

OFFEROR: North Carolina Farm to School Cooperative

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services	INVITATION FOR BIDS NO. 10-005578	
	Bids will be publicly opened: 3:00 PM July 17, 2009	
	Issue Date: July 7, 2009	
Refer ALL Inquiries to: Amy Cannady Telephone No.919-733-2167 Ext. 235	Commodity: Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	
E-Mail: Amy.Cannady@ncagr.gov	Using Division Name: Food Distribution	
(See page 2 for mailing instructions.)		

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids, subject to the conditions made a part hereof, will be received at this office, Room 226, 2 W Edenton Street until **3:00 PM** on the day of opening and then opened, for furnishing and delivering the commodity as described herein. Refer to page 2 for proper mailing instructions.

Bids submitted via telegraph, facsimile (FAX) machine, telephone, and electronic means, including but not limited to e-mail, in response to this Invitation for Bids will not be acceptable.

Bids are subject to rejection unless submitted on this form.

EXECUTION

In compliance with this Invitation for Bids, and subject to all the conditions herein, the undersigned offers and agrees to furnish and deliver any or all items upon which prices are bid, at the prices set opposite each item within the time specified herein. By executing this bid, I certify that this bid is submitted competitively and without collusion (G.S. 143-54), that none of our officers, directors, or owners of an unincorporated business entity has been convicted of any violations of Chapter 78A of the General Statutes, the Securities Act of 1933, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (G.S. 143-59.2), and that we are not an ineligible vendor as set forth in G.S. 143-59.1. False certification is a Class I felony.

Failure to execute/sign bid prior to submittal shall render bid invalid. Late bids are not acceptable.

BIDDER: <i>North Carolina Farm to School Cooperative, Inc</i>		FEDERAL ID OR SOCIAL SECURITY NO. <i>26-3067677</i>	
STREET ADDRESS: <i>7802 Sadie Road</i>		P.O. BOX:	ZIP:
CITY & STATE & ZIP: <i>Kenly, NC 27542</i>		TELEPHONE NUMBER: <i>252-205-1997</i>	TOLL FREE TEL. NO (800)
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS ADDRESS IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE (SEE INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS ITEM #21):			
TYPE OR PRINT NAME & TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING: <i>James Sharp - President</i>		FAX NUMBER: <i>252-237-6133</i>	
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE: 	DATE: <i>7-14-09</i>	E-MAIL: <i>jsharp@freshptc.com</i>	

Offer valid for 45 days from date of bid opening unless otherwise stated here: ___ days (See Instructions to Bidders, Item 6). Prompt Payment Discount: ___ % ___ days (See Instructions to Bidders, Item 7).

ACCEPTANCE OF BID

If any or all parts of this bid are accepted, an authorized representative of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall affix their signature hereto and this document and the provisions of the Instructions to Bidders, special terms and conditions specific to this Invitation for Bids, the specifications, and the North Carolina General Contract Terms and Conditions shall then constitute the written agreement between the parties. A purchase order will be issued to the successful offeror.

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FOR STATE USE ONLY

Offer accepted and contract awarded this _____ day of _____, 2009,

by _____ (Authorized representative of the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services).

In an effort to support the sustainability efforts of the State of North Carolina we solicit your cooperation in this effort.

It is desirable that all responses meet the following requirements:

- All copies are printed **double sided**.
- All submittals and copies are printed on **recycled paper with a minimum post-consumer content of 30%** and indicate this information accordingly on the response.
- Unless absolutely necessary, all bids and copies should **minimize or eliminate use of non-recyclable or non-reusable materials** such as plastic report covers, plastic dividers, vinyl sleeves, and GBC binding. Three-ringed binders, glued materials, paper clips, and staples are acceptable.
- Materials should be submitted in a format which allows for **easy removal and recycling** of paper materials.

MAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Mail only one fully executed quote document, unless otherwise instructed, and only one quote per envelope. Address envelope and insert quote number as shown below: It is the responsibility of the offeror to have the quote in this office by the specified time and date of opening.

<u>DELIVERED BY US POSTAL SERVICE</u>	<u>DELIVERED BY ANY OTHER MEANS</u>
QUOTE NO. IFB 10-005578 NC DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PURCHASING OFFICE Rm 226 MSC 1001` RALEIGH NC 27699-1001	QUOTE NO. IFB 10-005578 NC DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PURCHASING OFFICE Rm 226 2 WEST EDENTON STREET RALEIGH NC 27601

TABULATIONS: Verbal tabulations of quotes and award information can be obtained by calling the purchaser listed on the first page of this document.

