

**State of Maine**  
**RFA / Proposal Master Score Sheet**

**Instructions:** Complete the Master Score Sheet below providing all of the requested information for each bidder that submitted a proposal in response to the RFP. This document is to be included in the Selection Package submitted to the Division of Procurement Services for review/approval.

<b>SCORESHEET FOR RFA# 202002037 Specialty Crop Block Grant</b>									
<b>PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY:</b>		<b>Backyard Blooms</b>		<b>Bluet</b>		<b>Daybreak Growers Alliance</b>		<b>DOE</b>	
<b>COST:</b>		<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$13,700</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$38,216</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$18,508</b>
<b>EVALUATION ITEM</b>	<b>POINTS AVAIL.</b>								
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area	5	4		5		5		4	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA	5	5		5		5		5	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA	25	12		22		25		22	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection	20	7		20		18		7	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers	15	1		15		14		7	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to proposed cost.	30	15		25		28		12	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>100</u></b>	<b><u>44</u></b>		<b><u>92</u></b>		<b><u>95</u></b>		<b><u>57</u></b>	

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<b>SCORESHEET FOR RFA# 202002037 Specialty Crop Block Grant</b>									
<b>PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY:</b>		<b>FoodCrops</b>		<b>Health Care Without Harm</b>		<b>Maine Maple Producers Association</b>		<b>Maine Potato Board</b>	
<b>COST:</b>		<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$70,300</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$89,480</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$36,000</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$55,096</b>
<b>EVALUATION ITEM</b>	<b>POINTS AVAIL.</b>								
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area	5	2		3		5		3	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA	5	3		4		4		5	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA	25	20		15		20		23	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection	20	14		12		12		8	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers	15	13		7		15		15	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to proposed cost.	30	18		12		25		25	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>100</u></b>	<b><u>70</u></b>		<b><u>53</u></b>		<b><u>81</u></b>		<b><u>79</u></b>	

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<b>SCORESHEET FOR RFA# 202002037 Specialty Crop Block Grant</b>									
<b>PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY:</b>		<b>MELNA – Marketing into Fall</b>		<b>MELNA- Plant Something at School</b>		<b>MOFGA</b>		<b>University of Maine – Annis</b>	
<b>COST:</b>		<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$93,595</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$79,761</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$64,955.61</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$94,087</b>
<b>EVALUATION ITEM</b>	<b>POINTS AVAIL.</b>								
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area	5	4		3		5		4	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA	5	5		3		5		5	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA	25	18		13		23		23	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection	20	12		10		20		15	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers	15	7		3		13		15	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to proposed cost.	30	10		3		25		25	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>100</u></b>	<b><u>56</u></b>		<b><u>35</u></b>		<b><u>91</u></b>		<b><u>87</u></b>	

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<b>PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY:</b>		<b>University of Maine – Dill</b>		<b>University of Maine – Handley (Berry)</b>		<b>University of Maine – Handley (Squash)</b>		<b>University of Maine – Machado</b>	
<b>COST:</b>		<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$98,025</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$30,872</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$14,595</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$64,889</b>
<b>EVALUATION ITEM</b>	<b>POINTS AVAIL.</b>								
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area	5	4		4		4		3	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA	5	5		3		4		5	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA	25	20		23		22		23	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection	20	18		18		17		16	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers	15	15		13		13		15	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to proposed cost.	30	22		20		25		17	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>100</u></b>	<b><u>84</u></b>		<b><u>81</u></b>		<b><u>85</u></b>		<b><u>79</u></b>	

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<b>SCORESHEET FOR RFA# 202002037 Specialty Crop Block Grant</b>									
<b>PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY:</b>		<b>University of Maine – Moran</b>		<b>University of Maine – Zhang</b>		<b>WBC – School Foodservice</b>		<b>WBC – Story of Place</b>	
<b>COST:</b>		<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$55,458</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$99,585</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$65,458</b>	<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>
<b>EVALUATION ITEM</b>	<b>POINTS AVAIL.</b>								
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area	5	4		5		3		3	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA	5	5		5		5		5	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA	25	21		24		18		15	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection	20	16		19		14		10	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers	15	15		15		14		15	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to proposed cost.	30	25		25		15		14	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>100</u></b>	<b><u>86</u></b>		<b><u>93</u></b>		<b><u>69</u></b>		<b><u>62</u></b>	

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<b>SCORESHEET FOR RFA# 202002037 Specialty Crop Block Grant</b>									
<b>PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY:</b>		<b>Atlantic Corporation</b>		<b>Maine Seaweed Exchange</b>					
<b>COST:</b>		<b>Cost:</b>		<b>Cost:</b>		<b>Cost:</b>		<b>Cost:</b>	
<b>EVALUATION ITEM</b>	<b>POINTS AVAIL.</b>	Disqualified		Disqualified					
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area	5								
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA	5								
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA	25								
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection	20								
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers	15								
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to proposed cost.	30								
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>100</u></b>								

**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** ["rlabbe@atlanticcorporation.com"](mailto:rlabbe@atlanticcorporation.com)  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:11:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [AtlanticCorp.pdf](#)

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Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
Fax: 207-287-7548  
[www.maine.gov/dacf](http://www.maine.gov/dacf)  
[www.getrealmaine.com](http://www.getrealmaine.com)



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Mr. Randy Labbee  
Atlantic Corporation  
44 Main St, Ste 205  
Waterville Maine 04901

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Current and near-term demand for Maine Seaweed

Dear Mr. Labbe:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

- Blue Barn LLC: *Expanding Supply, Demand, and Infrastructure for a New Era of Maine Wild Blueberry Sparkling Wine.*
- Daybreak Growers Alliance: *Expanding on Daybreak Growers Alliances' Wholesale Aggregation, Marketing and Distribution Model for Maine Specialty Grown Crops*
- Maine Maple Producers Association: *Increasing the Sales and Price of Maine Pure Maple Syrup*
- MOFGA: *Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project*
- University of Maine – Dr. Zhang: *Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry Production and Resilience to Warming*
- University of Maine – Dr. Annis: *Enhanced IPM Practices for Control of Diseases in Maine Wild Blueberry*
- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD



- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Squash: Expanding Maine’s Fresh Vegetable Market through Improved Winter Squash Storage*
- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Berry: Expanding Maine’s Berry Industry to Improve Farm Profitability*
- University of Maine – Mr. Dill: *Maine Potato IPM*

The applicants listed above received the evaluation team’s highest rankings. The Department will be contacting the aforementioned applicants soon to negotiate a contract. As provided in the RFA, the Notice of Conditional Contract Award is subject to execution of a written contract and, as a result, this Notice does NOT constitute the formation of a contract between the Department and the apparent successful applicant. The applicant shall not acquire any legal or equitable rights relative to the contract services until a contract containing terms and conditions acceptable to the Department is executed. The Department further reserves the right to cancel this Notice of Conditional Contract Award at any time prior to the execution of a written contract.

As stated in the RFA, following announcement of this award decision, all submissions in response to the RFA are considered public records available for public inspection pursuant to the State of Maine Freedom of Access Act. 1 M.R.S. §§ 401 et seq.; 5 M.R.S. § 1825-B (6).

This award decision is conditioned upon final approval by the State Procurement Review Committee and the successful negotiation of a contract. A Statement of Appeal Rights has been provided with this letter; see below.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy McBrady", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

## **STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

Any person aggrieved by an award decision may request an appeal hearing. The request must be made to the Director of the Bureau of General Services, in writing, within 15 days of notification of the contract award as provided in 5 M.R.S. § 1825-E (2) and the Rules of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Division of Purchases, Chapter 120, § (2) (2).

**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** ["info@backyardbloomsmaine.com"](mailto:info@backyardbloomsmaine.com)  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:35:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [BackyardBlooms.pdf](#)

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Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Mr. Jason Aucoin  
Backyard Blooms LLC  
74 Ocean Ave  
Portland Maine 04103

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Season Extension

Dear Mr. Aucoin:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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- Daybreak Growers Alliance: *Expanding on Daybreak Growers Alliances' Wholesale Aggregation, Marketing and Distribution Model for Maine Specialty Grown Crops*
- Maine Maple Producers Association: *Increasing the Sales and Price of Maine Pure Maple Syrup*
- MOFGA: *Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project*
- University of Maine – Dr. Zhang: *Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry Production and Resilience to Warming*
- University of Maine – Dr. Annis: *Enhanced IPM Practices for Control of Diseases in Maine Wild Blueberry*
- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

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- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Squash: Expanding Maine’s Fresh Vegetable Market through Improved Winter Squash Storage*
- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Berry: Expanding Maine’s Berry Industry to Improve Farm Profitability*
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Sincerely,

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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** [michael@bluet.me](mailto:michael@bluet.me)  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:40:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [BlueBarn.pdf](#)

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Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
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28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Mr. Michael Terrien  
Blue Barn LLC  
15 Washington Ave Unit 9  
Scarborough Maine 04074

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: The Millennial Opportunity: Expanding Supply, Demand, and Infrastructure  
for a New Era of Maine Wild Blueberry Sparkling Wine

Dear Mr. Terrien:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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- MOFGA: *Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project*
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- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



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WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD



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- University of Maine – Mr. Dill: *Maine Potato IPM*

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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** Perkins, Tonya K  
**To:** ["colleen@daybreakgrowers.com"](mailto:colleen@daybreakgrowers.com)  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:44:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [DaybreakGrowersAlliance.pdf](#)

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Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
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Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
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AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Ms. Colleen Hanlon-Smith  
Daybreak Growers Alliance  
69 School St  
Unity Maine 04988

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Expanding on Daybreak Growers Alliance's wholesale aggregation, marketing and distribution model for Maine Specialty Grown Crops.

Dear Ms. Hanlon-Smith:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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- University of Maine – Mr. Dill: *Maine Potato IPM*

The applicants listed above received the evaluation team’s highest rankings. The Department will be contacting the aforementioned applicants soon to negotiate a contract. As provided in the RFA, the Notice of Conditional Contract Award is subject to execution of a written contract and, as a result, this Notice does NOT constitute the formation of a contract between the Department and the apparent successful applicant. The applicant shall not acquire any legal or equitable rights relative to the contract services until a contract containing terms and conditions acceptable to the Department is executed. The Department further reserves the right to cancel this Notice of Conditional Contract Award at any time prior to the execution of a written contract.

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This award decision is conditioned upon final approval by the State Procurement Review Committee and the successful negotiation of a contract. A Statement of Appeal Rights has been provided with this letter; see below.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy McBrady", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

## **STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

Any person aggrieved by an award decision may request an appeal hearing. The request must be made to the Director of the Bureau of General Services, in writing, within 15 days of notification of the contract award as provided in 5 M.R.S. § 1825-E (2) and the Rules of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Division of Purchases, Chapter 120, § (2) (2).

**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** [Stambach, Stephanie](#)  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:46:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [DOE.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
Fax: 207-287-7548  
[www.maine.gov/dacf](http://www.maine.gov/dacf)  
[www.getrealmaine.com](http://www.getrealmaine.com)



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Ms. Stephanie Stambach  
Department of Education  
136 State House Station  
Augusta Maine 04333

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Local Foods Trainings for School Nutrition Staff

Dear Ms. Stambach:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

- Blue Barn LLC: *Expanding Supply, Demand, and Infrastructure for a New Era of Maine Wild Blueberry Sparkling Wine.*
- Daybreak Growers Alliance: *Expanding on Daybreak Growers Alliances' Wholesale Aggregation, Marketing and Distribution Model for Maine Specialty Grown Crops*
- Maine Maple Producers Association: *Increasing the Sales and Price of Maine Pure Maple Syrup*
- MOFGA: *Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project*
- University of Maine – Dr. Zhang: *Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry Production and Resilience to Warming*
- University of Maine – Dr. Annis: *Enhanced IPM Practices for Control of Diseases in Maine Wild Blueberry*
- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD



- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Squash: Expanding Maine’s Fresh Vegetable Market through Improved Winter Squash Storage*
- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Berry: Expanding Maine’s Berry Industry to Improve Farm Profitability*
- University of Maine – Mr. Dill: *Maine Potato IPM*

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Sincerely,

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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** ["ryan.parker@foodcorps.org"](mailto:ryan.parker@foodcorps.org)  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:47:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [FoodCorps.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
Fax: 207-287-7548  
[www.maine.gov/dacf](http://www.maine.gov/dacf)  
[www.getrealmaine.com](http://www.getrealmaine.com)



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Mr. Ryan Parker  
FoodCorps  
38 Shady Lane  
Newport Maine 04953

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Connecting Kids and Schools to Farmers, Farms, and Their Fruits and Vegetables.

