

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL - RFP# 201104064

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES

SPECIALTY CROP GRANT PROGRAM

The Maine Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, Agriculture Resource Development Division is requesting proposals for project(s) which solely enhance the competitiveness of U.S. or U.S. territory grown specialty crops in either domestic or foreign markets. *Specialty crops are defined by the USDA as fruits and vegetables, dried fruit, tree nuts, horticulture (including maple syrup and honey), nursery crops (including floriculture).* Individuals, Commodity Groups, Buy Local organizations, individual operations and business are all eligible for this grant program, provided their proposals meet all the specifications in this Request for Response. **Please note that grants will not be awarded to projects that benefit a particular commercial product or a single organization, institute or individual.**

Copies of the Request for Proposals (RFP) are available from John Harker, DAFRR- ARD, 28 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0041. John.harker@maine.gov. Questions about the RFP must be directed in writing or email to: John Harker, Division of Agricultural Resource Development at the above address via US Mail, fax 207-287-5576 or email john.harker@maine.gov. Phone inquiries will not be accepted.

Six (6) sealed copies of the proposal must be delivered to: Division of Purchases, Burton M. Cross State Office Building, 111 Sewall St., 4th Floor, 9 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0009 no later than 2:00 pm local time on Tuesday, June 7th, 2011, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud.