



## USDA AND RED BOOK UNIVERSITY WEBINAR INVITATION

As a service to the produce industry, USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service presents <u>free</u> interactive webinars hosted by Red Book Credit Services as part of the Red Book University educational offering. Ask questions of USDA experts presenting information live. All members of the produce supply chain are welcome to participate, including growers, processors, packers and distributors of all sized operations.



"Grant Opportunity: Enhancing the Competitiveness of Specialty Crops"

Thursday, Dec. 16, 2010 at 2 p.m. ET.

Find out what the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program is and how you can apply for grant funds to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops—fruits, vegetables, tree nuts,

<u>dried fruits</u>, <u>horticulture</u>, and <u>nursery crops</u>, including <u>floriculture</u>. Projects funded in the past by the program have focused on marketing and promotion, education, production, research, food safety, and pest and plant health.

Trista Etzig, Manager of the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, will be the guest speaker. For more information about the grant program, contact her at tel. (202) 690-4942, Trista.etzig@ams.usda.gov. Also visit www.ams.usda.gov/SCBGP.

Applications for individual specialty crop projects must be submitted to your State Department of Agriculture to be considered for funding. State Departments of Agriculture are encouraged to partner with specialty crop stakeholders, including socially disadvantaged and beginning farmers.

We know you won't want to miss this <u>free</u> webinar and look forward to your participation. Registration is required (see below). For more information about the webinar, contact Christopher Purdy, Business Development Specialist, USDA AMS Fruit and Vegetable Programs, tel. (202) 720-3209, <u>christopher.purdy@ams.usda.gov</u>. Also visit <u>www.ams.usda.gov/fv</u>.

## **RED BOOK UNIVERSITY REGISTRATION FORM**

Name of Webinar: "Grant Opportunity: Enhancing the Competitiveness of Specialty Crops"	
Date and Time: Thursday, December 16, 2 p.m. ET	
Name:	
Title:	
Company Name:	
Address:	
City, State & Zip:	
Telephone Number:	
Email Address:	

Fax or email your registration form to 913-438-0690 or email to okehmeier@rbcs.com.