TRANSPORTATION CHARGES: Department will pick up from predetermined location as agreed between NC Grower and Food Distribution. All transport cost shall be included in Grower's proposal. Product shall be FOB at the NC Grower location.

ATTENTION: This is NOT an e-procurement solicitation. Paragraphs 19 and 20 of the attached General Contract Terms and Conditions DO NOT apply.

SCOPE: The Department Agriculture, on behalf of NC Public Schools, is soliciting quotes from NC Growers to promote agriculture within the State of North Carolina and to provide quality products to North Carolina Schools. Offers are to be accepted from qualified growers as defined in the Award Criteria. The Department shall be responsible for:

- Coordinating pickup and delivery of fresh produce from the NC Grower to the NC Schools
- Assuring quality of produce from pickup to delivery
- Invoicing to schools and payments to Growers

Award Criteria: As provided by Statute, award will be based on the lowest and best bid(s) (most advantageous to the State) as determined by consideration of:

- 1) Price
- 2) Quality of produce offered
- 3) Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) Certified
- 4) North Carolina grown product
- 5) Member of NC Goodness Grows Program
- 6) Suitability of produce for intended use
- 7) Conformity with intent of specifications herein
- 8) Guaranteed delivery schedule

Award of Contract: It is the general intent to award this contract to a single overall bidder on all items. The right is reserved, however, to make awards on the basis of individual items or groups of items, if such shall be considered by the State to be most advantageous or to constitute its best interest. Bidders should show unit prices, but are requested also to offer a lump sum price.

Cancellation: This Contract may be cancelled by either party by giving thirty (30) days prior written notice. Such notice by the Contractor should in no way be construed as taking away the right of the Contracting Agency to cancel for unsatisfactory performance.

Contract Period: This is an Agency Specific Term Contract for twelve (12) consecutive months beginning from date of award. Quantities are estimates and the State reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities as needed. The State is responsible only for items ordered and received. No Quantities are Guaranteed.

General Specifications:

1. Product shall be grown and packaged in North Carolina by a NC Department of Agriculture "NC Goodness Grows" member certified in Good Agriculture Practices (GAP).
2. Product shall be identified by label indicating the farm from which it came.
3. Product shall be held at the proper temperature as noted in product specifications to begin the cold chain and the cold chain shall not be broken.
4. Product not satisfying specifications shall be rejected by the NCDA&CS warehouse.
5. Apple varieties may be substituted based on availability due to weather conditions.
6. Schools shall have forty-eight (48) hours from time of delivery to report any problem to NCDA&CS.
7. NC Growers supplying product to the NC Farm-to-School Program shall maintain a minimum of two (2) million dollars in general liability insurance for the duration of the contract. A copy of insurance certificate must be submitted within thirty (30) days of award of contract. Remit certificate to NCDA&CS, Amy Cannady, Purchasing Office, 1001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1001.
8. Exact quantities cannot be guaranteed by NCDA&CS at time of award. Schools shall submit their orders after award.
9. Notification of quantities shall be provided to Grower a minimum of two weeks and a maximum of four weeks before required pickup from the Grower. NCDA&CS and NC Schools reserve the right to increase the quantity of produce indicated herein within seventy-two (72) hours of pickup from Grower with no change in the price offered
10. NCDA&CS reserves the right to award contracts that are most advantageous and beneficial to the Public Schools of NC.
11. In the event the Grower is unable to fulfill the contract, notification shall be submitted to NCDA&CS Marketing Specialist in his area by 12:00 noon on the Friday before scheduled pickup of the product.
12. In the event of a product recall of a delivered item, the successful Grower will immediately notify NCDA&CS Food Distribution.
13. The successful bidder shall have product ready for pickup at assigned date and time defined herein and location or pickup point designated by NCDA&CS, Food Distribution Division.
14. All product listed on this bid must be grown and produced in North Carolina, except for sliced apples.

NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Responsibilities:

The Department shall be responsible for:

1. Coordinating pickup and delivery of fresh produce from the NC Grower to the NC Schools
2. Assuring quality of produce from pickup to delivery
3. Invoicing to schools and payments to Growers

Contact Person: The Contact person after award of this contract is Ted Fogleman, Food Distribution, or designee. (919-575-4490)

Quantities are estimates and the State reserves the right to increase or decrease quantities as needed. The State is responsible only for items ordered and received. No Quantities are Guaranteed.

