



**August 5, 2014**

**Notice to the Trade: AMS Annual Industry Meeting – Fall 2014  
for Contractors and Suppliers in USDA’s Commodity Purchase Programs**

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) invites all contractors and commodity suppliers to participate in its annual meeting to discuss the AMS Commodity Purchase Program and USDA Foods.

This year’s meeting will be held near the beginning of the new 2015 Fiscal Year. As we trust our partners in the industry know, increased collaboration with our suppliers and contractors has already brought about improvements to the purchase programs in recent years. Hosting this meeting in the fall for the upcoming purchase year will further promote these collaborative efforts, bringing stakeholders together to discuss changes, propose improvements, and provide feedback at a more advantageous time.

As with last winter, the meeting will include two half-day sessions with the first half-day session covering general program topics such as the Web-Based Supply Chain Management (WBSCM) System and overarching contracting issues. The second half-day session will be dedicated to industry break-out groups, providing the opportunity to meet with Managers, Contracting Officers, Specialists, and Technical Staff to discuss commodity-specific topics and concerns related to each industry. The agenda will include such items as processing, labeling, product specification, technical requirement, and oversight issues.

In the spirit of collaboration, AMS would like our industry partners, contractors, and suppliers to assist in developing the agenda for this event. We encourage you to submit questions, comments, and suggestions for topics along with your registration for the event. AMS will use this information to develop and issue a draft agenda in the near future, so please register soon. Please use the attached registration form to include your suggestions or complete the field identified for suggestions on the online registration form.

The dates and location of the meeting are:

When:            Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>            Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>  
                         1:00 pm – 5:00 pm            8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Where:            DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Washington DC-Crystal City  
                         300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22202



United States Department of Agriculture

A block of rooms has been reserved at the rate of \$219 (single) and \$239 (double) per room under the event name: **AMS Annual Industry Meeting – Fall 2014**. Participants must make their own lodging arrangements using the link provided below or calling the DoubleTree Hotel (1-800-222-TREE) using the group code **AAI**, with reservations available on a first come–first serve basis. This hotel rate will be available only until **October 6, 2014**, or until the group block is sold out.

[https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome\\_ei\\_new&eventID=11733715](https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=11733715)

Pre-registration for the meeting is required. Please return the attached form via email to [cpdconference@ams.usda.gov](mailto:cpdconference@ams.usda.gov) or register online at [www.ams.usda.gov/CommodityPurchasing](http://www.ams.usda.gov/CommodityPurchasing) (under the “What’s New” section) by **October 17, 2014**. You will receive a confirmation email within 2 business days of submitting your registration form. **If you do not receive confirmation, please email us at [cpdconference@ams.usda.gov](mailto:cpdconference@ams.usda.gov) or call (202) 720-4517.**

We highly value your participation and look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Tuckwiller", written over a horizontal line.

David Tuckwiller  
Director  
Commodity Procurement Staff

*Together We're Making a Difference: American Agriculture for the American People.*

Agricultural Marketing Service, Commodity Procurement Staff  
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### REGISTRATION FORM

## ANNUAL INDUSTRY MEETING – FALL 2014 FOR CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS IN USDA’S COMMODITY PURCHASE PROGRAM TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28 - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29

**Location:** DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Washington DC-Crystal City  
300 Army Navy Drive  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

\_\_\_\_\_ will be represented by:  
(Company)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Program\*: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Program\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Program\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Commodity Program (LPS or FV)

If there are specific issues/topics you would like discussed at this meeting, please list those below:

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\_\_\_\_\_

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