



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

Washington, DC
20250

Please Note:

New vendors and subcontractors must supply all required paperwork (Appendix 1, Financial Statement, and 3 Reference Letters) In addition, all vendors must also be registered in the CCR, within 48 hours after bid opening or your company may be considered non-responsive.

FV-307

Fruit and Vegetable Programs

Date Issued: May 4, 2004

Dried Fruit, Announcement FV-307, Invitation 001

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) invites offers to sell dried fruit as indicated below and per the Announcement for distribution to Needy Families and other domestic food assistance programs. Offers are due by **1 p.m., Central time, Tuesday, May 18, 2004**. Acceptances will be announced by midnight, May 27, 2004. Deliveries are to be made from July 1, 2004 through August 15, 2004.

Offers are invited from the trade for:

Dried Pitted Plums	24/1 lb.	3,000 cases
Natural Thompson (sun-dried) Seedless Raisins	24/15 oz. pkgs.	3,456 cases

*****Please review the new Announcement and Specifications, FV307 for Dried Fruit prior to submitting bids.*****

- **The raisins purchased under this invitation must be: Natural Thompson (sun-dried) Seedless Raisins as defined in the U.S. Standards Type (I) - Seedless Raisins (1) Natural.**
- **The product must be 100% grown, processed and packed in the United States from the 2003 crop year or later Natural (sun-dried) Seedless reserve pool raisins which have not been reconditioned by washing or drying.**
- **All invitations with orders for the state of New York, must have the pack date stamped on the outside of each carton. The pack date should be annotated as per the following example: (05/01/2003). Orders for the state of New York requiring the special marking will be indicated by (**). This applies to New York orders "Only," if and when they appear on an invitation.**



- **No offers will be made to 8(a) vendors on this invitation.**
- **Manufacturer's own commercially packaged and labeled product is acceptable as long as it meets all of the requirements of the Food and Drug Administration and contains an identification code that allows for traceability of the product.**
- **On "BKLYN/CEN ISLIP NY" destinations, shippers are instructed to call the contact person on the Notice to Deliver first prior to making an appointment, so that they can be directed to which warehouse they will ship the product.**

Vendors doing business with USDA are required to be registered in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) system, before being awarded contracts. If the Offeror is not registered in the CCR database within 48 hours after bid opening, offers will be deemed non-responsive.

Assignees shall be separately registered in the CCR database. Once a contract has been awarded, the Contractor shall not change the name or address for Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) payments in the CCR record for the purpose of assignment of claims.

Offerors may obtain information on CCR registration and annual renewal requirements via the Internet at <http://www.ccr.gov> or by calling 1-888-227-2423 or 269-961-5757.

Bids must be submitted electronically via the Domestic Electronic Bid Entry System (DEBES) on the internet. Offerors who submit bids using other than DEBES, will be deemed non-responsive. Offeror must be assigned a Logon ID by USDA to access the site. The Internet address is: <http://pcsd.usda.gov/debes> which translates into a connection of <https://pcsd.usda.gov:3077/mdbc1000.exe?> Once connected, follow the online procedures. A "HELP" button provides detailed instructions for using the system or call 202-720-4517 for assistance.

Offers may now be submitted by raisin handlers or designated 8(a) vendors contracting with raisin handlers, as that term is defined in Section 989.15 of Marketing Order No. 989 for California Raisins. Contractor agrees to purchase a quantity of reserve tonnage raisins within 30 days of shipment, at (\$700) per sweat box ton from the 2003 or later Natural (sun-dried) Seedless Raisin reserve pool of the Raisin Administrative Committee, equal to the poundage delivered hereunder divided by .93746 for Natural (sun-dried) Seedless Raisins used in the contract.

Bidders are cautioned to bid only quantities they can reasonably expect to produce and deliver in accordance with the contract. Inquiries about Announcement FV-307,

Appendix-1, the Commodity Specification for Dried Fruit dated May 2004 or this Invitation should be directed to the Contracting Officer, USDA/AMS/ Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Commodity Procurement Branch STOP 0239, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410, telephone (202) 720-4517. An electronic version of this Invitation can be obtained through the World Wide Web via the Commodity Procurement Home Page at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/cp>.

Purchases will be made on a delivered to destination basis, subject to Announcement FV-307, to the listed locations. Delivery by trucks or railcars is optional to the contractor, except for those destination(s) which specify delivery by truck only or rail only.

Split shipments are indicated by a single asterisk.

ANNOUNCEMENT : FV307
 INVITATION : 001
 COMM GROUP : 35 FRUITS, DRIED

COMM TYPE : 31 PLUMS, PITTED, DRIED
PACK SIZE : 10 24/1 LB

ITEM NO	DESTINATION CITY	ST	TRANS RESTR	QUANTITY (CSE)	PRICE PER (CSE)
DELIVERY PERIOD 07/01/04 - 07/15/04					
001	ALBUQUERQUE	NM	TRUCK ONLY	1,500	_____
002	CARTHAGE	MO		1,500	_____
TOTAL QUANTITY FOR COMMODITY TYPE				3,000	

COMM TYPE : 40 RAISINS
PACK SIZE : 50 24/15 OZ PKG

ITEM NO	DESTINATION CITY	ST	TRANS RESTR	QUANTITY (CSE)	PRICE PER (CSE)
DELIVERY PERIOD 07/01/04 - 07/15/04					
003	ALBUQUERQUE	NM	TRUCK ONLY	1,728	_____
DELIVERY PERIOD 08/01/04 - 08/15/04					
004	ALBUQUERQUE	NM	TRUCK ONLY	1,728	_____
TOTAL QUANTITY FOR COMMODITY TYPE				3,456	

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PACK SIZE : 50 24/15 OZ PKG

TOTAL QUANTITY FOR INVITATION 6,456

Michelle E. Warren
Contracting Officer

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.