

United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency
Beacon Facility # Mailstop 8738
P.O. Box 419205
Kansas City, MO 64141-6205

Information

Description: **12-1 NAP-18-S-0002**
Bid invitation number: **2000005067**
Purchasing Group: **FSA-Intl Packaged**

SOLICITATION

International Commodity Invitation

Bid invitation Overview

Bid Timezone: Central Time
Start Date: 11/01/2017 10:00:00
Offer Due Date : 11/06/2017 09:00:00

Opening date: 11/06/2017 09:00:00

Invitation Type : Definite Delivery

Additional requested information:

Tendering text - Header :

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Fortified Milled Rice and Milled Rice (MR) commodity requirements document can be found at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Assets/USDA-FSA-Public/usdfiles/Comm-Operations/pdf/MR25A.pdf>

The following requirements are in addition to the MR25 CRD and are specific to this invitation:

1. Start-up Phase. This is a preparatory or first production run in which the supplier develops baseline data on composition, microbiology, operator training, grading table (sensory analysis) and all calibrations necessary before running at full capacity. This would avoid massive production during the fine-tuning of blending lines. Prior to the actual trial, the supplier shall propose a start-up proposal and discuss with the Contracting Officer and USAID. During start-up run, the supplier must run all the analyticals as indicated below and ensure that the facility is capable of producing the fortified rice with the required micronutrient payload (micronutrient homogeneity, in addition to the Certificate of Analysis (COA) from the premix supplier). Likewise, for microbiology validation, during the start-up, the supplier must generate data to show capability according to Table 2 in the Commodity Requirement Document MR25. For micronutrient testing, third party laboratories need to provide validation data for the methods recommended in Table 1. Since micronutrient extraction in extruded rice kernels would need substantial optimization to achieve reproducibility, for this solicitation, the recommended laboratory is The Siliker Laboratories: <https://www.silliker-estar.com/content.html>

2. During this phase, the contracting agency (any or multiple representatives of USDA/FGIS, USAID, and/or WFP) may choose to be present. If the contracting agency does not attend during the start-up phase, data generated during this phase shall be shared with the Contracting Officer. This data includes certificates from an independent laboratory facility for the testing required in Tables 1 or any additional testing required in the fortified rice CRD such as microbiology compliance in Table 2. The supplier should factor this expense into their production cost. Product resulting from the start-up may or may not be used for delivery under the contract, which will be determined based on the level of defects and quality assurance compliance. Decision on acceptability of the start-up product will be made by the Contracting Officer. Full production may continue if the initial assessment indicates that adequate process/packaging and food safety capability exists to comply with product specifications.

Suggested testing methods in extruded fortified milled rice (mg/100 g):

Micronutrient Vitamin A

Testing method = EN 12823-1 - Prior saponification, an enzymatic digestion as described hereunder is preferable for crude rice

Micronutrient Vitamin B1

Testing method = EN 14122

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Micronutrient Vitamin B3
 Testing method = EN 15652

Micronutrient Vitamin B6
 Testing method = EN 14164

Micronutrient Vitamin B9
 Testing method = AOAC 944.12 / 45.2.03 (1990)

Micronutrient Vitamin B12
 Testing method = AOAC 952.20 / 45.2.02

Micronutrient Iron
 Testing method = ICP (OES or MS)

Micronutrient Zinc
 Testing method = ICP (OES or MS)

3. Rinse and cook-resistance data. During the start-up, rinse resistance and cook resistance data must be generated. However, as indicated in the CRD, Section 1.3.B, verifying the rinse resistant and cook resistant properties of each fortificant is not required for each lot/batch. Following the start-up an annual testing shall be done indicating levels of retention of at least 85% after rinsing and at least 80% of each nutrient listed in Table 1, after cooking.

4. Production Phase. During production of fortified rice, FGIS will certify the grade, percent of broken kernels and milling degree as is currently in place for milled rice. The contracting agency will continue monitoring food safety and quality through micronutrient and microbiology indicators. The Certificate of Analysis from the premix supplier may be used as part of the invoice package and will be considered sufficient for micronutrient monitoring. In-house homogeneity data should be reported as well, indicating compliance with the 1:100 ratio of fortified kernels to milled normal rice, as established in the start-up phase. For microbiology compliance, the supplier is only required to test for yeast and mold as hygiene indicator microbes, using methodology in Table 2 of the CRD. The supplier and the contracting agency shall agree on an adequate sampling plan for both micronutrient homogeneity and microbiology testing. Samples will be done on a per-lot-basis, defining a lot as 500 metric tons.

5. Type of fortified rice. For the purpose of this solicitation, only extruded kernels, as rice-premix, will be procured, using fortification levels and testing methodology in Table 1. For extruded kernels, fortified rice suppliers will have to demonstrate, during the start-up phase, the requirements around rinse-resistance and cook resistance indicated above.

Super Cereal Plus (SCP) commodity requirements document can be found at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Assets/USDA-FSA-Public/usdfiles/Comm-Operations/pdf/scp1.pdf>

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The following requirements are in addition to the SCP1 CRD and are specific to this invitation:

1. Part 1, D. Regarding Super Cereal Plus formula, the 58.17 percent cornmeal should be derived from de-hulled white or yellow corn as indicated in Part 1, B of Super Cereal Plus CRD.

2. Start-up Run. This is a preparatory run in which the supplier develops baseline data on composition, microbiology, operator training, grading table (sensory analysis) and all calibrations necessary before running at full capacity. This would avoid massive production during the fine-tuning of the system. During this trial-type run, the supplier must run all the analyticals required in the CRD and ensure that the facility is capable of producing the product. At the beginning of this phase, FGIS must be present to conduct a sanitation inspection of the production facility and provide guidance on statistical sampling procedures. Offerors must factor the cost of this visit into their bid price. Additionally, suppliers not currently conducting business with FGIS will have to establish an account through the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) or prepay for all services. Contact information for FGIS personnel is as follows:

USDA, GIPSA, FGIS
 10383 N. Ambassador Drive
 Kansas City, MO 64153
 Phone: 816-659-8400 Fax: 816-872-1258
 Ron Metz: Ronald.g.metz@usda.gov
 Jeffrey R. L'Heureux: Jeffrey.r.lheureux@usda.gov

Also during this phase, the purchaser (any or multiple representatives of USDA/FGIS, USAID and/or WFP) may choose to be present. If the purchaser does not attend during the start-up phase, data generated during this phase shall be shared with the purchaser. The data will include inspection certificates from an independent laboratory facility like FGIS or a lab mutually agreeable to FSA and USAID for the testing required in tables 3 and 4 of SCP1. A start-up run is not necessary when the supplier has produced the same product, in the same facility, within the previous three months, as microbiology and production baseline data should have been already developed. Product resulting from start-up may or may not be for delivery under the contract, depending on the level of defects, quality assurance compliance, and presence of on-site FGIS inspection personnel. Decision on acceptability of start-up product will be made by the contracting officer, using inputs from USAID, USDA and the vendor. Full production may continue if start-up initial assessment indicates that adequate process/packaging and food safety capability exists to comply with product specifications.

3. Production Phase. During production of Super Cereal Plus, continuous on-site presence of FGIS inspectors is not required. However, purchasers will continue monitoring food safety and quality through micronutrient and microbiology indicators. FGIS and the supplier shall agree on a sampling plan. Supplier will perform the sampling and ship samples to Kansas City FGIS lab. Samples will be done in a per-lot-basis, defining a lot as a day of production or 110 metric tons, whichever is achieved first.

4. Quality and Food Safety Monitoring Parameters. For Super Cereal Plus production, the key micronutrients to be monitored through independent third party testing on a per-lot basis are Vitamin A and Iron for micronutrient stability, and Coliform and Salmonella for microbiological compliance. Supplier is expected to perform all other analytical requirements indicated in Table 4, internally, on a lot by lot basis and provide CoAs for these requirements. Annually, however, the USG can require comprehensive, independent third-party testing as indicated in tables 3 and 4 of SCP1. It is also expected that the supplier will apply a continuous

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environmental monitoring program (PEM), based on appropriate and validated HACCP and zoning programs. Any third party testing should be done through FGIS' lab or an agreed upon ISO17025-certified lab. For microbiology, the following sampling and methods shall be used:

