

# AgNews



**DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
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**To: Newsroom Directors and Assignment Editors**

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## **2012 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program – Free Webinar Opportunity**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is conducting a free interactive webinar “Grant Opportunity: Enhancing the Competitiveness of Specialty Crops” on Tuesday, December 15, at 2:00pm Eastern time.

The USDA and the Delaware Department of Agriculture (DDA) invite all stakeholders, which includes potential grant applicants, interested in the production, handling, sale, or research of specialty crops to participate. The webinar will address the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, which the USDA administers, specifically to support the marketing potential of fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops (including floriculture).

Trista Etzig, manager of the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, will explain the purpose of the grant, how to apply for grant funds through the applicants’ respective state departments of agriculture, and the types of projects that are eligible for funding.

Registration is required to participate. Visit <http://bit.ly/v21Rfi> to register before the December 9 deadline.

For more information about this webinar, please contact Christopher Purdy, Business Development Specialist, with the USDA AMS Fruit and Vegetable Program at (202) 720-3209 or [christopher.purdy@ams.usda.gov](mailto:christopher.purdy@ams.usda.gov).

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