Dear Mr. Parker:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

- Blue Barn LLC: *Expanding Supply, Demand, and Infrastructure for a New Era of Maine Wild Blueberry Sparkling Wine.*
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- Maine Maple Producers Association: *Increasing the Sales and Price of Maine Pure Maple Syrup*
- MOFGA: *Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project*
- University of Maine – Dr. Zhang: *Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry Production and Resilience to Warming*
- University of Maine – Dr. Annis: *Enhanced IPM Practices for Control of Diseases in Maine Wild Blueberry*
- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD

- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Squash: Expanding Maine’s Fresh Vegetable Market through Improved Winter Squash Storage*
- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Berry: Expanding Maine’s Berry Industry to Improve Farm Profitability*
- University of Maine – Mr. Dill: *Maine Potato IPM*

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Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy McBrady", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

## **STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** ["esirois@hcwh.org"](mailto:esirois@hcwh.org)  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:48:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [HealthCarewithoutHarm.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
Fax: 207-287-7548  
[www.maine.gov/dacf](http://www.maine.gov/dacf)  
[www.getrealmaine.com](http://www.getrealmaine.com)



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Ms. Emma Sirois  
Health Care Without Harm  
12355 Sunrise Valley Dr, Ste 680  
Reston VA Maine 20191

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Building and Promoting Institutional Markets for High-Protein Specialty  
Crops

Dear Ms. Sirois:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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- MOFGA: *Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project*
- University of Maine – Dr. Zhang: *Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry Production and Resilience to Warming*
- University of Maine – Dr. Annis: *Enhanced IPM Practices for Control of Diseases in Maine Wild Blueberry*
- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD



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Sincerely,

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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** "mmpatreasurer@gmail.com"  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:15:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [MaineMapleProducers.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
Fax: 207-287-7548  
[www.maine.gov/dacf](http://www.maine.gov/dacf)  
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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Mr. Adam Cafro  
Maine Maple Producers Association  
288 Chopps Cross Rd  
Woolwich Maine 04579

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Increasing the Sales and Price of Maine Pure Maple Syrup

Dear Mr. Cafro:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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- University of Maine – Dr. Zhang: *Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry Production and Resilience to Warming*
- University of Maine – Dr. Annis: *Enhanced IPM Practices for Control of Diseases in Maine Wild Blueberry*
- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD

- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Squash: Expanding Maine’s Fresh Vegetable Market through Improved Winter Squash Storage*
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Sincerely,

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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** ["jdyer@mainepotatoes.com"](mailto:jdyer@mainepotatoes.com)  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:51:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [MainePotatoBoard.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Mr. Jake Dyer  
Maine Potato Board  
744 Main St Ste 1  
Presque Isle Maine 04769

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Investigating Alternative and Cultural Practices for Management of Potato  
Virus Y.

Dear Mr. Dyer:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD



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Sincerely,

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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** ["try@seaweedexchange.com"](mailto:try@seaweedexchange.com)  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:12:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [MaineSeaweedExchange.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Mr. Andrea Angera Jr  
Maine Seaweed Exchange  
14 Factory Rd  
Gouldsboro Maine 04607

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Support for Producers and Consumers of the Seaweed Specialty Crop  
Industry in Maine

Dear Mr. Angera:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD

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- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Berry: Expanding Maine’s Berry Industry to Improve Farm Profitability*
- University of Maine – Mr. Dill: *Maine Potato IPM*

The applicants listed above received the evaluation team’s highest rankings. The Department will be contacting the aforementioned applicants soon to negotiate a contract. As provided in the RFA, the Notice of Conditional Contract Award is subject to execution of a written contract and, as a result, this Notice does NOT constitute the formation of a contract between the Department and the apparent successful applicant. The applicant shall not acquire any legal or equitable rights relative to the contract services until a contract containing terms and conditions acceptable to the Department is executed. The Department further reserves the right to cancel this Notice of Conditional Contract Award at any time prior to the execution of a written contract.

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This award decision is conditioned upon final approval by the State Procurement Review Committee and the successful negotiation of a contract. A Statement of Appeal Rights has been provided with this letter; see below.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy McBrady", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

## **STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** "mngmtplus@aol.com"  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:53:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [MELNA-ExpandintoFall.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
Fax: 207-287-7548  
[www.maine.gov/dacf](http://www.maine.gov/dacf)  
[www.getrealmaine.com](http://www.getrealmaine.com)



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Mr. Don Sproul  
Maine Landscape & Nursery Association  
PO Box 4666  
Augusta Maine 04330

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: A marketing effort to expand the purchase and planting of horticultural  
specialty crops into fall.

Dear Mr. Sproul:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

- Blue Barn LLC: *Expanding Supply, Demand, and Infrastructure for a New Era of Maine Wild Blueberry Sparkling Wine.*
- Daybreak Growers Alliance: *Expanding on Daybreak Growers Alliances' Wholesale Aggregation, Marketing and Distribution Model for Maine Specialty Grown Crops*
- Maine Maple Producers Association: *Increasing the Sales and Price of Maine Pure Maple Syrup*
- MOFGA: *Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project*
- University of Maine – Dr. Zhang: *Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry Production and Resilience to Warming*
- University of Maine – Dr. Annis: *Enhanced IPM Practices for Control of Diseases in Maine Wild Blueberry*
- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD



- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Squash: Expanding Maine’s Fresh Vegetable Market through Improved Winter Squash Storage*
- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Berry: Expanding Maine’s Berry Industry to Improve Farm Profitability*
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Sincerely,

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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** "mngmtplus@aol.com"  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:54:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [MELNA-PlantSomething.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Mr. Don Sproul  
Maine Landscape & Nursery Association  
PO Box 4666  
Augusta Maine 04330

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Expanding "Plant Something at School!" with "Back to School" gardens,  
seasonal plantings, marketing and more.

Dear Mr. Sproul:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

- Blue Barn LLC: *Expanding Supply, Demand, and Infrastructure for a New Era of Maine Wild Blueberry Sparkling Wine.*
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- Maine Maple Producers Association: *Increasing the Sales and Price of Maine Pure Maple Syrup*
- MOFGA: *Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project*
- University of Maine – Dr. Zhang: *Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry Production and Resilience to Warming*
- University of Maine – Dr. Annis: *Enhanced IPM Practices for Control of Diseases in Maine Wild Blueberry*
- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD

- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Squash: Expanding Maine’s Fresh Vegetable Market through Improved Winter Squash Storage*
- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Berry: Expanding Maine’s Berry Industry to Improve Farm Profitability*
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Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy McBrady", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** ["salexander@mofga.org"](mailto:salexander@mofga.org)  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:55:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [MOFGA.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Ms. Sarah Alexander  
Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association  
294 Crosby Brook Rd  
Unity Maine 04988

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project

Dear Ms. Alexander:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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- MOFGA: *Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project*
- University of Maine – Dr. Zhang: *Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry Production and Resilience to Warming*
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- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD



- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Squash: Expanding Maine’s Fresh Vegetable Market through Improved Winter Squash Storage*
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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** "david.handley@maine.edu"  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:02:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [UMS - Handley-Berry.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

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Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
Fax: 207-287-7548  
[www.maine.gov/dacf](http://www.maine.gov/dacf)  
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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Dr. David Handley  
University of Maine System  
PO Box 179  
Monmouth Maine 04259-0179

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Expanding Maine's Berry Industry to Improve Farm Profitability

Dear Dr. Handley:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD

- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Squash: Expanding Maine’s Fresh Vegetable Market through Improved Winter Squash Storage*
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Sincerely,

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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** "david.handley@maine.edu"  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:03:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [UMS - Handley-Squash.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

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Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Dr. David Handley  
University of Maine System  
PO Box 179  
Monmouth Maine 04259-0179

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Expanding Maine's fresh vegetable market through improved winter squash storage

Dear Dr. Handley:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD



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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** Perkins, Tonya K  
**To:** ["sannis@maine.edu"](mailto:sannis@maine.edu)  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:56:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [UMS-Annis.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

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Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Dr. Seanna Annis  
University of Maine System  
5722 Deering Hall  
Orono Maine 04469-5722

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Enhanced IPM practices for control of diseases in Maine wild blueberry

Dear Dr. Annis:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
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WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD

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- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Berry: Expanding Maine’s Berry Industry to Improve Farm Profitability*
- University of Maine – Mr. Dill: *Maine Potato IPM*

The applicants listed above received the evaluation team’s highest rankings. The Department will be contacting the aforementioned applicants soon to negotiate a contract. As provided in the RFA, the Notice of Conditional Contract Award is subject to execution of a written contract and, as a result, this Notice does NOT constitute the formation of a contract between the Department and the apparent successful applicant. The applicant shall not acquire any legal or equitable rights relative to the contract services until a contract containing terms and conditions acceptable to the Department is executed. The Department further reserves the right to cancel this Notice of Conditional Contract Award at any time prior to the execution of a written contract.

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This award decision is conditioned upon final approval by the State Procurement Review Committee and the successful negotiation of a contract. A Statement of Appeal Rights has been provided with this letter; see below.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy McBrady", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

## **STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

Any person aggrieved by an award decision may request an appeal hearing. The request must be made to the Director of the Bureau of General Services, in writing, within 15 days of notification of the contract award as provided in 5 M.R.S. § 1825-E (2) and the Rules of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Division of Purchases, Chapter 120, § (2) (2).

**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** "[griffin.dill@maine.edu](mailto:griffin.dill@maine.edu)"  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:57:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [UMS-Dill.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
Fax: 207-287-7548  
[www.maine.gov/dacf](http://www.maine.gov/dacf)  
[www.getrealmaine.com](http://www.getrealmaine.com)



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Mr. Griffin Dill  
University of Maine System  
17 Godfrey Dr  
Orono Maine 04473

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Maine Potato IPM

Dear Mr. Dill:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

- Blue Barn LLC: *Expanding Supply, Demand, and Infrastructure for a New Era of Maine Wild Blueberry Sparkling Wine.*
- Daybreak Growers Alliance: *Expanding on Daybreak Growers Alliances' Wholesale Aggregation, Marketing and Distribution Model for Maine Specialty Grown Crops*
- Maine Maple Producers Association: *Increasing the Sales and Price of Maine Pure Maple Syrup*
- MOFGA: *Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project*
- University of Maine – Dr. Zhang: *Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry Production and Resilience to Warming*
- University of Maine – Dr. Annis: *Enhanced IPM Practices for Control of Diseases in Maine Wild Blueberry*
- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD



- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Squash: Expanding Maine’s Fresh Vegetable Market through Improved Winter Squash Storage*
- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Berry: Expanding Maine’s Berry Industry to Improve Farm Profitability*
- University of Maine – Mr. Dill: *Maine Potato IPM*

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Sincerely,

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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** ["robson.machado@maine.edu"](mailto:robson.machado@maine.edu)  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:05:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [UMS-Machado.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
Fax: 207-287-7548  
[www.maine.gov/dacf](http://www.maine.gov/dacf)  
[www.getrealmaine.com](http://www.getrealmaine.com)



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Dr. Robson Machado  
University of Maine System  
5735 Hitchner Hall  
Orono Maine 04469-5735

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: GAP/GHP and FSMA/PSR audit support for Maine's farms

Dear Dr. Machado:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

- Blue Barn LLC: *Expanding Supply, Demand, and Infrastructure for a New Era of Maine Wild Blueberry Sparkling Wine.*
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- Maine Maple Producers Association: *Increasing the Sales and Price of Maine Pure Maple Syrup*
- MOFGA: *Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project*
- University of Maine – Dr. Zhang: *Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry Production and Resilience to Warming*
- University of Maine – Dr. Annis: *Enhanced IPM Practices for Control of Diseases in Maine Wild Blueberry*
- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD

- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Squash: Expanding Maine’s Fresh Vegetable Market through Improved Winter Squash Storage*
- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Berry: Expanding Maine’s Berry Industry to Improve Farm Profitability*
- University of Maine – Mr. Dill: *Maine Potato IPM*

The applicants listed above received the evaluation team’s highest rankings. The Department will be contacting the aforementioned applicants soon to negotiate a contract. As provided in the RFA, the Notice of Conditional Contract Award is subject to execution of a written contract and, as a result, this Notice does NOT constitute the formation of a contract between the Department and the apparent successful applicant. The applicant shall not acquire any legal or equitable rights relative to the contract services until a contract containing terms and conditions acceptable to the Department is executed. The Department further reserves the right to cancel this Notice of Conditional Contract Award at any time prior to the execution of a written contract.

