

Specialty Crop Block Grant Program Now Accepting Applications

By Administrator

Wednesday, 17 February 2016 06:11 - Last Updated Wednesday, 17 February 2016 06:12

RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - March 25 is the deadline for nonprofit groups and government agencies to apply for grants from the state's Specialty Crop Block Grant program.

The grants are funded by the federal Farm Bill and administered by the state Agriculture Department. The goal is to help North Carolina be more competitive in the specialty crop marketplace.

Last year, 13 projects were funded for a total of more than \$1 million. This year proposals are being accepted for grants between \$20,000 and \$200,000.

“Eligible projects must involve fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, culinary herbs and spices, medicinal plants, nursery, floriculture or horticulture crops. Funding is also available for projects aimed at developing local and regional food systems and improving food access,” according to an Agriculture Department announcement.