Microbiological Coliforms (cfu/g) Test:

IC/SU = I/25; n = 1; c = 0; m = 10; M = 10; /Unit = /g; Method = AOAC 2005.03

Microbiological Salmonella (cfu/25g) Test:

IC/SU = C/25; n = 10; c = 0; m = 0; M = 0; /Unit = /250g; Method = AACC 42-25B

5. Section 2.2 Containers and Materials: In addition to what is established in the SCP1 CRD, primary packaging (bags) and shipping containers (cases) should be of adequate strength for export handling practices and stacking up to three (3) meters high. Primary packaging should be resilient enough to withstand a load of 10 bags per box. There shall be no zipper in primary packaging, as there is no data indicating necessity or benefits in the field of a re-sealable 1.5 kg bag. Bags should be placed into cases in such a manner as to ensure bag-to-bag contact does not cause packaging and/or packing defects. Shipping containers shall be robust enough to resist typical handling, transportation and stacking. If necessary, vendors are allowed to re-enforce boxes by either strengthening the carton corners or by inserting a plastic liner or both. If by loading 10, 1.5kg-bags in a carton, expansion of secondary packaging is necessary, vendor should agree with purchaser for adequate modifications which would not impact the quality of product or the handling of same. Primary packaging shall not have any other branding other than government branding.

6. Table 4, number 12, Iron. The acceptable range is 8 - 21 mg/100g.

7. Potassium requirements: The 140 mg of potassium per 100 grams of product indicated in Table 2 of CRD is meant to serve as reference in the premix preparation. This level of potassium from the premix is expected in the finished product. However, understanding that there might be intrinsic potassium in the raw components of the products, and mindful that there might be variation in the order of 40-60% throughout the food chain, for analytical purpose (Table 4) it will be allowed an upper limit of 1499 mg of total potassium (including intrinsic content) per 100 grams of finished product, of which at least 140 mg must come from pre-mix source. If required by purchaser, supplier shall share data regarding potassium levels from the premix source in total potassium in finished product.

8. Table 4, number 15, total aflatoxin is 5 ppb.

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Acquisition Method: Sealed Bids (IFB)

Reference Invitation: DOMESTIC PREPOSITION

Also known as: Commodity Invitation 117B

Award Notification Date: November 7, 2017, 12:00 p.m.

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Public Release of Award Date: November 7, 2017, 4:00 p.m.

1. Solicitation Information Contact:

Name: Carol Clark
 Telephone Number: 816-823-4636
 Email: carol.a.clark@ams.usda.gov

2. Internet Address:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/commodity-operations/procurement-and-sales/index>

3. This Acquisition is:

/X/ Unrestricted
 / / Restricted
 /X/ Set Aside
 --- /X/ Small Business (See below)
 --- /X/ 8(a) (See below)
 --- /X/ SDVO (See below)

SMALL BUSINESS SET ASIDE:

Peas and Lentils - 3,500 MT
 Vegetable Oil - 750 MT

8(a) RESERVE:

Peas, Yellow Split - 250 MT

SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS SET ASIDE:

Peas, Yellow Split - 150 MT

NOTICE OF SMALL BUSINESS SET ASIDE:

If specified in the solicitation, certain quantities are set aside exclusively for small business firms under the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631, et seq.). Farmer-owned cooperatives, qualified as large under applicable SBA rules, are also eligible for award of set-aside quantities as provided in 7 U.S.C. 2209f.

If a large farmer-owned cooperative is awarded quantities under a small business set-aside, it shall perform the

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contract or cause the contract to be performed in accordance with the obligations of a business concern eligible for the small business set-aside.

Bids received for these set-aside quantities from firms who are not small business concerns will not be considered. In the event the Government is unsuccessful in contracting with an eligible small business concern(s) for the set-aside quantities, it may award the quantities to other than small business concerns.

Small businesses that wish to bid on both the set-aside and the non-set-aside quantities shall limit their minimum quantity to the set-aside quantity. Failure to comply with this requirement may cause the entire bid to be considered non-responsive.