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Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy McBrady", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

## **STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

Any person aggrieved by an award decision may request an appeal hearing. The request must be made to the Director of the Bureau of General Services, in writing, within 15 days of notification of the contract award as provided in 5 M.R.S. § 1825-E (2) and the Rules of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Division of Purchases, Chapter 120, § (2) (2).

**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** "rmoran@maine.edu"  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:06:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [UMS-Moran.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
Fax: 207-287-7548  
[www.maine.gov/dacf](http://www.maine.gov/dacf)  
[www.getrealmaine.com](http://www.getrealmaine.com)



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Dr. Renae Moran  
University of Maine System  
52 US Route 2002  
Monmouth Maine 04259

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Peach variety testing and development for a local market

Dear Dr. Moran:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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- MOFGA: *Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project*
- University of Maine – Dr. Zhang: *Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry Production and Resilience to Warming*
- University of Maine – Dr. Annis: *Enhanced IPM Practices for Control of Diseases in Maine Wild Blueberry*
- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD



- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Squash: Expanding Maine’s Fresh Vegetable Market through Improved Winter Squash Storage*
- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Berry: Expanding Maine’s Berry Industry to Improve Farm Profitability*
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Sincerely,

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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** ["yongjiang.zhang@maine.edu"](mailto:yongjiang.zhang@maine.edu)  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:07:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [UMS-Zhang.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
Fax: 207-287-7548  
[www.maine.gov/dacf](http://www.maine.gov/dacf)  
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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Dr. Yongjiang Zhang  
University of Maine System  
5735 Hitchner Hall  
Orono Maine 04469-5735

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry  
Production and Resilience to Warming

Dear Dr. Zhang:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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- MOFGA: *Maine Produce Safety Improvement Project*
- University of Maine – Dr. Zhang: *Using Foliar Fertilizers and Soil Amendments to Improve Wild Blueberry Production and Resilience to Warming*
- University of Maine – Dr. Annis: *Enhanced IPM Practices for Control of Diseases in Maine Wild Blueberry*
- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD

- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Squash: Expanding Maine’s Fresh Vegetable Market through Improved Winter Squash Storage*
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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** "[pkontu71@maine.edu](mailto:pkontu71@maine.edu)"  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:09:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [WBC-Foodservice.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Ms. Patricia Kontur  
Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine  
5784 York Complex #52  
Orono Maine 04469

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Expanding Wild Blueberry school foodservice promotion and purchases  
nataionwide

Dear Ms. Kontur:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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- University of Maine – Dr. Annis: *Enhanced IPM Practices for Control of Diseases in Maine Wild Blueberry*
- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD



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Sincerely,

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Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

## **STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

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**From:** [Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)  
**To:** "[pkontu71@maine.edu](mailto:pkontu71@maine.edu)"  
**Subject:** 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:10:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [WBC-StoryofPlace.pdf](#)

---

Good morning,

Attached is the notice for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant review process for RFA #202002037.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine and the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

Tonya K. Perkins  
Office Specialist II  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources  
Agricultural Resource Development  
28 State House Station  
90 Blossom Lane  
Augusta, ME 04333-0028  
Phone: 207-287-3491  
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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

AMANDA E. BEAL  
COMMISSIONER

June 4, 2020

Ms. Patricia Kontur  
Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine  
5784 York Complex #52  
Orono Maine 04469

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Contract Award for Specialty Crop Block Grant  
Program review of RFA # 202002037  
Project Title: Rebranding the Maine Wild Blueberry with a Story of Place

Dear Ms. Kontur:

This letter is in regard to the Request for Proposals (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the 2020 Specialty Crop Block Grant. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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- University of Maine – Dr. Moran: *Peach Variety Testing and Development for a Local Market*

LEIGH HALLETT  
DIRECTOR OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT  
AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-3491  
FAX: (207) 287-7548  
WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF/ARD

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- University of Maine – Dr. Handley – *Berry: Expanding Maine’s Berry Industry to Improve Farm Profitability*
- University of Maine – Mr. Dill: *Maine Potato IPM*

The applicants listed above received the evaluation team’s highest rankings. The Department will be contacting the aforementioned applicants soon to negotiate a contract. As provided in the RFA, the Notice of Conditional Contract Award is subject to execution of a written contract and, as a result, this Notice does NOT constitute the formation of a contract between the Department and the apparent successful applicant. The applicant shall not acquire any legal or equitable rights relative to the contract services until a contract containing terms and conditions acceptable to the Department is executed. The Department further reserves the right to cancel this Notice of Conditional Contract Award at any time prior to the execution of a written contract.

As stated in the RFA, following announcement of this award decision, all submissions in response to the RFA are considered public records available for public inspection pursuant to the State of Maine Freedom of Access Act. 1 M.R.S. §§ 401 et seq.; 5 M.R.S. § 1825-B (6).

This award decision is conditioned upon final approval by the State Procurement Review Committee and the successful negotiation of a contract. A Statement of Appeal Rights has been provided with this letter; see below.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy McBrady", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nancy McBrady, Director  
Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources

## **STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS**

Any person aggrieved by an award decision may request an appeal hearing. The request must be made to the Director of the Bureau of General Services, in writing, within 15 days of notification of the contract award as provided in 5 M.R.S. § 1825-E (2) and the Rules of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Division of Purchases, Chapter 120, § (2) (2).

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Backyard Blooms  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team's consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b><u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u></b>		
	<b><u>Pass:</u></b>	<b><u>Fail:</u></b>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<b><u>Points Awarded:</u></b>
<b><u>Numerical Score:</u></b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>4</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>12</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>7</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>1</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>15</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)	<b>44</b>	

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Program BIDDER:** Backyard Blooms  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 44**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Met #4, bolded on proposal.
    - Didn't make a strong case for either sustainability or marketing
    - Saw it as marketing to stay local instead of shipping from around the world. Seemed pretty important.
    - Expanding period of time to have product available.
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Seems complete
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Not helping multiple producers, fell short in helping multiple producers, not just businesses.
    - Not very strong for the industry, only a few thousand \$ of sales
    - Not sharing information and impacting other growers.
    - Lacking LOS to show industry impact.
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Weak
    - Did not see metrics and did not seem to come from the RFA.
    - Do not explain how increases will be shown or how to be measured.
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Not really impacting multiple producers
    - Talking about benefiting owners/employees and community.
    - Outreach is not addressed in the proposal
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - The equipment makes sense for what they're trying to do.
    - Equipment helps to set up now to become self-sustaining.
    - Could have supplied quotes for purchases
    - 
    -



**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Bluet  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team's consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>22</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>20</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>15</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>25</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)	<b>92</b>	

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Bluet  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 92**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Explicitly highlighted #4
    - 
    -

The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
  - b.
    - Yes it's complete
    - 
    -

The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
  - c.
    - Addresses USDA issues
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -

The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
  - d.
    - Outcomes and indicators are clear and measurable
    - Multiple blueberry growers and 5 different wine producers
    - Potential for significant growth quickly
    - Attracting major industry attention
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Multiple blueberry producers and 5 wine producers directly impacted
    - Project to help develop a new industry with long-term effects for producers
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Travel could be impacted due to COVID19- double check
    - Had all 3 years laid out for budget
    - Subsidizing growers, how is that determined who gets the \$
    - \$ to be reinvested, how does that incur
    - Almost getting a double bang for the buck, they're getting \$ and then in turn purchasing from the blueberry growers
    - Projections seems a bit off for time
    - Discussion about guide distribution

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Daybreak Growers Alliance  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team's consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>25</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>18</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>14</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>28</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)		<b>95</b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Daybreak Growers Alliance  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 95**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Meeting 3 of the areas.
    - 
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Yes it's complete
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Explicitly aligns with USDA goals
    - 
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Was defined and measurable, only started year 1 so it's hard to project where they are in the process
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Measurably mpacts 30 growers and 30 wholesales accounts
    - Multiple growing seasons
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Whole budget is personnel
    - Each position well described
    - Grant to pay a portion of salaries and they are reasonable.
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Department of Education  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team's consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b><u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u></b>		
	<b><u>Pass:</u></b>	<b><u>Fail:</u></b>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<b><u>Points Awarded:</u></b>
<b><u>Numerical Score:</u></b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>4</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>22</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>7</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>7</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>12</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)	<b>57</b>	

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Department of Education  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 57**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Addresses #4
    - 
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Yes it's complete
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Didn't have it explicitly written in the proposal
    - 
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Felt is weak. Attendance sheets is how it will be kept track
    - Disproportionate # of farmers
    - How will the farmer training impact be measured?
    - Monitoring/eval unclear
    - Some things seem to be missing
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Use a variety of crops, wasn't explicit
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Budget is reasonably modest
    - Printed material is a big part of the budget
    - Who will design the materials?
    - Are the materials already made? Buying stuff already out there?
    - It's not clear what is paid for by other grants/funding (incl fed)

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Food Corps  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team's consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>2</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>3</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>20</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>14</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>13</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>18</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)		<b>70</b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**Program BIDDER:** Food Corps  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 70**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - #2, enhance food safety education?
    - Expanding the market?
    - Not clear which area is intended
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Committee found it confusing
    - Proposal needs more explanation + clarity
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Working with very diverse population in diverse communities
    - Diversity is a strength
    - 
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Measurement via surveys
    - Did put specific #s
    - Not enough detail
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Will impact students + families
    - Not sure how many producers will benefit, as total focus on the student
    - Committee likes the reimbursement of schools for local food purchases
    - Seems unlikely to impact many producers
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Expensive project; high travel costs
    - Discussion about benefit of farm visits (unclear)
    - 
    - Confused about roles and how they work together
    - No detail on the farm trips, just bus costs
    - Seems like a lot of oversight, a lot of \$ is going to the oversight of the FoodCorps program.
    - Local food procurement is only \$9,000 of the whole application
    -



**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA#:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Health Care Without Harm  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team's consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
	<u>Points Awarded:</u>	
<b><u>Numerical Score:</u></b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>3</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>4</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>15</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>12</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>7</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>12</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)	<b>53</b>	

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA#:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Health Care Without Harm  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 53**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Expand markets but didn't explicitly state
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . It is complete
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Not explicitly stated
    - . Are Beans a specialty crop?
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . There are numbers, but how real are they
    - . Don't know where the 20 institutional kitchens are
    - . There is data to back up
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . Not clear how many lentil or bean growers are in Maine that have the capacity
    - . A lot of money when you think about 4 possible producers
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . Very complete
    - . Very expensive
    - . All people are getting paid high hourly rate
    - . How is fringe being calculated
    - . Lots of travel for out of state employees
    - . Didn't seem to have a connection to the growers

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA#:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Maine Maple Producers  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team's consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation		<b>x</b>
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>4</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>20</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>12</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>15</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>25</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)	<b>81</b>	