Item No.	Quantity	UOM	Description	Unit Price	Total Proposal
1	2555	box	<p>Seedless Watermelons <u>Packed:</u> 2 to 3 melons per box, melons shall weigh between 10-15 pounds a piece, case weight 30-35 pounds <u>Quality:</u> melons shall be US Grade A no. 1, melons should be packed in NC Farm to School watermelon boxes, handling temperatures 50 to 60 degrees F from harvest to final destination, melons must arrive at school systems receiving point within 48 hours of harvest <u>Delivery:</u> Seedless Watermelons 2555 boxes to be purchased and picked up at the farm on August 30, 2009</p>	\$ 8.50	\$ 21,717.50
2	2431	case	<p>Cantaloupes <u>Packed:</u> 9 to 12 count, a 35-40 pound case <u>Quality:</u> Athena or Iroquois variety, US Grade A no.1, cantaloupes must be washed in 100-150 parts per million chlorine solution, handling temperatures 36-41 degrees F from harvest to final destination, cantaloupes must arrive at school systems receiving point within 48 hours of harvest <u>Delivery:</u> Cantaloupes 1200 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on August 30, 2009. Cantaloupes 1231 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on September 13, 2009</p>	\$ 13.00	\$ 31,603.00
3	1159	case	<p>Tomatoes <u>Packed:</u> 10 pound case <u>Quality:</u> US Grade A no. 1, pink number three color, 5 by 6 size, tomatoes must be washed, variety should be Mountain Fresh, Phoenix, or Crista, handling temperature 62-68 degrees F from harvest to final destination, tomatoes must arrive at school systems receiving point within 48 hours of harvest <u>Delivery:</u> Tomatoes 600 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on August 30, 2009 Tomatoes 559 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on September 13, 2009</p>	\$ 10.50	\$ 12,169.50
4	1044	box	<p>Grape tomatoes <u>Packed:</u> 12 / one pint clam shells <u>Quality:</u> US Grade A no. 1, color red, firm, small to medium size, must be washed, handling temperatures 62-68 degrees F from harvest to final destination, tomatoes must arrive at school systems receiving point within 48 hours of harvest <u>Delivery:</u> Grape tomatoes 500 boxes to be purchased and</p>	\$ 12.50	\$ 13,050.00

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			picked up at the farm on August 30, 2009 Grape Tomatoes 544 boxes to be purchased and picked up at the farm on September 13, 2009		
			Apples – Varieties are gala, golden and red delicious, jonagold, rome , pink lady, jonathan, fuji <u>Packed:</u> 113-125 count, 40 pound case, tray packed, <u>Quality:</u> U.S. Grade Extra Fancy, red delicious variety must meet 75 % color specifications for U.S. Grade Extra Fancy, apples must be washed, handling temperatures 32-34 degrees F from harvest to final destination, apples are to be from 2009 harvested crop <u>Delivery:</u>		
5	1360	case	Gala apples 1360 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on September 13, 2009	\$ 26.50	\$ 36,040.00
6	1233	case	Golden Delicious apples 1233 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on September 13, 2009	\$ 26.50	\$ 32,674.50
7	675	case	Fuji apples 675 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on October 11, 2009	\$ 26.50	\$ 17,887.50
8	1097	case	Red Delicious apples 1097 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on September 27, 2009	\$ 26.50	\$ 29,070.50
9	800	case	Jonathan apples 800 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on September 27, 2009.	\$ 26.50	\$ 21,200.00
10	963	case	Rome apples 963 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on October 11, 2009	\$ 24.50	\$ 23,593.50
11	3691	case	Red Delicious apples 1891 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on November 1, 2009. Red Delicious apples 1800 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on December 6, 2009.	\$ 26.50	\$ 97,811.50
12			Cabbage red and green <u>Packed:</u> 25 pound case, 9-10 heads per case <u>Quality:</u> US Grade A no. 1, handling temperatures 32- 36 degrees F from harvest to final destination, cabbage must arrive at school systems receiving point within 48 hours of harvest <u>Delivery:</u>		
13	1967	case	Green cabbage 950 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on November 1, 2009. Green cabbage 1017 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on December 6, 2009	\$ 5.00	\$ 9,835.00
14	305	case	Red Cabbage 150 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on November 1, 2009 Red cabbage 155 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on December 6, 2009.	\$ 5.50	\$ 1,677.50
15	1728	case	Broccoli – <u>Packed:</u> fresh crowns, top iced, 18 pound case, <u>Quality:</u> US Grade A no. 1, handling temperatures 32	\$ 20.00	\$ 34,560.00