NOTICE OF 8(a) ACQUISITION:

If specified in the solicitation, the Government may reserve a portion of the requirements for 8(a) firms certified by the Small Business Administration in accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), Part 19. Farmer-owned cooperatives are also eligible for award of set-aside quantities as provided in 7 U.S.C. 2209f. The Government may increase the reserve to adjust quantities to carlot increments in the event of multiple awards to eligible 8(a) firms. The Government shall offer for award to each 8(a) firm the lesser of: 1) their quantity bid of each targeted commodity, or 2) their proportional share of each targeted commodity, if the total quantities bid by all eligible 8(a) firms exceeds the amount of each targeted commodity. In no event shall the Government offer for award an amount in excess of an eligible 8(a) firm's maximum quantity, if so established by the Government. If the 8(a) smallbusiness firm is a nonmanufacturer, it shall meet the definition and requirements outlined in FAR Part 1. In the event the Government is unsuccessful in contracting with an eligible 8(a) firm for the reserve quantity, it may award the quantities to other than 8(a) firms.

HUBZONE PRICE EVALUATION PREFERENCE:

The Government will award contracts to eligible HUBZone bidders as provided in Part 2, Section A.4(b) of the Master Solicitation for Commodity Procurements at:

http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Assets/USDA-FSA-Public/usdfiles/Comm-Operations/pdf/master_solicitation.pdf

NOTICE OF SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS SET ASIDE:

If specified in the solicitation, the Government may reserve a portion of the requirements for Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned firms certified by the Small Business Administration in accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), Part 19. Farmer-owned cooperatives are also eligible for award of set-aside quantities as provided in 7 U.S.C. 2209f. The Government shall offer for award to each Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned firm the lesser of: 1) their quantity bid of each targeted commodity, or 2) their proportional share of each targeted commodity, if the total quantities bid by all eligible Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned firms exceeds the amount of each targeted commodity. In no event shall the Government offer for award an amount in excess of an eligible Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned firm's maximum quantity, if so established by the Government. If the Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned small business firm is a nonmanufacturer, it shall meet the definition and requirements outlined in FAR Part 19. In the event the Government is unsuccessful in contracting with an eligible Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned firm for the set-aside quantity, it may award the quantities to other than Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned firms.

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JAVITS, WAGNER, O' DAY ACT (AbilityOne)(41 U.S.C. 46-48c)
 500 MT of Super Cereal Plus (30% of the quantity shown under the Schedule of Supplies) is reserved for mandatory procurement from the Government's approved AbilityOne participating non-profit agency in accordance with the Javits, Wagner, O' Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48C) and FAR Subpart 8.7. In the event the Government does not award the full reserved quantity to the AbilityOne participating agency, the Government may award the balance under full and open competition.

4. NAICS Codes/Size Standards:

See Master Solicitation for Commodity Procurements at:

http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Assets/USDA-FSA-Public/usdafiles/Comm-Operations/pdf/master_solicitation.pdf

5. Delivery Type:

/X/ f.a.s. vessel*
 /X/ Intermodal plant
 /X/ Intermodal bridge

* All commodities must be delivered f.a.s. to Palmer Logistics Terminals in Houston, Texas.

The Government shall consider bids for commodities delivered only to those potential delivery locations listed in the documents titled Approved Ports/Terminals and KC-362 Standard Abbreviations found at:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/commodity-operations/procurement-and-sales/export/port-terminal-information/index>

6. Submission of Offers:

Bids, modifications, withdrawals of bids, and price adjustments shall be submitted using the Web Based Supply Chain Management (WBSCM) system. Submission of the above by any means other than WBSCM will be determined nonresponsive.

Bidders may submit bids for less than the quantities indicated. Bidders are encouraged to submit bids for as many shipping points as possible.

The WBSCM system can be accessed through the following website:

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/commodity-operations/web-based-supply-chain-management/index>

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7. Programs:

The commodities procured under this solicitation are for the following program(s):

/X/ P.L. 480 Title II (Procured by FSA on behalf of CCC)
 // P.L. 480 Title III (Procured by FSA on behalf of CCC)
 // Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust (Procured by FSA on behalf of CCC)
 // Food For Progress (Procured by FSA on behalf of CCC)
 // McGovern-Dole Food For Education
 // Section 416(b) (Procured by FSA on behalf of CCC)

8. Invoicing:

For purchase orders (aw ards) issued through WBSCM, the contractor shall use the invoicing function in WBSCM.