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Maine Maple Producers  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 81**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Marketing
    - Continuing project
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - No project summary
    - Budget is vague
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Expands access with e-commerce, social media
    - Promote visibility for producers
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - 1 outcome: to increase sales
    - How that will happen is not described in detail, will use surveys
    - Social media analytics for measurement also
    - How different is this from previous efforts? Unsure
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Yes
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Discussion about the hourly rate for contractor (high?)
    - Not a lot of detail with what is planned for this round of funds
    - Difficult to put quantities on things with COVID-19 impacting
    - Hourly rate seems inclusive
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Maine Potato Board  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team's consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b><u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u></b>		
	<b><u>Pass:</u></b>	<b><u>Fail:</u></b>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<b><u>Points Awarded:</u></b>
<b><u>Numerical Score:</u></b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>3</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>23</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>8</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>15</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>25</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)	<b>79</b>	

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Maine Potato Board  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 79**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - #5?
    - #3
    - Did not specify
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Yes
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Pest control and sustainability. Focused on seed potato.
    - 
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Not defined and not clearly measurable
    - Indicators not clear
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Will impact multiple potato growers
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - 84% is personnel
    - Will the student worker be available with the current climate?
    - Lot of detail on the itemized costs
    - Supply list seems reasonable
    - Distinct roles with the 2-primary people
    - Fringe seems high

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** MELNA Marketing into Fall  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team's consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>4</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>18</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>12</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>7</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>10</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)		<b>56</b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** MELNA Marketing into Fall  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 56**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Wasn't explicitly stated
    - #1 and #4 likely
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - yes
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Wasn't explicitly stated
    - Expanding market and time frame
    - Trying to extend the season and find a new market into the fall
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Surveys – concern about effectiveness
    - Increased sales would be measurable – but would the venues be representative of ind?
    - Been surveying the same 15 garden centers for the past 6 years, may not be capturing the bulk of the industry
    - Only a 4% increase for the whole industry seems a little low
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Estimate of 1000+ impacted seems too high
    - Who are the producers, clear they are priorities of which nurseries are going to continue to be impacted.
    - Are they prioritizing Maine producers? Not clear
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - This is supposed to self-sustaining and it's been funded for multiple cycles
    - Big budget to expand an ongoing project
    - Will the survey effort yield anything useful?
    - 
    -



**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** MELNA School Collaborative  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team's consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>3</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>3</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>13</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>10</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>3</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>3</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)		<b>35</b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** MELNA School Collaborative  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 35**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Multi-year, expanding markets
    - 
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Complete but didn't articulate all their ideas.
    - The pieces are present, but it doesn't flow well and is hard to understand
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Yes
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Listed two different # of jobs
    - Numbers are there, but not sure what they mean Small businesses and kids, not talking about growers
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - It is unclear how it will impact specialty crop producers
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Last year's program did not really happen so why are we spending more \$ on supplies
    - Budget not clear
    - Does not have a good return on investment
    - Not self-sustaining
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** MOFGA  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

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**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>23</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>20</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>13</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>25</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)		<b>91</b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** MOFGA  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 91**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - # 2 with food safety
    - Explicitly stated
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Yes
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Enhances food safety
    - Improves the distribution chain
    - Explicitly included in the write up
    - Really strong alignment
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Specific numbers included
    - Seems reasonable and obtainable
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Yes
    - Happy to see \$ being given back to the farms
    - Definitely going to be measurably impacted
    - How will this be available to non-certified organic farmers
    - Can they report how many are certified and how many aren't.
    - Which specialty crop producers will be impacted?
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Not clear how many participants will be included in a day long training
    - No travel expenses budgets for staff for the workshops or the on farm TA.
    - Would have been nice to state the travel was coming from a different source.
    - Farmer Food Safety Improvement grants is listed in October 2020.
    - \$3,000 seems low on a per farm
    - Do we know if this covers fees and services or is it just for on-farm investments

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA#:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS - Annis  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

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**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>4</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>23</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>15</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>15</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>25</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)		<b>87</b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS - Annis  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 87**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

- #1, #5

- 

- 

- 

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

- Yes

- 

- 

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

- IPM

- 

- 

- 

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

- Numbers are included

- Surveys will be used to measure outcomes

- 

- 

- 

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

- Multiple blueberry growers – 510 beneficiaries

- 

- 

- 

- 

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

- Research, no income stream, never going to be self-sustaining

- Not the type of research growers can do on their own.

- Hard time gauging the past results have been and did they demonstrate the benefit?

- Some costs seem to overlap with other projects

- Need to consider personnel line in rel to C19

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFATITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS - Dill  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

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**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>4</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>20</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>18</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>15</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>22</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS (Max: 100 Points)</b>		<b>84</b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA#:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS - Dill  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 84**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Pest Management
    - 1 , 3
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - It's complete
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Did not list the specific research
    - Pest and disease control, SC research
    - 
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Numbers associated, a lot of detail about the data collections
    - Distribution of results and information
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Impacts the 400 potato growers
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - 9 seasonal program staff, do they need that many staff due to the decreasing acreage
    - Who will be identifying the traps
    - 24 trips for each site, can those be combined?
    - Specified both 21 trips and 24 trips, unclear exactly how many trips
    - Large budget – crop shrinkage, other C19 impacts?
    -



**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS – Handley – Berry  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

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**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>4</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>3</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>23</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>18</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>13</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>20</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS (Max: 100 Points)</b>		<b>81</b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS – Handley – Berry  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 81**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Multiple priority areas (1, 4, 5?)
    - Did not specify them
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - It's complete
    - Budget wasn't complete
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Not explicitly written but the third USDA issues
    - Improving varieties
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Provided numbers for 3 selected outcomes.
    - Bring up the point that it's a perennial crop so may not be able to get much data during the three years of the project
    - Well defined
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Will affect a lot of growers (20 farms, \$300 ea)
    - Has significant external support from fruit growers
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Budget detail is fairly minimal – would like more narrative.
    - Some confusion
    - Budget is modest and reasonable
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFATITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS – Handley – Squash  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

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**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>4</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>4</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>22</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>17</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>13</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>25</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)		<b>85</b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS – Handley – Squash  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

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**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 85**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - 3 priority areas #2, 4, 5
    - Didn't specify in the proposal
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Complete but not a lot of detail
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Food safety and market expansion
    - Pest Control
    - Season expansion
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - 3 different outcomes listed with reasonable numbers to support the outcomes
    - No mention for monitoring and data collection.
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Potential is there to impact more folks than listed
    - Says it will impact 200
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Mileage at the State rate rather than the Federal government rate.
    - Looking for a little more explanation on how this will take place
    - Feels thrown together last minute
    - Budget seems reasonable and realistic
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFATITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS – Machado  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team’s consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>3</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>23</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>16</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>15</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>17</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS (Max: 100 Points)</b>		<b>79</b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS – Machado  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 79**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Food Safety
    - First year project
    - Didn't specify
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - It's complete
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - FSMA aligns
    - Didn't specify explicitly
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Impacting 20 farmers
    - 1 measurable outcome with indicators
    - Relying on farmer input for data collection
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Measurable impact at 20 farms @ \$300/each
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Advertising cost, do they have to advertise to find 20 farms
    - National conference could be beneficial but is it necessary?
    - It is an update on regulations
    - Is there other opportunities to learn updated regulations rather than a national conference
    - ¾ of someone's job for this project.
    - Fringe is almost 1/3 of the budget
    - Providing TA to farms w/o listing where the travel is being paid from.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS – Moran  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team’s consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>4</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>21</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>16</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>15</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>25</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)		<b>86</b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS – Moran  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

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**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 86**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> year
    - #1 and #5
    - Didn't specify
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - 
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Crop research
    - Not explicitly written
    - 
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - A little optimistic
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Says 80 tree fruit growers
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Not a lot of detail on what is being planted
    - Fringe seems high.
    - Budget shows multiple years
    - 
    -



**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS – Zhang  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team’s consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>24</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>19</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>15</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>25</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS (Max: 100 Points)</b>		
	<b>93</b>	

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** UMS – Zhang  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 93**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - 1, 5
    - 
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Yes
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - See page 6 – very clear
    - 
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Outcomes 4,5 listed, with data included, and info on data collection
    - Useful detail included in this section
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - 485 growers
    - Good detail and plenty of appropriate information
    - Holistic plan, long-term
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - 78% is personnel. Seems high.
    - Fringe is high
    - What are the hours?
    - When is work completed?
    - Funding from WBC, can tuition and health care be leveraged from other sources?
    - Lots of letters of support

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** WBC – School Food Service  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team's consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>3</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>18</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>14</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>14</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>15</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS (Max: 100 Points)</b>		<b>69</b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** WBC – School Food Service  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 69**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Marketing
    - Did not explicitly state
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Seems complete
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Not explicitly stated
    - Child Nutrition
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Not clearly defined
    - Questioned the \$1M increase – is that one year?
    - Historical data would be helpful
    - Evaluation method unclear
    - Marketing campaign to food service, not food service support – how will they afford?
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - 485 growers
    - Discussion - is that reasonable? Hard to evaluate.
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Different amounts for one consultant on different days
    - No justification on the different amounts
    - Trade shows – are they focused on food service or blueberries?
    - No travel budgeted for trades shows
    - \$400 for jump drives, can that be done via a website
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA#:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** WBC – Story of Place  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team’s consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Ann Gibbs, Joy Bonenfant, Alex Fouliard, Marge Kilkelly

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
è Application Cover Page	<b>x</b>	
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification	<b>x</b>	
è Litigation	<b>x</b>	
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>3</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>5</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	<b>15</b>	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>10</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>15</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	<b>14</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS (Max: 100 Points)</b>		<b>62</b>

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** WBC – Story of Place  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 62**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Marketing
    - 
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Yes, it's complete
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Aligned
    - 
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Lacks specifics.
    - Surveys at highway rest areas – questions about this approach
    - Will use Nielson data too, but not enough detail
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Same 485 blueberry growers
    - Specifies some sellers as well
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Seems very expensive for a RE-brand
    - Insufficient detail re Ethos work
    - Shifting from Wild blueberries to Maine wild blueberries
    - Listed multiple years, how much is in just this first year.
    - Advertising and data is good, but needs to be clear
    - Will future rebrand phases also cost \$100K/yr?
    - Lacking clear objective to measure against budget.
    - Website is currently between Canada and Maine, website will be redone for just Maine information – not enough explanation for this move.

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFATITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Atlantic Corporation  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team's consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Not Evaluated

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
Disqualified – Non responsive to RFP – Seaweed not a Specialty Crop		
è Application Cover Page		
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification		
è Litigation		
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>0</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>0</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	0	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>0</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>0</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	█	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)	<b>0</b>	

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Atlantic Corporation  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 0**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area  
.  
.
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP  
.
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP  
.  
.
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers  
.  
.
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.  
  
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.  
.  
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**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Maine Seaweed Exchange  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team's consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.*

**DEPARTMENT NAME:** Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry  
**NAME OF RFP COORDINATOR:** Leigh Hallett  
**NAMES OF EVALUATORS:** Not Evaluated

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUMMARY PAGE**

<b>Pass/Fail Criteria</b>		
	<u>Pass:</u>	<u>Fail:</u>
Disqualified – Non responsive to RFP – Seaweed not a Specialty Crop		
è Application Cover Page		
è Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification		
è Litigation		
		<u>Points Awarded:</u>
<b>Numerical Score:</b>		
Proposal is determined to be a Commissioner Priority area (Max: 5 Points)	<b>0</b>	
Proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFA (Max: 5 Points)	<b>0</b>	
Project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFA (Max: 25 Points)	0	
Outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection (Max: 20 points)	<b>0</b>	
Project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers (Max: 15 points)	<b>0</b>	
Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost. (Max: 30 points)	█	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b> (Max: 100 Points)	<b>0</b>	

**STATE OF MAINE  
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant Program  
**BIDDER:** Maine Seaweed Exchange  
**DATE:** 4/21/2020

\*\*\*\*\*

**EVALUATION OF  
Commissioner Priority Area**

**Total Points Available: 100                      Score: 0**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evaluation Team Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area  
.  
.
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP  
.
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP  
.  
.
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers  
.  
.
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.  
  
