

Mark Myers
Commissioner

550 W. 7th Ave., Ste 1400
Anchorage, AK 99501
dnr.alaska.gov



Elizabeth Bluemink
Communications
Coordinator

907.269.8434
elizabeth.bluemink@alaska.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 17, 2015

State seeks applicants for specialty crop grants

(Palmer, AK) – The Division of Agriculture is now seeking applicants for its annual Specialty Crop Competitive Grant Program.

The division intends to administer grants for multiple projects and grant awards will be divided into two tiers. Tier I projects will have a maximum funding amount of \$10,000 and Tier II projects will receive funding amounts between \$20,000 and \$40,000.

Grant applicants must provide a letter of intent to the division by April 15. The Request for Proposals with application and deadline information can be found at <http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/Grants/15SCCGRFP.pdf>. Two webinars will also be held to answer questions on March 17 from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and on March 26 from 2-3 p.m. To register for the webinars visit <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/2819501121909449729>.

The purpose of the grant is to enhance the competitiveness of Alaska Grown specialty crops, sustain the livelihood of farmers, and strengthen local communities. Only projects related to specialty crops are allowed under this funding source. Specialty crops are defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits and horticulture and nursery crops. Many Alaska Grown products – including livestock, dairy, fuel/feed grains, hay, and aquaculture – are excluded from this grant program due to USDA restrictions. A list of USDA eligible specialty crops can be found at <http://www.ams.usda.gov> under the heading “Commodity Areas.”

CONTACT: Amy Pettit, 761-3864, amy.pettit@alaska.gov

###

STAY CONNECTED:

DNR Newsroom: http://dnr.alaska.gov/commis/dnr_newsroom.htm

DNR on Social Media: http://dnr.alaska.gov/commis/social_media.htm

DNR Public Information Center: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/commis/pic/>