

## 2009 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program Recipients

- **\$40,000** - Partner with Ohio Produce Growers and Marketers Association to develop a three-tiered statewide food safety standard for a produce marketing agreement designed to represent the unique geographic nature, diverse culture, and specialty crops in Ohio.
- **\$50,417** - Partner with the Agroecosystems Management Program at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center of The Ohio State University to provide answers for how specialty crop farmers and institutions in Ohio can improve their prospects for doing business together by conducting a detailed survey of institutional food service providers, primarily focused on many private and public institutions of higher education within Ohio.
- **\$43,500** - Partner with the Appalachian Center for Economic Networks to develop and scale a financially-sustainable membership association to include the marketing and promotion of farm fresh and “fresh cut” specialty crops through collaborative branding campaigns and educate Appalachia Ohio farmers and organic growers of fresh fruits and vegetables on the market opportunities, product development, and processing technologies to package “fresh cut,” “fresh packed” or frozen food institutional packs.
- **\$36,307** - Partner with Mid-Ohio Food Bank to identify specialty food crops that can serve local ethnic communities (Somali, Latino, and Russian) in and around Columbus, Ohio. Also, help the members of these ethnic communities maintain healthy diets and teach them how to prepare the dishes they are familiar with using traditional and fresh produce.
- **\$28,000** - Partner with the Ohio Grape Industries Committee to extend Ohio Wine TV, an online virtual wine tasting/tour program to include regional-based videos.
- **\$10,000** - Partner with the Ohio Wine Producers Association to support meetings to serve as a networking and building opportunity for long-established wineries and for new wineries interested in launching a business.
- **\$35,000** - Partner with Ohio State University to determine the feasibility of developing specialty crop marketing cooperative (or cooperatives) by conducting a market analysis and developing draft business plans.
- **\$53,459** - Partner with the Ohio Department of Education to increase child and adult knowledge and consumption of specialty crops in addition to opening up new markets for specialty crop producers through Ohio schools.
- **\$10,000** - Partner with the Ohio Produce Growers & Markets Association to teach and encourage Ohio vegetable and fruit growers to implement practices in their operations that will minimize or eliminate their potential to source fresh produce-borne disease organisms and to help them to maintain or increase their customer base in preparation of a development of a state produce agreement.
- **\$35,000** - Partner with the Center for Innovative Food Technology to identify the unique aspects of urban production that increase the chances of potential introduction of harmful microorganisms and develop a training program to educate the specialty

crop growers and organizations actively pursuing food production on Good Agricultural Practices.

- **\$35,000** - Partner with Ohio State University to provide continuing education session for the local delivery of focused, in depth training in safe practices for production of fresh fruits and vegetables.
- **\$47,600** - Partner with Ohio State University to develop a new small fruit industry for commercial ribes production in Ohio; develop sustainable production practices directly related to Ohio growing conditions; educate new currant and gooseberry (ribes) growers about marketing and production plans for production; and educate growers about specific varieties, growing conditions that could potentially influence production, pest management practices, and phenology data.
- **\$99,370** - Partner with Ohio State University to provide scientific data in support of food safety recommendations specific for Ohio vegetable producers.
- **\$50,050** - Partner with Ohio State University to resolve the persistent problem of weed control by conducting applied research that will lead to registration of new weed control technologies for brambles.
- **\$33,670** - Partner with the Innovative Farmers of Ohio to explore the production of pumpkin seed as a healthy, locally grown, processed, and marketed snack food.
- **\$56,400** - Partner with the Midwest Apple Foundation to provide qualified local assistance to growers at their plantings to evaluate 15,000 seedling apple trees, use grower and marketer assistance to evaluate the top 1%, and propagate and distribute the top 0.5% for advanced testing.
- **\$59,929** - Partner with Wooster Local Foods Cooperative to establish an online ordering system and central distribution location to market and order products, handle, sort, store, and distribute vegetables, fruits, nuts, and other specialty crops between the times they are delivered until they are picked up by the buyers year-round.