



STATE OF IDAHO



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Projects Selected to Receive Specialty Crop Funds

Specialty crop projects across Idaho soon will receive funding via the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. The State of Idaho allocated \$844,305.86 to projects that will enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops.

Twenty-four grant applications were submitted seeking a total of nearly \$1.8 million. A panel of industry representatives reviewed and scored all applications and provided input to ISDA for final selection. Twelve projects were selected for funding, including research, promotional, and educational activities for such commodities as potatoes, beans, onions, hops, wine, nursery, and peas and lentils.

"We are now in the fourth year of this program and are starting to see great results as some of the projects from 2009 and 2010 are wrapping up," ISDA Director Celia Gould said. "We've funded a total of 48 projects and have been able to invest over \$3.5 million of federal funding into Idaho's specialty crop industry. These projects also leverage nearly \$2 million of matching funds. This is a great opportunity to put federal grant dollars to work in Idaho to enhance the competitiveness of our specialty crop industry."

ISDA's State Plan, including the 12 projects, was submitted to USDA on July 5. Final approval is expected from USDA in September.

Program requirements governing eligibility were published in the Federal Register. Specialty crops were defined to include fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, and horticulture and nursery crops, including floriculture. Eligible projects were required to benefit more than one organization and solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops.

If you have questions about the grant program, please contact Lacey Menasco at lacey.menasco@agri.idaho.gov or 208-332-8538.

*A complete list of funded projects is provided below.

**Idaho State Department of Agriculture
2012 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program
Grants Selected and Included in State Plan**

NOTE: Grants have been submitted in ISDA's State Plan, but not yet approved by USDA.

Applicant	Project Title	Funding Amount
Boise State University	Preparing Idaho Viticulture for Future Extreme Temperature Events: Wine Grapes Need for and Tolerance to Cold	\$22,993.93
Idaho Bean Commission	Trials of Idaho Dry Bean Seed in Durango and Zacatecas, Mexico	\$28,180.00
Idaho Grape Growers and Wine Producers Commission	Raising Awareness and Increasing Market Share of the Idaho Wine Within Idaho	\$41,622.00
Idaho Hop Commission	Developing an Economic Threshold for Twospotted Spider Mites in Hop	\$35,126.00
Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association	Don't Just Stand There - Plant Something	\$69,200.00
Idaho Potato Commission	Novel Control Strategy for Pale Cyst Nematode, Lesion Nematode and Fungal Pathogens of Potato	\$100,875.94
Idaho Potato Commission	International Market Development for Idaho Potatoes	\$100,226.40
Idaho Preferred	Promoting Specialty Crops Through Advertising, Marketing, and Education	\$185,983.59
Idaho-E. Oregon Onion Promotion Committee	From Field to Table - A Video Series to Build Awareness and Increase Education about Idaho-E Oregon Onions on a Global Level	\$17,000.00
Northwest Nazarene University	Development of a Crop Monitoring and Assessment Platform for Specialty Crops in Idaho	\$84,236.00
University of Idaho	Monitoring potato psyllids and zebra chip in Idaho and examining effects of disease on tubers during storage	\$108,862.00
USA Dry Pea and Lentil Council	Development of Educational Material for the Food Service Industry to Enhance the Use of Dry Peas, Lentils and Chickpeas (Dry, Edible Beans/Pulses) in Value-Added Products	\$50,000.00

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