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**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** Backyard Blooms, LLC  
**DATE:** 4/19/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Maybe? Season extension = greater adaptability to climate change
    - 
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - yes
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - yes
    - Does seem to benefit a single business more than the flower-growing sector
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - No – they don't have good indicators to measure objectives 3, 4, or 8
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Seems to benefit a single business more than the flower-growing sector
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Budget is complete
    - Unclear if tiller and infrastructure are "general purpose" equipment?
    - 
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037

RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: Blue Barn LLC dba Bluet

DATE: 4/19/2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Alexandria Fouliard

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Farmland Trust

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Yes, but not super strongly
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - yes
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Guess so
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - yes
    - Although the actual projections they set forth seem like too much growth too quickly considering they have other grant applications in to seek support around equipment and processing capacity; and is the market there for that much growth? How does it compare to where they are at?
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - yes
    - Why the focus on new growers?
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Budget is complete
    - 200 hours doesn't seem like enough. ~25 days 8h/day; and 18 days on the road? Have they adequately planned for the amount of time and coordination it's going to take to redistribute fruit purchasing funds to other producers? Do those producers exist?
    - What are the educational materials? Why 100 copies of how to winemaking guides?

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** Daybreak Growers Alliance  
**DATE:** 4/19/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

\*\*\*\*\*  
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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - yes
    - Although they've barely gotten underway with Y1 funding
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - yes
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - yes
    - 
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - yes
    - Maybe also an indicator around the implementation of GHP?
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - yes
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - yes
    - 
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037

**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant

**BIDDER NAME:** Maine Department of Education, Child Nutrition

**DATE:** 4/19/2020

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Yes – increase sales to institutions
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Yes?
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . yes
    - . Why not add an indicator about the # of trained food service workers that increase their engagement with HOM? Or begin HOM?
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . yes
    - . Does seem more heavily weighted towards materials than the trainings
    - . More detail on training expenses would be helpful
    - . Designer needed for the materials?

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: FoodCorps  
DATE: 4/19/2020  
EVALUATOR NAME: Alexandria Fouliard  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Farmland Trust

\*\*\*\*\*  
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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - yes
    - 
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - yes
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - yes
    - 
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - yes
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - yes
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - yes
    - I know the program needs the oversight budgeted for... but it's a lot of oversight when maybe the schools need more money to be reimbursed for purchasing local?

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037

**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant

**BIDDER NAME:** Health Care Without Harm

**DATE:** 4/19/2020

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Projects that market Maine specialty crops to diversified and expanded markets, or that research potential market expansion efforts and strategies. Examples include but are not limited to increasing sales to schools, institutions, and other target markets that are new or have potential for growth in sales of Maine agricultural products.
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Yes
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Are beans a specialty crop?
    - Would expand markets for, and access and availability of specialty crops
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - yes
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - yes
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Budget is complete
    - What hourly rate are they using to calculate personnel? Also fringe at 34%?



**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037

**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant

**BIDDER NAME:** Maine Maple Producers Association

**DATE:** 4/19/2020

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Continuing project
    - Market expansion
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - No project summary?
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Is maple a specialty crop?
    - Definitely promotes maple
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Yes, very clear
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Yes, definitely
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Yes, complete
    - Yes, clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to proposed cost
    - 
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** Maine Potato Board  
**DATE:** 4/19/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Enhance integrated pest management and/or organic pest management research for programs for specialty crops.
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Seed potato is a specialty crop?
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . complete
    - . The fringe rate seems high?
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037

**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant

**BIDDER NAME:** Maine Landscape and Nursery Association (MELNA)

**DATE:** 4/19/2020

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Projects that market Maine specialty crops to diversified and expanded markets, or that research potential market expansion efforts and strategies
    - 
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - complete
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - I guess so. I see the point that it's hard to convince small business owners to spend money on marketing and also reaching customers where they're at and the pre-conceived notion that planting can't happen in the fall
    - It's not super in alignment though
    - There isn't anything in there about supporting local growers, either. This is a marketing campaign that also benefits specialty crops imported to Maine.
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - yes
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - unclear
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - yes
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037

RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: Maine Landscape and Nursery Association (MELNA)

DATE: 4/19/2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Alexandria Fouliard

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Farmland Trust

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Any application from the previous year which was for a multiple year term and was only funded for the first year of the project.
    - . Doesn't directly help increase sales though?
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . indirectly
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . yes
    - . Does MELNA Exec Director stipend need to be in this application?
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037

RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: MOFGA

DATE: 4/19/2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Alexandria Fouliard

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Farmland Trust

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Enhance food safety education, primarily in relation to FDA rules regarding improved handling and processing of specialty crops.
    - Improve adaptation and increase resilience to climate-related crop disturbances in support of long-term farm business vitality and productivity,
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - yes
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Strong alignment
    - Any rules about regrating funds like that?
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Yes, very clearly
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Yes, definitely
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Yes complete
    - No travel expenses even though planning in person workshops?
    - Perhaps expect a higher average farmer grant amount?
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037

**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant

**BIDDER NAME:** UMS - Annis

**DATE:** 4/19/2020

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Enhance integrated pest management and/or organic pest management research for programs for specialty crops.
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . complete
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . yes
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037

RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: UMS - Dill

DATE: 4/19/2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Alexandria Fouliard

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Farmland Trust

\*\*\*\*\*

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Yes – continued funding and pest management
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . complete
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Are potatoes a specialty crop?
    - . Pest management; IPM
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Yes; although I would have hoped to see higher adoption/wider disbursement of the data
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . yes
    - . Protective gear – is that owned by the University, so they wouldn't need to replace next year or the student researchers?
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFATITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** UMS – Handley - Berries  
**DATE:** 4/19/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

\*\*\*\*\*  
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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Continuing work
    - Improve adaptation and increase resilience to climate-related crop disturbances in support of long-term farm business vitality and productivity -???
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Budget not complete
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Investing in specialty crop research, including research to focus on conservation and environmental outcomes;
    - Developing new and improved seed varieties for specialty crops;
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - yes
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - yes
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - "other" costs for \$2800 are not detailed
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -



**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037

**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant

**BIDDER NAME:** UMS – Handley - Squash

**DATE:** 4/19/2020

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

\*\*\*\*\*

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Not specifically?
    - . But I think it's a pretty good project...
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Investing in specialty crop research, including research to focus on conservation and environmental outcomes;
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** UMS - Machado  
**DATE:** 4/19/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

\*\*\*\*\*  
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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . yes
    - . Enhance food safety education, primarily in relation to FDA rules regarding improved handling and processing of specialty crops.
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Yes, definitely
    - . Enhanced Food Safety;
    - . Improving the capacity of all entities in the specialty crop distribution chain to comply with the requirements of the Food Safety Modernization Act, for example, by developing "Good Agricultural Practices", "Good Handling Practices", "Good Manufacturing Practices", and in cost-share arrangements for funding audits of such systems (including USDA GroupGAP) for small farmers, packers, and processors;
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Yes, the ones selected from RFA list
    - . Increasing readiness for audit by 20% is vague also without mention of how it will be measured; what about a certain # of TA hours provided, or # of farms that complete audits?
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . yes
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . No travel to farms included
    - . No personnel time for PI (Machado)?

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037

RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: UMS – Moran

DATE: 4/19/2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Alexandria Fouliard

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Farmland Trust

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Any application from the previous year which was for a multiple year term and was only funded for the first year of the project.
    - . Not directly - Improve adaptation and increase resilience to climate-related crop disturbances in support of long-term farm business vitality and productivity
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Yes complete
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Yes, Developing new and improved seed varieties for specialty crops;
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . yes
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . Yes, not many as there aren't many peach growers but seems like they plan to reach a high % of them
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . yes
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037

**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant

**BIDDER NAME:** UMS - Zhang

**DATE:** 4/19/2020

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Yes – multiple year funding?
    - Improve adaptation and increase resilience to climate-related crop disturbances in support of long-term farm business vitality and productivity
    - I also like how this one is looking at immediate practices and also long term changes.
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - yes
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Yes, directly
    - Investing in specialty crop research, including research to focus on conservation and environmental outcomes;
    - Pest and disease control;
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - yes
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - yes
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - yes
    - Have funding support from Wild Blueberry Commission
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037

**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant

**BIDDER NAME:** Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine

**DATE:** 4/19/2020

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Projects that market Maine specialty crops to diversified and expanded markets, or that research potential market expansion efforts and strategies.
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Yes
    - Why are they waiting until Nov to start this? Are they going to miss the 2020 blueberry season? Does it matter if most of the crop is frozen?
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Increasing child and adult nutrition knowledge and consumption of specialty crops;
    - Sustainability.
    - I don't think that the RFP meant investing in research to include market research
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Yes, clear
    - I get why they're taking the approach of Maine wild blueberries, but that's a mouthful. More people have a connection to 'Maine' than to 'wild' so why not focus on the Maine berry message? Like the website could be maineblueberries.com instead of wildblueberries.com?
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - yes
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Yes, complete
    - This is a very expensive rebrand based on a brand that already exists

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine  
**DATE:** 4/19/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Alexandria Fouliard  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** Maine Farmland Trust

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Projects that market Maine specialty crops to diversified and expanded markets, or that research potential market expansion efforts and strategies.
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - yes
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Sort of - Increasing child and adult nutrition knowledge and consumption of specialty crops;
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Yes, clear
    - How likely are they to actually accomplish that increase though? How much more market space is there for blueberries in food service?
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - yes
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Yes complete
    - Why do files need to be on a flashdrive for distribution? That can be done online for free?
    - No travel to trade shows?
    - 
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: Backyard Blooms LLC  
DATE: 4/13/20  
EVALUATOR NAME: Ann Gibbs  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: DACF

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Yes, expanding the market of specialty crops in Maine
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Yes, well thought out and developing a crop to withstand high lead soils and using local soil amendments
    - . First time project
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Addressed sustainability and somewhat pest and disease control – but maybe could elaborate on these 2 areas
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Anticipate increase in sales & varieties because of the longer season and these will be captured in spreadsheet
    - . One measure to add would be longevity of each crop due to covering, not sure how this will be measured
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . This could benefit other cut flower growers, but there is no outreach component
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . Exclusively for equipment – all are needed to meet the goal of the project
    - . Return on investment increase sales by \$6K and savings of \$500 for project cost of \$13.7K
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** Blue Barn LLC dba Bluet  
**DATE:** 4/13/20  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Ann Gibbs  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** DACF

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Yes explicit #4 projects that market Maine specialty crops
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Yes – the issue to solve is very clearly presented along with specific solutions
    - . Is this benefiting only one specific producer?
    - . Low intervention wine making needs to be defined
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Lists outcomes #1,2 & 3 and specific indicators
    - . Will collect data from growers
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . Blueberry growers and 5 wine producers
    - . Great opportunity to expand the market for wild blueberries
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . Includes budget for 3 years
    - . Most of the budget is for travel to tradeshow to promote the product
    - . Purchase of blueberries \$30K is this a direct subsidy and how will growers be selected?
    - . Not clear who the other wine makers are to benefit from this project?
    - . 150K income to be reinvested. How is this assured to occur?