9. Shipment/Delivery Schedule:

Shipping periods for all commodities, except PL6 and DEB7, or where otherwise specified under bid invitation item details, are as follows:

Shipping periods for inland plants:

December 16 to December 31, 2017 and/or
 January 1 to January 15, 2018

Shipping periods for plants located at port:

January 1 to January 15, 2018 and/or
 January 16 to January 31, 2018

Shipping periods, for PL6 and DEB7 only, are as follows:

Shipping period for inland plants:

December 16, 2017 to January 6, 2018

Shipping period for plants located at the port:

January 7 to January 28, 2018

For plants located as f.a.s. vessel delivery locations:

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The shipping period(s) for plants located at port shall apply only to contracts that are processed and/or bagged within the same port to which delivery will be made. If the port has multiple berths and/or terminals, the vendor shall be liable for delivering the commodity to whichever berths and/or terminals have been designated by the steamship line within that port. If the commodity is processed and/or bagged at one port for delivery to a different port, the shipping period(s) for inland plants shall apply. The Government shall issue shipping instructions (WBSCM "Purchase Orders") (PO) at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the first day of each period of performance scheduled in the contract. (See MSCP Part 3, Section A.8.) If shipping instructions are issued less than seven (7) calendar days prior to the first day of the contracted period of performance, the performance period shall be extended by the number of days the PO is issued late. The Contractor shall not be entitled to any extension of the performance period unless it furnishes evidence satisfactory to the Government that it was prepared to perform during the contracted period of performance.

10. Other Requirements:

When empty packaging is required:

The contractor shall ship the empty bags/boxes in the conveyance with the commodity. The contractor shall ensure that the empty bags/boxes are bundled securely and loaded into the conveyance in accordance with the finished product (i.e. including intrinsic and premix conditions) are deleted and replaced with:

Vitamin A - Minimum: 1662 IU/lb - Maximum: No max.

For Commodity Requirements Document WSB15, Part 1, Section 1.2, Ingredient Specifications G(2) table requirements are deleted and replaced with:

Iron Minimum: 14.7 mg/100g	Iron Maximum: 30.0 mg/100g
Excess Iron of 30.1 to 31.5 mg/100g	\$0.10 per cwt discount
Excess Iron of 31.6 to 33.1 mg/100g	\$0.20 per cwt discount
Excess Iron of 33.2 to 35.0 mg/100g	\$0.30 per cwt discount

The following sections of the specified Commodity Requirements Documents are deleted: CSB13, Part 1, Section 1.2, Quality Assurance, Subsections A and C, Section 1.3 and 1.4; CSBP2, Part 1, Section 1.2, Quality Assurance, Subsections A and C:

The deleted sections are replaced with the following language:

Section 1.2 Quality Assurance -

A. This contract provides for Government quality assurance at source. The Government shall weigh, sample, inspect, and test the product offered in performance of the contract. The Government shall pay for the sampling and testing.

1. Sampling and testing will be performed by employees of the Department of Agriculture or contracted personnel under the direction or supervision of Government personnel. The results of Government testing shall be issued on an official Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) Commodity Inspection Certificate. A FGIS Commodity Inspection Certificate is required for invoice payment pursuant to the Invoicing Requirements

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clause of the contract.

2. Contractors shall provide advance notification to the appropriate FGIS field office of the scheduled production for all lots provided under the contract. The advance notification shall be sent between two and seven workdays, inclusive, prior to the start of production.
 3. The Government will determine the average net weight of the filled containers in each production lot and the net weight of the total lot in accordance with established FGIS procedures for packaged commodities.
 4. The Government will verify that the packaged commodity meets the U.S. Standards for the Condition of Food Containers.
 5. Any re-test or appeal requested by a contractor shall be at the contractor's expense. The Contractor shall submit requests for re-test or appeal in writing to both the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative and the Contracting Officer listed on the contract award notification by e-mail or otherwise in writing.
 6. The Contractor shall provide the results of any re-test or appeal to the Contracting Officer.
 7. All test results outside of the specification ranges or will constitute non-conforming product.
- B. The USDA sampling and testing quality assurance program is based on a lot size of two railcars (approximately 140 MT); to the maximum extent possible. Suppliers shall plan continuous production runs in two railcar increments to avoid additional sampling and testing expenses to the Government.

