cameo, Crimson Crisp, Ginger Gold, Golden Supreme, McIntosh, Stayman, Winesap, Romes, Golden Delicious, Cortland, and Enterprise were the varieties requested for this Section 32 Purchase. The others were not.

Q. Could you review the delivery dates for the 600 pound totes in the recently announced solicitation 2000010312. There does not appear to be the normal range of delivery dates to make deliveries, for example the first load to Cleveland, OH only show one possible day to deliver – 10/16.

**A. This issue was resolved with the issuance of Amendment 1 on solicitation 2000010312**

Q, WHY DOES THE USDA GAP GHP WEBSITE NOT SHOW ALL THE SCOPES? SHIPPERS HAVE BOTH GAP SCOPES AUDITED AND GHP SCOPES AUDITED BUT THEY DONT BOTH SHOW. ON SOME SHIPPERS THEY MAY JUST SHOW GHP AND NOT GAP OR VICE VERSA.

**A. The USDA Website should be showing the audited scopes. If there is a scope missing from the website please have the shippers contact Audit Services Branch at SCAudits@usda.gov to inquire about this.**

Q. are we using the sizing from the commodity specifications or are we using the sizing from the instructions to offerors?

**A. The sizing for the 600 lb. bin purchase is listed in the Tendering Text. It states: Apple Sizes: Minimum size 2 inches in diameter, no maximum size.**

Q.: Regarding the variety of apple in a single truckload I understand no two apple types can be in a single 600 lb. container. However, regarding the variety type, can a single variety be a full truck load?

For example: A full truck load containing only Pink Lady apples in 600 lb. containers.

**A. Yes**

Q 1. Are we gonna put loose apples in the tri wall bins?

**A. Yes, After apples are processed by sorting, cleaning, and washing they will be re-packed into clean 600-pound tri-walled corrugated fiber bins with lids (apple bins) that meet the FDA requirements for packaging that is safe for food contact. Net Weight: The apple bins must be filled to a minimum net weight of 600 pounds plus or minus 12 pounds (2% by weight). for final delivery to the end point recipient.**

Q. Is there an up to a certain maximum size ?

It would be very beneficial to the farmers if we could include any sizes starting with a minimum up to 64. That would help us get rid of a lot of fruit since there is no market for certain sizes.

**A. No, Only the minimum size of 2 inches in diameter, no maximum size.**

Q. After bins come in from orchard the fruit runs through the DPA and gets washed, would you allow us to transfer the apples straight from the apple bin to the tri wall bin ?

**A. Apples that are processed by sorting, cleaning, and washing will be re-packed into clean 600-pound tri-walled corrugated fiber bins with lids (apple bins) that meet the FDA requirements for packaging that is safe for food contact.**

Q. Noticed the deliveries to DeMoines and Hiawatha, Iowa require partial full bins to each location. If the item is a 600 pound bin why are you requesting a partial bin for each delivery location? You never ask for partial units on other purchases.

**A. 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 "Instructions to offers/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.**