**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFATITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** Daybreak Growers Alliance  
**DATE:** 4/13/20  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Ann Gibbs  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** DACF

\*\*\*\*\*  
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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Yes second year funding of multiyear project, food safety measures, market expansion – very clearly stated, didn't have to hunt for it
    - . A little confusing regarding what has been accomplished in first year and how second year differs
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Yes
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Implementing GHP, increasing sales to schools, increase efficiency and distribution
    - . Are schools a market during the COVID-19 emergency?
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Outcomes are clearly presented and actions listed for completion
    - . Identified several opportunities for outreach to various audiences
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . Should impact 30 growers and 35 wholesale accounts
    - . Identified areas of expansion from prior year project – expand Maine Roots & Fruits
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . Projecting \$520K cumulative sales over 3 years - \$189K at the end of year 2
    - . When did the first year of this project commence? It seems they are still trying to hire staff who were identified in year one of the project

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037

**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant

**BIDDER NAME:** Daybreak Growers Alliance

**DATE:** 4/13/20

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Ann Gibbs

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** DACF

- Personnel chart is confusing regarding the %FTE for each position as the grant is paying 50% of each FTE – the bulk of this proposal
-

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: FoodCorps  
DATE: 4/13/20  
EVALUATOR NAME: Ann Gibbs  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: DACF

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Not explicit - #4 expanding markets of specialty crops
    - . The concept and goal of the project is really important, but maybe too many moving parts and needs to be simplified
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Confusion as to how this project differs from other grant programs
    - . Overall the project needs more explanation of the process sort of like a timeline would be helpful
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Working with a very diverse populations in the various communities (Somali & Passamaquoddy)
    - . No explicit reference - #6 increasing child nutrition knowledge
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Need a little more detail on the data collection
    - . No reference to the number of farmers involved
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . Not sure how many producers will benefit from this project – reported impact is totally focused on students
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . There is mention of Maine team leader and direct service members, these need to be defined and it is not clear how all these positions work together and are funded
    - . No details about the farm field trips, just the cost of the buses

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037

**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant

**BIDDER NAME:** FoodCorps

**DATE:** 4/13/20

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Ann Gibbs

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** DACF

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: Health Care Without Harm  
DATE: 4/13/20  
EVALUATOR NAME: Ann Gibbs  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: DACF

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Not explicitly stated – fits #4 marketing specialty crops
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . It does
    - . Interesting concept for a project – focus in out of state
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Not explicitly stated – fits #6 adult nutrition & #7 improved distribution
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Concern is not sure how much effort will be used to connect with Maine farmers
    - . Where is the data that Maine farmers have been surveyed or provided any input?
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . 4 farms
    - . Not clear how many lentil and bean growers are in Maine who produce a large enough acreage to fulfill this need
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . A large percent of the budget for personel
    - . Concern this is an expensive project with not a lot of gain for Maine farmers
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037

**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant

**BIDDER NAME:** Maine Dept of Education, Child Nutrition

**DATE:** 4/13/20

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Ann Gibbs

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** DACF

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Expanding markets of specialty crops to schools
    - . Hands on training of culinary staff is a great step
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Yes
    - . Building on a Harvest of the Month program piloted last year
    - . Addressing a need identified by the pilot program
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Yes increasing child nutrition by knowledge & consuming specialty crops
    - . This was not clearly stated in the proposal
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Beneficiaries are 267 school districts and 7,600 farmers (that might be an exaggeration)
    - . How will the local farmer consultant work with schools? Visit schools in person present a webinar? How will the farmer training impact be measured?.
    - .
    - . How will measure the impact of outreach materials? Just based on amount distributed?
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . There will be a variety of crops used given the year round nature of the project
    - . This will impact farmers across the state with different growing conditions and crops
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . Outreach materials seem reasonable
    - . Budget seems reasonable for expected benefit.
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** Maine Maple Producers  
**DATE:** 4/13/20  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Ann Gibbs  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** DACF

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Not explicitly stated – assume #4 marketing & #1 multi year
    - . What is the role of the agreement with DACF?
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . No project summary
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Not explicitly stated – not clear which one fits
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Not clearly stated how this project is taking the information from the previous year's project and implementing in this proposal – marketing outreach program?
    - . Making efforts to look at meaningful methods for self sustaining these projects
    - . Enhanced competitiveness with increase in revenues to producers (10%)
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . It will benefit 580 licensed producers
    - . Wild blueberry and breweries (use grain and hops)
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . Budget explanation refers to work done in the past, not a lot of detail regarding what is planned for this round of funds
    - . No explanation of what will be included in website design
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: MELNA – Fall Crops  
DATE: 4/13/20  
EVALUATOR NAME: Ann Gibbs  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: DACF

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Not specifically stated – assume it is expanded markets
    - . Hoping to expand the season for selling plants utilizing 6 years of plant something campaign which emphasized spring planting
    - . Developing new sales outlets though independent retailers – grocery, hardware
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Need reference to MeLNA survey of sales figures
    - . External support what are the specifics
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Not explicitly stated
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Surveying only 15 garden centers for sales and number of jobs. Is this a true indication of the size of the industry?
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . It will target the same group of specialty producers as the current plant something campaign to hopefully provide some other markets
    - . Will there be any other requirements for selling to grocery stores, GHP, GAP?
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . Travel to school meetings?
    - . Seems that some of the contracted products could be used for multiple purposes
    - . Cost for posters and plant racks seems high?
    - . Conducting a survey for \$11K of 80 participants, will these results be summarized and analyzed?
    - . Advertising and PR could they utilize the format from previous campaigns to save funds?



**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: MELNA – Plant Something  
DATE: 4/13/20  
EVALUATOR NAME: Ann Gibbs  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: DACF

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Not explicit - #1 multi year, #4 expand marketing
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Yes
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Yes lists #5 pest and disease control and #6 child nutrition
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . 3 measurable outcomes identified with specific indicators identified with numbers
    - . Question indicator for #5 indicating the 4000 people would be impacted
    - . Outcomes were based on data for 15 garden centers only and there are over 1000 licensed facilities selling plants in the state
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . 1000 specialty crop retailers – how many of these will be considered producers
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . Many entities involved and it is difficult to determine whether there is cross over and duplication of effort
    - . Not a great rate of return for the grant funding requested
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: MOFGA  
DATE: 4/13/20  
EVALUATOR NAME: Ann Gibbs  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: DACF

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Yes Priority 2 Enhanced food safety education, primarily in relations to FDA rules regarding improved handling of specialty crops
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Yes
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Yes related to enhancing food safety
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Yes the outcomes are clearly identified (outcome 6 & 7) and the indicators have specific numbers attached
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . Yes with technical assistance for 15 farms and 50 farms increasing their understanding of food safety
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . Yes in most categories, not clear how many participants will be included in the day long training (Atina Diffey for \$7326)
    - . TA assistant grants for 15 farmers doesn't include a list of what are allowable expenses

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: MPB  
DATE: 4/13/20  
EVALUATOR NAME: Ann Gibbs  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: DACF

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Not explicitly written, but fits with # 3 Pest management
    - . This is a major pest concern for the seed potato industry
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Does follow the outline
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Not explicitly written, but covers #5 pest and disease control & #8 sustainability
    - . Promoting crop rotation as a part of pest management is positive
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Didn't type out outcome indicators and quantify
    - . Pretty clear project design and data collection and analysis summary
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . Will impact all the seed potato growers in Maine (110) and tablestock & process growers (190)
    - . Could also benefit other specialty crop growers, by potentially controlling aphid populations in the area
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . 84% of the budget funds personnel costs
    - . A student worker is requested, will they be available?
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037

RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: UMAINE – Handley - Berry Industry

DATE: 4/13/20

EVALUATOR NAME: Ann Gibbs

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: DACF

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Not explicitly - #5 adapting specialty crops for resilience, multi year
    - 
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Yes
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Not explicitly - #3 specialty crop research
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Indicators of outcomes seem reasonable and are specific
    - Difficult to collect data due to the perennial nature of the crop – may not have much usable data in the proposed 3 years of the project
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - External support from 2 industry groups and the results of these trial could benefit 200 growers
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Not sure how vast the plantings are is there enough work for 3 staff? 83% of the grant is personnel
    - What was completed in the first year?
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037

RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: UMAINE – Zhang -Blueberry Fertilizers and Soil Amendments

DATE: 4/13/20

EVALUATOR NAME: Ann Gibbs

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: DACF

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Yes explicitly states #3 & #5
    - . Explains very well how the project is working to meet these areas
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Error in the dates of the project 12/10 to 3/22
    - . Following up on previous year's work and outlines the problems growers are facing
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Yes explicit #3, 5 & 8
    - . Very clearly indicates how these areas would be investigated
    - . Researching innovative methods for water retention
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . There is an outreach component to get the research results to growers
    - . Project is focused on needs from the industry based on survey results
    - . Used the results of the first year of funding to leverage more research funding from other sources, presumably for other aspects of this research
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . Will impact all 485 Maine blueberry growers
    - . More growers are interested in organic fertility methods – included OMRI certified materials along with mulch and biochar
    - . Identified outcomes #4&5 – adopted by 100 growers and 300 will be educated
    - . Very thorough list of data collection procedures and dissemination of results
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . 78% or personnel
    - . Do we pay tuition and health insurance for students?
    - . Letters of support from wild blueberry growers

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: UMAINE – Annis - Blueberry IPM  
DATE: 4/13/20  
EVALUATOR NAME: Ann Gibbs  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: DACF

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Yes, fits #3 IPM and multi year project (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Yes, project give a great description of issues being tackled by this research
    - . Clear objectives are included
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Yes, pest and disease control
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Outcomes #4&5 will be adopted by 60 growers
    - . Data will be collected at IPM training sessions, not sure how many folks will attend or how this information will be shared with the industry
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . Benefit 510 wild blueberry growers
    - . Collaborating with the MWBC and direct support from the growers
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . 74% of the budget is personnel, funding included for a student
    - . \$7K for vehicle rental, is this being exclusively used for this project?
    - . Under other – Umaine has a fee for off farm labor – are they paying the farmer to collect data? Why can't the researchers collect this information?

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037

**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant

**BIDDER NAME:** UMAINE – Machado - GAP/GHP & FSMA/PSR audit support

**DATE:** 4/13/20

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Ann Gibbs

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** DACF

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Not explicit - #2 Food safety education
    - 
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Yes
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Not explicit - #2 Food safety education
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Outcomes and indicators are laid out and data collection and follow up is outlined
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - 82% of budget is for personnel – probably appropriate as the purpose of this proposal is to deliver trainings
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037

**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant

**BIDDER NAME:** UMAINE – Moran - Peach Variety Testing

**DATE:** 4/13/20

**EVALUATOR NAME:** Ann Gibbs

**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** DACF

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\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Not explicit - #5 climate adaptation, multi year
    - . Trialing varieties of peaches
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Provided results from the first year of project
    - . Research was requested by tree fruit growers
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Not explicit, - #4 developing new crop varieties
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Outcome and indicator stated and data collection will occur through a survey to determine what growers might choose to grow peaches
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . 80 fruit tree growers
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . 88% budget for personnel
    - . What is the planting set up and how is it managed? Mentioned 10 varieties had been planted
    - .



**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: UMAINE – Dill - Potato IPM  
DATE: 4/13/20  
EVALUATOR NAME: Ann Gibbs  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: DACF

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Yes – pest management, multi year
    - . Write up includes dated information regarding Dickeya
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . How does this project differ from year to year?
    - . Yes the proposal is complete
    - . Any suggestions about growers doing some of their own scouting to make this sustainable?
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Yes – pest and disease control,
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Outcomes are listed with the indicators
    - . Work will be based on surveys of previous year's finding and then the survey targets and locations will be adjusted as appropriate
    - . Outreach info will be distributed at several grower meetings and workshops
    - . Could weather satellite data be used across several UMaine projects?
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . Mentioned roughly 400 growers and this is more like 300
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . 86% of the budget is personnel
    - . Do you need 9 season program staff because of decreasing potato acreage?
    - . Who will be identifying the trap catches and how is that budgeted?

