



STATE OF IDAHO



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 7, 2016

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Fifteen Projects Selected for Approval of 2016 Specialty Crop Funding

Fifteen specialty crop projects across Idaho have been submitted to USDA's Specialty Crop Block Grant Program for funding approval. The State of Idaho's estimated allocation is \$1,902,565 for these projects that improve specialty crops throughout the state of Idaho.

Specialty crops are defined to include fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, and horticulture and nursery crops, including floriculture. Eligible projects are required to benefit more than one organization and solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops. Many projects focus on increasing crop sustainability, disease control, as well as marketing and promotion.

Eighteen grant applications were submitted to the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) at a total request of just over \$2.3 million. A panel of industry representatives with experience in agriculture, business management, and/or science reviewed and scored all applications, providing input to ISDA for the final selection. Fifteen projects were selected for funding, including research, promotional and educational activities for commodities such as potato, apple, onion, wine grape, and nursery crops.

"This has been another great year of receiving high quality specialty crop grant projects." commented Director Celia Gould, ISDA. "During the past eight years of the program, over \$9 million dollars of Federal funding has been awarded and directly injected into Idaho's specialty crop industry."

The Department's State Plan included fifteen projects, selected for funding, and was submitted to USDA the first week of July. Final approval is expected from USDA by the end of September, with funding expected to be available sometime in October or November.

If you have questions about the grant program, please contact Eric Boyington at eric.boyington@ISDA.idaho.gov or 208-332-8537 or (208) 332-8500.

*A complete list of projects selected for funding is provided below.

**Idaho State Department of Agriculture
2016 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program**

Selected Projects Included in ISDA's State Plan

Grants were submitted in ISDA's State Plan and must be approved by USDA.

Applicant	Project Title	Funds Requested
American Pulse Association	Increasing Consumer Knowledge and Awareness of Pulse Crops through Education Programming	\$ 132,900.00
Boise State University	Challenges and opportunities for expansion of the wine grape production industry in Idaho	\$ 75,638.00
Idaho Apple Commission	Increasing Sales, Creating Demand, and Building Relationships for Idaho Apples with Idaho Retailers	\$ 86,112.00
Idaho-E Oregon Onion Committee	Filling Knowledge Gaps in order to Develop Robust Disease Management Strategies for Fusarium Proliferatum in Onions.	\$ 124,664.00
Idaho-E Oregon Onion Committee	Increasing Sales, Creating Demand, and Developing Market Share in International Markets.	\$ 61,000.00
Idaho Nursery & Landscape Association	Domestication, Propagation, and Commercialization of New-generation Native Plant Products for the Idaho Nursery Industry	\$ 99,284.00
Idaho Potato Commission	International Business Development for Idaho Potatoes - Risk Mitigation During Transit	\$ 93,684.00
Idaho Potato Commission	Identify Pale Cyst Nematode (PCN) effectors to develop PCN resistance in potato	\$ 109,316.00
Idaho Preferred	Marketing Idaho Specialty Crops through Idaho Preferred Advertising, Social Media, Public Relations and Retail Promotions.	\$ 222,000.00
Idaho Wine Commission	Raising Awareness and Promoting Idaho's Wine Quality	\$ 90,824.20
Idaho Wine Commission	Advancing Idaho's Vineyard Quality and Production	\$ 27,232.00
Northwest Nazarene University	Fruit Count App: A Fruit Crop Yield Estimation System for Specialty Crop Growers in Idaho	\$ 90,436.80
University of Idaho	Optimizing Harvest Date and Storage Life to Maximize Yield and Quality of Nectarines and Peaches	\$ 161,609.00
University of Idaho	Mitigation of Effects of the Tuber Necrotic Strains of Potato Virus Y on Idaho Potato	\$ 202,417.58
USDA-ARS	Commercial Vineyard Testing of Sensor-based Water Stress Index for Precision Irrigation of Wine Grape	\$ 112,516.68

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