			degrees F from harvest to final destination, broccoli must arrive at school systems receiving point within 48 hours of harvest <u>Delivery:</u> Broccoli crowns 828 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on November 1, 2009 Broccoli crowns 900 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on December 6, 2009		
16	3000	case	Sweet potatoes – <u>Packed:</u> jumbo sweet potatoes 20 to 32 ounce 20 to 32 count per case, 40 pound case, <u>Quality:</u> US no. 2, Covington or Beauregard variety, sweet potatoes must be cured, handling temperatures 55-60 degrees from harvest to final destination, sweet potatoes are to be from 2009 harvested crop <u>Delivery:</u> Sweet potatoes 500 case to be purchased and picked up at the farm on November 1, 2009 Sweet potatoes 500 case to be purchased and picked up at the farm on December 6, 2009 Sweet potatoes 500 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on January 10, 2010. Sweet potatoes 500 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on February 7, 2010. Sweet potatoes 500 cases to be purchased and picked up at the farm on March 7, 2010.	\$ 8.50	\$ 25,500. ⁰⁰
17	4000	case	Apple Slices – <u>Packed:</u> 100 two ounce bags packed per case, apple slices are to be packed in a modify atmosphere bag, <u>Quality:</u> rome, gala, golden delicious variety, apples slices are to be stored at 34-38 degrees <u>Delivery:</u> Apple slices 1300 cases to be purchased and picked up at packing facility on January 10, 2010 . Apple slices 1300 cases to be purchased and picked up at packing facility on February 7, 2010. Apple slices 1400 cases to be purchased and picked up at packing facility on March 7, 2010 .	\$ 21.75	\$ 87,000. ⁰⁰
18	16000	flat	Strawberries – <u>Packed:</u> 8/one pound clam shells per flat <u>Quality:</u> Chandler, Camarosa or Festiva variety, US Grade A no. 1, picked ripe, strawberries must arrive at school systems receiving point within 48 hours of harvest, handling temperatures 32-34 degrees F from harvest to final destination <u>Delivery:</u> Strawberries 4000 flats to be purchased and picked	\$ 13.75	\$ 220,000. ⁰⁰

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			<p>up at the farm on April 25, 2010.</p> <p>Strawberries 4000 flats to be purchased and picked up at the farm on May 2, 2010</p> <p>Strawberries 4000 flats to be purchased and picked up at the farm on May 16, 2010.</p> <p>Strawberries 4000 flats to be purchased and picked up at the farm on May 23, 2010.</p>		
19	824	flat	<p>Blueberries – Packed: 12/ one pint clam shells per flat, Quality: US Grade A no. 1, handling temperatures 32-34 degrees F from harvest to final destination, blueberries must arrive at school systems receiving point within 48 hours of harvest Delivery: Blueberries 424 flats to be purchased and picked up at the farm on May 23, 2010.</p> <p>Blueberries 400 flats to be purchased and picked up at the farm on June 20, 2010.</p>	\$ 25.00	\$ 20,600.00
20	1000	box	<p>Cucumbers – Packed: ½ bushel box, Quality: USDA Grade 3 A or Deal cucumber hyda-cooled and iced after packing, handling temperature 45 to 50 degree F from harvest to final destination. Cucumbers must arrive at school systems receiving point within 48 hours of harvest. Delivery: Cucumbers 500 boxes to be purchased and picked up at the farm on August 30, 2009.</p> <p>Cucumbers 500 boxes to be purchased and picked up at the farm on September 13, 2009.</p>	\$ 18.00	\$ 18,000.00
21	600	box	<p>Potatoes- White, Kennebec variety, U.S. No.1 , Size B, washed and packed in a 50 lb. box. Handling temperatue 45 to 50 degree F from harvest to final destination. Potatoes must arrive at school systems receiving point within 48 hours of harvest. Delivery: Potatoes 600 boxes to be purchased and picked up at the farm on October 11, 2009.</p>	\$ 16.50	\$ 9,900.00
				TOTAL COSTS	\$ 763,890.00