

Doing Business with the USDA – REE Mission Area

Michael Barnes

REE Mission Area Senior Contracting Official Director, Acquisition and Property Division Administrative & Financial Management Agricultural Research Service Research, Education & Economics (REE) USDA

Research, Education, and Economics (REE)

- REE consists of four agencies within the USDA
 - Agricultural Research Service (ARS)
 - Economic Research Service (ERS)
 - National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)
 - National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)



Agricultural Research Service (ARS)

Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is the USDA's chief scientific in-house research agency which finds solutions to agricultural problems that affect Americans every day from field to table. Provides global leadership in agricultural discoveries through scientific excellence and delivers scientific solutions to national and global agricultural challenges.

- □ 2,000 scientists and post docs/6,000 other employees
- □ 90+ research locations, including overseas laboratories
- □ \$1.5 billion fiscal year budget
- ☐ 690 research projects within 15 National Programs
- Nutrition, Food Safety/Quality: Human Nutrition, Food Safety (animal and plant products), Product Quality and New Uses
- Animal Production and Protection: Food Animal Production, Animal Health, Veterinary, Medical, and Urban Entomology, Aquaculture
- <u>Crop Production and Protection</u>: Plant Genetic Resources, Genomics and Genetic Improvement, Plant Diseases, Crop Protection and Quarantine, Crop Production
- Natural Resources and Sustainable Agricultural Systems:
- Water Availability and Watershed Management, Soil and Air, Grass, Forage, and Rangeland Agroecosystems, Sustainable Agricultural Systems Research



Economic Research Service (ERS)

Economic Research Service (ERS) anticipates trends and emerging issues in agriculture, food, the environment, and rural America and to conduct high-quality, objective economic research to inform and enhance public and private decision making. ERS research provides context for and informs the decisions that affect the agricultural sector, which in turn benefits everyone with efficient stewardship of our agricultural resources and the economic prosperity of the sector. ERS research and analysis covers a broad range of economic and policy topics: Agricultural Economy, Food and Nutrition, Food Safety, Global Markets and Trade, Resources and Environment, Rural Economy.

ERS digitally publishes its research and analysis in economic research reports, magazine articles, data visualizations and data products throughout the year. ERS's suite of data products encompasses estimates, forecasts, and economic and statistical indicators. the ERS commodity outlook program delivers timely, independent, and objective information about agricultural markets and provides projections of U.S. and world agricultural commodity production, consumption, and trade.



National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) conducts hundreds of surveys every year and prepares reports covering virtually every aspect of U.S. agriculture. Production and supplies of food and fiber, prices paid and received by farmers, farm labor and wages, farm finances, chemical use, and changes in the demographics of U.S. producers are only a few examples.

- Farmers use NASS data to make informed business decisions
- Legislators use the data to develop policy
- Journalists use the data to tell stories
- Students use the data for research
- Insurance adjusters use the data for policies and claims
- Commodity traders use the data to make market moves
- USDA uses the data for program development, payments, and delivery
- EPA uses the data to evaluate regulations and requirements
- NASDA members use the data to support state and local ag programs



National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) provides leadership and funding for programs that advance agriculture-related sciences and invests in and supports initiatives that ensure the long-term viability of agriculture. NIFA applies an integrated approach to ensure that groundbreaking discoveries in agriculture-related sciences and technologies reach the people who can put them into practice.

- Advances the competitiveness of American agriculture
- Bolsters the U.S. economy
- Enhances the safety of the nation's food supply
- > Improves the nutrition and well-being of American citizens
- Sustains natural resources and the environment
- Builds energy independence



REE Requirements

- Architect-Engineer (A-E) services
- Books and periodicals
- Chemicals
- Construction: buildings and laboratories
- Facilities management services
- Security Guard services
- Hay, feed, seed, and grain
- Hazardous waste removal
- Information technology equipment and services
- Janitorial services
- Laboratory/scientific equipment and supplies
- Management and professional services
- Office machines and supplies
- Refuse collection
- Repair and maintenance services
- Telecommunications
- Tractors and other farm vehicles/equipment



Requirements

ARS conducts all procurements above the micro-purchase threshold for the four REE agencies within its HQ contracting operation branch and five contracting operation sections across CONUS.

Opportunities:

USDA Procurement Forecast: https://www.dm.usda.gov/smallbus/forecast.htm Contract Opportunities: https://sam.gov



