Announcement for Proposals Under the SPECIALTY CROPS BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM OF PUERTO RICO

Source of Funds: The Innovation Fund for Agricultural Development (FIDA), under the Department of Agriculture of Puerto Rico, convenes producers and processors of specialty crops (as defined below); Organizations comprised of specialty crop producers and processors, and agencies or organizations that provide services to specialty crop producers, to submit their Grants proposals under the 2019 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program.

The maximum amount to be awarded per proposed or approved project will be FIFTY-FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS (54,000.00) (TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (27,000.00) from AMS-USDA and TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (27,000.00) from the PR Department of Agriculture/ FIDA; 90% of the total cost of the project, up to the amount of SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (60,000.00). The proponent will match a minimum of 10% of the total cost, equivalent to SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS (6,000.00). The proponent will be responsible of any amount that exceeds SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (60,000.00).

Eligibility

Farmers and processors eligible to submit proposals under this call will be those who are producers and/or processors of fruit; vegetables; coffee; cocoa; honey; ornamental plants; culinary and medicinal herbs; spices and cut flowers, among other eligible products (see full list at www.ams.usda.gov/scbgp). Eligible organizations and entities will be those serving growers of specialty crops. Under the definition of specialty crops will not qualify Livestock products (except honey) and those crops classified as commodities (except cocoa): rice, wheat, corn, cotton and others.

Deadline

Deadline and place of delivery to submit form and proposal: The deadline for submitting proposals to FIDA will be the following: Friday, April 26, 2019, at 11:59 pm. You can send them by email (before midnight) to: grants@agricultura.pr.gov. Proponents will be able to deliver them personally to FIDA office, located on the 2nd floor at the Department of Agriculture Building, #1309 Fernandez Juncos Avenue, 19 ½ Stop Santurce, Puerto Rico, from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Contact: For more information on how to submit your project proposal and requests for applications you may contact agronomist Saritza Aulet Padilla, at telephone (787) 723-9090, extension 2409; or email: saulet@agricultura.pr.gov.

*Subject to the approval of the 2019 Farm Bill and the funding from the US Department of Agriculture (USDA).