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Certification Questions :

Annual Representations and Certifications FAR 52.204-8 (d): The offeror has completed the annual representations and certifications electronically via the SAM Web site accessed through <http://www.acquisition.gov>. After reviewing the SAM database information, the offeror verifies by submission of the offer that the representations and certifications currently posted electronically have been entered or updated within the last 12 months, are current, accurate, complete, and applicable to this solicitation (including the business size standard applicable to the NAICS code referenced for this solicitation), as of the date of this offer and are incorporated in this offer by reference (see FAR 4.1201); except for the changes identified under Attributes. These amended representation(s) and/or certification(s) are also incorporated in this offer and are current, accurate, and complete as of the date of this offer. Any changes provided by the offeror are applicable to this solicitation only, and do not result in an update to the representations and certifications posted on SAM. [Offeror to insert changes, identifying change by clause number, title, date in the AMENDMENT_TO_REPS_&_CERTS_DATA Attribute located under the Attribute tab. Enter N/A if there are no changes.]

Bid invitation Item details

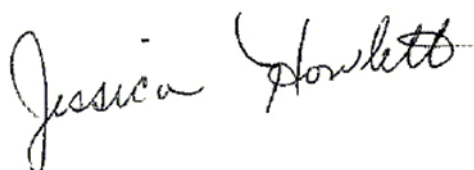
	Item Material	Description	Quantity	
10	CORN-SOY BLEND-PKGD			
	20	110200 CORN-SOY BLEND PLUS BAG-HP-25 KG Tendering text - Item : Best Used By Dates required	2,000	MT
	30	110472 CSB SUPER CEREAL PLUS BOX-10/1.5 KG Tendering text - Item : Palletization and shrink-wrapping required. Best Used By Dates required	1,650	MT
		Total Quantity for CORN-SOY BLEND-PKGD	3,650	MT
40	OIL PRODUCTS-PKGD			
	50	100566 OIL, VEGETABLE CAN-6/4 L Tendering text - Item : Best Used By Dates required on primary containers and corrugated boxes. Contractor shall provide an additional 5 percent empty boxes without contract numbers and without Best Used By Dates	2,500	MT
		Total Quantity for OIL PRODUCTS-PKGD	2,500	MT
80	RICE, MILLED-PKGD			
	90	110493 RICE, 5/20 LG, W-MLD, FORT BAG-50 KG Tendering text - Item : All fortified rice commodities shall have "Fortified Milled Rice" printed on all packaging. Only extruded kernels, as rice-premix, will be procured. FGIS to provide documentation certifying: "The U.S. rice industry generally commingles and rotates rice to ensure good condition and quality. While there is no viable method to determine the crop year, an official grade, based on an official FGIS inspection, has been	500	MT

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Item	Material	Description	Quantity	
		established for rice to ensure that the desired quality will be shipped. This type and grade of rice is sold, processed, and consumed in the United States." Best Used By Dates required. Contractor shall provide an additional 2 percent empty bags without Best Used By Dates and without contract numbers.		
		Shipping period for inland plants: January 16 - January 31, 2018 and/or February 1 - February 15, 2018. Shipping period for plants located at the port: February 1 - February 15, 2018 and/or February 16 - February 28, 2018		
		Total Quantity for RICE, MILLED-PKGD	500	MT
100		PEAS/LENTILS-PKGD		
	110 100555	PEAS, YELLOW, SPLIT BAG-50 KG	5,000	MT
		Tendering text - Item : Best Used By Dates required. Contractor shall provide an additional 2 percent empty bags without Best Used By Dates and without contract numbers. 13.5 percent moisture maximum		
		Total Quantity for PEAS/LENTILS-PKGD	5,000	MT
		Total Quantity for Invitation	11,650	MT



Jessica Howlett
 Contracting officer