DATE: August 13, 2004

OFFER TO BUY: Bulk Tomatoes and Potatoes for Processing

The Department of Agriculture announced it is planning to purchase bulk tomatoes and potatoes for processing for donation to the Child Nutrition Program, for fiscal year 2004, according to Robert C. Keeney, Deputy Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service.

The anticipated purchases will be made from offers that must be submitted on a delivered-todestination price basis. Deliveries will be required from September 1-15, 2004.

Products, container sizes, and approximate quantities sought are as follows:

Product	Container Size	No. of Pounds
Potatoes for Processing	Bulk	41,040,000
Tomatoes for Processing	Bulk	21,120,000

PLEASE NOTE: This announcement does not commit USDA to purchase specific quantities or particular products. The quantities described in this FOOD PURCHASE REPORT are estimates and are intended to provide only general notice of USDA purchasing plans. Those plans are subject to change. Actual purchases will depend upon prices and quantities offered as well as possible adjustments in user requirements.

Invitations to bid, including final details and specifications, will be sent to processors. **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 nonresponsive. Offeror must be assigned a Logon ID by USDA to access the site. The Internet address is: <u>http://pcsd.usda.gov/debes</u> which translates into a connection of <u>https://pcsd.usda.gov:3077/mdbc1000.exe?</u> Once connected, follow the online procedures. A 'HELP' button provides detailed instructions for using the system or call 202-720-4517 for assistance.

Further information can be obtained from the Commodity Procurement Branch, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 2546-South Building, Washington, DC 20090-6456, telephone (202) 720-4517 or our Internet Site: <u>http://www.ams.usda.gov/cp/</u>