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** UMAINE – Handley - Squash Storage  
**DATE:** 4/13/20  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Ann Gibbs  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:** DACF

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Not sure which area this fits - #3 pest management post harvest?
    - 
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Not a lot of detail in this proposal
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Not explicit - #5 pest and disease control?
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - No mention of monitoring and data collection
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Could impact 200 vegetable producers
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Not a lot of explanation regarding how this project will be completed
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: WBC – Wild Blueberry School Food Service  
DATE: 4/13/20  
EVALUATOR NAME: Ann Gibbs  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: DACF

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Not explicitly – increase markets
    - 
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Yes and seems like a very targeted proposal
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Not explicitly - #6 child nutrition
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Clear outcomes and very specific indicators of success that seem attainable
    - 3 workshops targeting 90 school food service managers
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Will help 485 growers and has matching support from MWBC
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Are all the trade shows focused on food service providers?
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: WBC – Rebranding Wild Blueberry  
DATE: 4/13/20  
EVALUATOR NAME: Ann Gibbs  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: DACF

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Not explicitly - #4 expanding markets
    - . Rebrand to Maine Wild Blueberry – help with domestic markets
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Yes, well written proposal with clear attainable objectives
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Listed areas including - #3 research, #6 child & adult nutrition, #8 sustainability
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Will purchase Nielson market data
    - . First year will look to increase market in New England – this is a positive phased in approach
    - . Listing clear outcomes with specific indicators of success – using NASS statistics and point of sales data (Nielson) and Maine grower survey
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . 485 wild blueberry growers and processors
    - . Letters of support from growers
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . Website currently collaboration between Canada and Maine. Will the Canadian content be removed to promote the Maine focus/
    - .
    - .

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

1st year

RFP #: 202002037

RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: Backyard Blooms

DATE: April 15, 2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Season Extension

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.  
\*\*\*\*\*

ASK \$ 13,700

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

- #4 Expanding Season
- Business will be more profitable self sustain.

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

- Yes

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

- Yes

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

- # 1 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 8
- Increased sales - growing potential yield
- Capacity - all measurable

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

- 2 owners + 1 potential employee
- Community of 3549 people

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

- Equipment purchase
- Tiller-Tunnels - Greenhouses
- Set up now to be self sustaining

Like

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

1st year  
of 3

RFP #: 202002037  
RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: Blue Barn LLC dba Bluet  
DATE: April 17, 2020  
EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Expanding Supply Demand & Infrastructure Blueberry Wine

**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.

Ask \$65,000

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

• #4 yes

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

• no - RFA??s Specialty Crop? on pg 7 unanswered  
• or maybe not need to tell.

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

• yes

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

• 1-2-3-8 (not described in whole)  
• a ↓  
• B ↓  
• d ↓  
• c ↓  
• d ↓

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

• Blueberry growers  
• 5 wine producers  
• Tourism / Blueberry stakeholders

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

• Travel budget may change (cario 19)  
• Budget complete + purchases support  
• ME growers - double bang for buck.

This will be a self sustaining business in the years to come. This is what the grant \$ should be used for!

Handwritten notes on the left margin:  
- (new product) !! using specialty crop (endangered area) !!  
- New product !! using specialty crop !!  
- Attached major industry attention already.  
- believe this will appeal to MITER...  
- F = New product !!  
- F = Attached major industry attention already.  
- F = believe this will appeal to MITER...

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

2nd yr

RFP #: 202002037

RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: Daybreak growers Alliance

DATE: April 15, 2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Maine Spec. Grain Crops Midg Dist Model

**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.

ASK \$ 38,216

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

- 1 • 2nd yr
- 2 • food safety measures
- 4 • mkt expansion to diversified wholesale mkt

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

- 4 objectives - SUP + training for farm partners
- increase capacity to process spec crops = greater sales / income
- Model to share promote wholesale spec.

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

- 1-2 • yes - yr 2
- 6-7 • Enhanced food safety thru implem. Good handle Prod
- ↑ child/adult consumption thru spec crop sales
- Impov effie + reducing cost of Dist.

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

- 1-3-5-6 • Increased sales
- 35 affected w/ increased knowledge + will purchase
- Develop new model for getting crops to mkt. - expanded access
- Create 2 new jobs / sustain 2 jobs / 31 sm businesses

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers maintained

- 60 Beneficiaries

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

- Ask = 38,216 personnel costs.

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

1st year

RFP #: 202002037  
RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: ME DOE  
DATE: April 15, 2020  
EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Local Foods Trainings for School Nutrition Staff

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ASK \$ 12,508

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

- a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
  - 4 - mlt spec. crop to schools
  - 
  -
- b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
  - yes complete
  -
- c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
  - yes - child nutrition training
  - 
  -
- d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
  - #3 • Competitiveness thru increased access
  - Attendance on-site
  - 
  -
- e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
  - 267 K-12 school districts
  - 7600 farms in Maine
  - 
  -
- f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
  - mailings / promo material
  - \$250 month for trainers
  - 
  - 
  - ASK \$ 12,508



STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

1st year

RFP #: 202002037

RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: FoodCorps

DATE: April 17, 2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Connecting kids/schools to Farms/Farmers & Veggies

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Ask \$ 70,300

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

• yes # 2

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

• yes

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

• yes

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

• 2 - 1A - 1B  
• 3 - 2B  
• 1

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

• 5250 beneficiaries  
• Students / Farmers

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

• Yes average \$13.39 cost per beneficiary.  
• I believe # of beneficiaries grows to siblings  
• parents of students trained. Low cost impact  
to many! Good spend # of grant \$1s!

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

1st year

RFP #: 202002037

RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: Healthcare w/o Ham

DATE: April 15, 2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Bbg Promoting Institutional MKTs for High Protein Crops

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N = VA Company is ASK \$89,480-

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

FARM to Institution - great idea!

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

- Yes #4 Marketing
- 
- 

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

- Yes
- 

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

- Yes Education of Hospitals
- Increased sales - crop growers
- 

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

- #1 - #1
- 2 - 4
- 3. 1a. 2a.b.c - 3 e.f
- 

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

- 10,008 beneficiaries
- 4+ producers / processors
- 4+ Healthcare institutions
- 10,000 consumers

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

- Project is self-sustaining (will be).
- 
- 

N - ME General support letter is for MASS not Maine.

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

and yr

RFP #: 202002037

RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: Memple Producers Assoc.

DATE: April 15, 2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Website Up/Marketing/Social Media Campaign

**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.

\*\*\*\*\* Ask \$36/K \*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

#1 & : #4 mktg - Prof. designed/executed  
: mktg plan

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

: Budget vague / Data collection detail  
: \$82 an hour!

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

: Like the Commerce section!  
: Direct benefit for producers here  
: it matters!

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

: #1 Increased sales increased price  
: + increased crop value (10%) all  
: due to mktg/promotion. Methods not desc.

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

: 580 licensed producers  
: + 10% newbies  
: in detail  
: Surveys -  
: observation -  
: Social Media  
: Analytics  
: Stat reports

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

: Budget is vague - how  
: spent now? what activities?  
: \$1000 - Social media ads?  
: what is the Nancy M Co \$ fee?  
: Ads or creating/preparing?  
: what is the public facing piece?

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

1st year

RFP #: 202002037

RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: ME Potato Board

DATE: April 16, 2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Magnit of Potato Views Y

**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.

ASK \$55,096  
yr 1 of 3 yrs

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

• #5

•

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

• yes

•

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

• yes

• objectives defined

•

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

• 4&5 listed not defined, not clearly

• measurable.

•

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

• 110 producers may rec'd benefit

• if studies prove to be correct.

•

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

• 110 Beneficiaries and potato producers

•

• Supply budget reasonable

• Unbur is bulk of Budget

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

Since 2015? <sup>End yr</sup>

RFP #: 202002037  
RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: MELNA  
DATE: April 16, 2020  
EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Expand Mkt of Horticulture Spec Crops

**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.

ASK \$93,595

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

# 1 : yes # 4

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

: yes

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

: ✓ it does

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

: increased sales - measurable - <sup>surveys</sup> ~~methods not desc.~~  
: Jobs maintained/created - ~~measure how?~~

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

: 114 Beneficiaries (# Bus in Hort. Spec. crop ind)

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

: Expensive!  
: This may be affected by COVID-19!  
: Travel + trainings may be virtual now for a period of time.

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

3rd year  
Since  
2018

RFP #: 202002037  
RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: meena  
DATE: April 17, 2020  
EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Plant Something @ School

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.

ASK \$ 79,761

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

- a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
  - yes Education + expanding mkts.
  - 
  -
- b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
  - yes
  -
- c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
  - yes
  - 
  - 
  -
- d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
  - 1 increase garden center sales
  - 5 n. 4000 students educated
  - 8 c. 6 jobs created (also shows 13?)!
- e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
  - 22000 - 25000 students / teachers / employees
  - Hort. Spec Crop retailers / growers - 1000 businesses
  -
- f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
  - Yes complete.
  - 
  - Impact 22,000 students @ 44¢ each.
  - 
  - This will not be self sustaining + will need \$ annually to fund projects.

n =



1st year

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

RFP #: 202002037

RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: Maine Organic Farmers + Gardeners Assoc.

DATE: April 17, 2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Produce Safety Improvement

**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.

Ask \$ 64,955.61

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

• #2 Food Safety

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

• Yes

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

• Yes Enhance Food Safety  
• Improve Food Dist Chain

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

• Yes 6-3&5  
• 7-2,3,4,5

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

• Grants to farms for food safety improvements.  
• \$ goes to Farmers!! Love it! Glad  
• to read the farms will financially

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

• Benefit.  
• Yes - fair amount of admin cost  
• to provide direct financial benefit  
• to Farms.

P  
P  
P  
P  
P  
P  
P

\* My FAVORITE PROPOSAL by FAR !!

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

~~2020~~ year  
6th

RFP #: 202002037  
RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: Umaire Annis  
DATE: April 17, 2020  
EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Control Diseases in Blueberries

**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.

\* Research \* ASK \$94,087 \*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

- yes #5 #1
- 
- 

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

- yes
- 

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

- yes Post Disease control
- Spec Crop research
- 

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

- 4 b
- 5 h
- 

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

- 510 beneficiaries
- 
- 

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

- cost = \$184 per grower - no financial benefit directly.
- 
- Research w/ no income stream will never be self sustaining



STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

2nd year

RFP #: 202002037  
RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: umaine Dill  
DATE: April 17, 2020  
EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Potato IPM

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.

\* Research ASK \$ 98,025

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

- a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
  - #1 & #3 Pest Mgmt
  - 
  -
- b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
  - Yes
  -
- c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
  - Yes pest control
  - spec crop research
  - 
  -
- d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
  - #4 - 2a - 2b - 2c
  - 
  - #5 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
  -
- e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
  - 400 Potato growers
  - 
  - 
  -
- f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
  - UNICE intensive
  - Supplies reasonable
  - 
  - 
  - custom grown 1245

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

2nd year

RFP #: 202002037  
RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: Umaine Handley - Berry  
DATE: April 17, 2020  
EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Expanding Berry > Farm Plots.

**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.

\* Research Ask \$ 30872

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

- a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
  - #1 - #4 - #5
  - 
  -
- b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
  - yes
  -
- c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
  - yes
  - 
  - DPEC crop research
  -
- d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
  - 4 1 - 2A - 2C
  - 5 2 - 3 - 8
  - 8 5 - 6 - 7
  -
- e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
  - 200 growers
  - 
  - 
  -
- f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
  - 15.41 per grower cost
  - 
  - Hourly rates are low!
  - Supplies reasonable

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

1st year

RFP #: 202002037

RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: Maine Handley - Squash

DATE: April 17, 2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Expand Fresh Veggie Mkt - Winter Squash

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Ask \$14,595

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

• Yes 2-4 & 5

•  
•

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

• Yes

•

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

• Yes Food safety - mkt expansion

•

•

•

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

• 4 - #2

• 5 - #2-3-8

• 8 - #5-6-7

•

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

• 200 growers gain knowledge

• 75 increased revenue

• 2 new farmers 2 disadvantaged

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

P. • Bang for buck w/ low cost personnel

P. • Mileage @ state rate

• Supply costs reasonable

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

1st year

RFP #: 202002037  
RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: umaine Machado  
DATE: April 7, 2020  
EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Audit Support Maine Farms

**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.

Ask \$64,889

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

• Yes Food Safety

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

• Yes

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

• Yes Food Safety FSMA

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

• #7 -> 1-3-4-5

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

• 20 Farms

• P = \$300 to each farm to support expense of inspection

Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

• N = 20 Farms benefit at cost of \$3,244.45 per farm!

• \$5500 TRAVEL is unnecessary in my opinion in these times. Conference could be beneficial but chances are Christina has enough tools to help farms already.

Is Advertising necessary? Pretty sure 20 willing farms can be found who will advertise.

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

2nd year

RFP #: 202002037

RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: Umaire Moran

DATE: April 17, 2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Peach Variety Testing + Devel for Local Mkt

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\* Research ASK \$55,458

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

• #1 & #5  
•  
•

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

N=

• no!  
•

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

• Yes  
• Spec crop research  
•

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

N=

• #5 ✓d no definition or measures or  
• methods described!  
•

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

• 80  
•  
•

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

• \$693.23 per peach farm benefit.  
• NO Direct financial benefit  
•  
• labor reasonable / supplies reasonable

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

2nd year

RFP #: 202002037

RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: *Umaire* Zhang

DATE: April 17, 2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

*Using Fertilizers/Amendments to Improve Blueberry Prod. + Resilience*

**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.

*\* Research Ask \$ 99,585*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

- *#1 & #5*
- 
- 

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

- *Yes*
- 
- 

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

- *Pest disease control*
- *Spec Crop research on consev/environ/sustain.*
- 
- 

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

- *#4.2 a & b*
- 
- *#5.1 & 8*
- 

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

- *485 Blueberry growers*
- 
- 
- 

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

- *Yes \$ 205.33 per grower cost*
- *LABOR intensive - rates reasonable*
- *Supplies / LAB Fees reasonable.*

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

1st year

RFP #: 202002037

RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: Wild Blueberry Commission

DATE: April 17, 2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Expanding Blueberry School Foodservice Program Purchase

**Instructions:** The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.

Ask \$65,458

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

• #4 Marketing

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

• yes

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

• yes

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

#1 & 2 • Not clearly defined! 2.7 to 3.7 in 2021? How is this known?

• #2 is a guesstimate no guarantee of this

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

• 485 ME Blueberry farmers

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

N  
N

• No - why Heidi charges \$575/day vs \$700/day?  
• Ethos Mktg \$135-170 per hour is not a fair spend of grant dollars.

P

Jump drives @ \$4 is efficient & reasonable.

\*Also - Add safety education piece to jump drives to get more bang for the buck.

STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES

1st year

RFP #: 202002037

RFP TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant

BIDDER NAME: Wild Blueberry Commission

DATE: April 17, 2020

EVALUATOR NAME: Joy Bonenfant

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

Rebranding Blueberry w/ Story of Place

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Ask \$100,000

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

I. Project Profile:

a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area

• Yes - Marketing

b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP

• Yes

c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP

• Yes

d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection

• Surveys at highway rest stop? How effective will this be?

e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers

• 485 Blueberry farmers  
• 50 sellers

f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.

• No, would like to see more details on the quotes from Ethos.

• This grant would be approx 17% of total grant funds. Not sure this would be a good spend of grant \$1.5M

N



**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** Backyard Blooms  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Distribution System
    - . Sustainability
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Increase access to local flowers
    - . Decrease distance flowers travel
    - . Increase awareness to local potential
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Extending Season
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** Bluet  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . If you can grow it & improve it you need new markets
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Increase demand – increased price for growers
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . General increase interest on product
    - . .75lbs is significantly higher than average
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** Daybreak  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Market expansion to whole sale markets
    - .
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Food safety
    - . Improve efficiency
    - . Reduce distribution cost
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Increase sales
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: DOE  
DATE: 4/18/2020  
EVALUATOR NAME: Marge Kilkelly  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Increase access to local foods by schools
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Linked to local produce fund
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Sound Data collection
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Seems heavy on print materials
    - 2 pots of \$ cover all products
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** FoodCorps  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Exp use of Specialty Crops
    - Inc Education & Knowledge
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - 
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - Like staff
    - Go on field trips to farms
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: Health Care w/o Harm  
DATE: 4/18/2020  
EVALUATOR NAME: Marge Kilkelly  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . 4 or more producers
    - . 4 or more institutions
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . How benefits socially disadvantaged farmers
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Forward contracting
    - . Size of producers?
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Budget heavy on staff costs
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . Like staff
    - . Go on field trips to farms
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** Melna – Fall Sales  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Extends season for horticulture/landscaping
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Plant Something has worked well - great
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Mostly small biz members
    - . Need coordinated effort
    - . Grant funds good way to accomplish
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Plant Something now self-sustaining
    - . Good indicator of success
    - . External & internal
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - . Great idea – Only question is this the year?
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . Why isn't MELNA director under personnel not contractor
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** Melna - School  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Build on previous success
    - . Sounds idea coordinates with other MELNA project
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Forward contracting
    - . Size of producers?
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Focus on Fall
    - . Quest might be how can parents use lessons at home given current and possible future circumstances
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - . Like staff
    - . Go on field trips to farms
    - .
    - .



**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFA #: 202002037  
RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant  
BIDDER NAME: Maine Maple Producers  
DATE: 4/18/2020  
EVALUATOR NAME: Marge Kilkelly  
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Economic analysis & Maple Industry
    - Increased Market
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - "Tap" into visitors
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Needed to offset "VT" as maple
    - Previous effort successful
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Increase market share
    - Working towards sustainability
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - Benefits small & large producers
    - Maple production is good
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - A Great "off season" activity
    - Many other producers
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** MOFGA  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Grants to most in need
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Local support to 15 grantees
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Follow up with grantees provide notice of certification etc.
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - 
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** Maine Potato Board  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Planting cereals to reduce aphids
    - Plantins system
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Look at non potato fields
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Different from UMS field trials
    - How do/can they mesh
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** UMS - Annis  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Blueberry producers – transition to fresh pack & approve new methods
    - . Plantins system
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . IPM – reduce pests
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Need new research
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Changes needed to be competitive
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** UMS - Dill  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Build on previous research
    - . Industry is key
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Increase yield
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . IPM
    - . Budget good balance students & staff
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** UMS – Handley - Berry  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - No sm fruit breeding programs in New England
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Critical to understand what works locally
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Expands opportunity for growers
    - Increases local availability
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** UMS – Handley - Squash  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Squash storage – extend season
    - . Strategies to maintain high quality
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - . Imp research
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Inc revenue & in some cases employment for sales
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Budget enhances existing resources
    - . Good ROI
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** UMS - Machado  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

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**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Food Safety
    - Support producers offset cost & supports farmers who have not been through audit
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Small Producers
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -



**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** UMS – Moran  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - Will increase local peach production
    - Research is needed
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - Good info on previous years
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Increase grower knowledge & opportunities
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - 
    - 
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - 
    - 
    -

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** UMS – Zhang  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Further study based on specialty crop
    - . Positive or negative impact, stem growth etc
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Reasonable budget
    - . Good ROI
    - . Much needed, producers can't research
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** WBC – School Foodservice  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - . Schools can be large purchasers
    - . Connect to value added products w/ kid appeal
    - .
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - . Good ROI of gracious grants
    - . Continue school food service program
    - .
    - .
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - . Strong Team
    - . Outreach to large stats
    - .
    - .
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - .
    - .
    - .
    - .

**STATE OF MAINE  
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

**RFA #:** 202002037  
**RFA TITLE:** Specialty Crop Block Grant  
**BIDDER NAME:** WBC – Story of Place  
**DATE:** 4/18/2020  
**EVALUATOR NAME:** Marge Kilkelly  
**EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT:**

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**Instructions:** *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFP.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individual Evaluator Comments:**

- I. Project Profile:
  - a. The proposal is determined to be a Commissioner priority area
    - 'Maine' Wild Blueberry
    - 
    -
  - b. The proposal is complete and adheres to the format outlined in the RFP
    - 
    - 
    -
  - c. The project addresses the issues put forth by USDA, as stated in the RFP
    - Differentiate Maine for wild blueberries as well as high bush cultivated
    - 
    -
  - d. The outcomes and indicators are clearly defined and are clearly measurable, including methods of monitoring and data collection
    - Increase Price by 50% by 2023 to 82 lbs?
    - 
    -
  - e. The project proposed will measurably impact multiple Specialty Crop Producers
    - 
    - 
    -
  - f. Budget is complete and clearly indicates anticipated benefit in relation to the proposed cost.
    - 
    - 
    -



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF  
Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Janet T. Mills  
Governor

Amanda E. Beal  
Commissioner

**AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**RFA #: 202002037**  
**RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant**

I, Marge L. Kilkelly accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFP) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFP.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the bidders whose proposals I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the bidder's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the bidder; current or former personal contractual relationship with the bidder (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to a bidder's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

I have not advised, consulted with or assisted any bidder in the preparation of any proposal submitted in response to this RFP nor have I submitted a letter of support or similar endorsement.

I understand that the evaluation process is to be conducted in an impartial manner. In this regard, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, there are no circumstances that would reasonably support a good faith charge of bias. I further understand that in the event a good faith charge of bias is made, it will rest with me to decide whether I should be disqualified from participation in the evaluation process.

**I agree to hold confidential all information related to the contents of Requests for Proposals presented during the review process until such time as the Department formally releases the funding decision notices for public distribution.**

Marge L. Kilkelly  
**Signature**

April 9, 2020  
**Date**



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION  
AND FORESTRY

Janet T. Mills  
Governor

Amanda E. Beal  
Commissioner

**AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**RFA #: 202002037**  
**RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant**

AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT RFA #: 202002037 RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant I, (print name at right) Ann Gibbs accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFP) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFP. Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the bidders whose proposals I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the bidder's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the bidder; current or former personal contractual relationship with the bidder (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to a bidder's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest). I have not advised, consulted with or assisted any bidder in the preparation of any proposal submitted in response to this RFP nor have I submitted a letter of support or similar endorsement. I understand that the evaluation process is to be conducted in an impartial manner. In this regard, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, there are no circumstances that would reasonably support a good faith charge of bias. I further understand that in the event a good faith charge of bias is made, it will rest with me to decide whether I should be disqualified from participation in the evaluation process.

**I agree to hold confidential all information related to the contents of Requests for Proposals presented during the review process until such time as the Department formally releases the funding decision notices for public distribution.**

Signed: Ann Gibbs 

Dated: April 6, 2020



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION  
AND FORESTRY

Janet T. Mills  
Governor

Amanda E. Beal  
Commissioner

**AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**RFA #: 202002037**  
**RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant**

I, (print name at right) ALEXANDRIA FOULIARD  
accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFP) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFP.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the bidders whose proposals I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the bidder's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the bidder; current or former personal contractual relationship with the bidder (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to a bidder's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

I have not advised, consulted with or assisted any bidder in the preparation of any proposal submitted in response to this RFP nor have I submitted a letter of support or similar endorsement.

I understand that the evaluation process is to be conducted in an impartial manner. In this regard, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, there are no circumstances that would reasonably support a good faith charge of bias. I further understand that in the event a good faith charge of bias is made, it will rest with me to decide whether I should be disqualified from participation in the evaluation process.

**I agree to hold confidential all information related to the contents of Requests for Proposals presented during the review process until such time as the Department formally releases the funding decision notices for public distribution.**

Signature

Date

4-10-2020



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION  
AND FORESTRY

Janet T. Mills  
Governor

Amanda E. Beal  
Commissioner

**AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**RFA #: 202002037**  
**RFA TITLE: Specialty Crop Block Grant**

I, Joy Bonenfant, accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFP) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFP.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the bidders whose proposals I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the bidder's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the bidder; current or former personal contractual relationship with the bidder (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to a bidder's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

I have not advised, consulted with or assisted any bidder in the preparation of any proposal submitted in response to this RFP nor have I submitted a letter of support or similar endorsement.

I understand that the evaluation process is to be conducted in an impartial manner. In this regard, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, there are no circumstances that would reasonably support a good faith charge of bias. I further understand that in the event a good faith charge of bias is made, it will rest with me to decide whether I should be disqualified from participation in the evaluation process.

**I agree to hold confidential all information related to the contents of Requests for Proposals presented during the review process until such time as the Department formally releases the funding decision notices for public distribution.**

Joy Bonenfant  
Signature

4/3/2020  
Date