

April 1, 2016

Request for Proposal

Organization: [California Fig Advisory Board](#) (CFAB)

Request: The CFAB seeks proposals from qualified contractors to conduct research on the functional attributes of California Figs and Fig Ingredients for use in product development to validate claims.

Activity: Conduct food science and product development research in professional lab to quantify functional attributes of California Figs and Fig Ingredients in the follow areas:

- **MOISTURE.** Sustained and maximized moisture retention in baked goods and meat applications compared to established control. Primary ingredients: Fig Paste; subordinate Fig Powder and Fig Fiber.
- **SHELF LIFE ENHANCEMENT.** Enhanced shelf life is due to bound water in baked goods and energy bars compared to established control. Primary ingredients: Fig Paste; subordinate Fig Powder and Fig Fiber.
- **DEFINED BROWNING.** Enhanced and defined browning in baked goods and gluten free products compared to established control. Primary ingredients: Diced Figs (Fig Pieces/Fig Nuggets); subordinate Fig Paste.
- **FLAVOR MIMICKING.** Enhanced flavor mimicking of dark flavors such as chocolate, molasses, and coffee compared to established control. Primary ingredients: Fig Paste; subordinate Fig Powder and Fig Fiber.
- **SUGAR REPLACEMENT.** Enhanced sweetness without added or reduced sugar compared to established control. Primary ingredients: Fig Paste; subordinate Fig Juice Concentrate, Diced Figs.
- **FAT REPLACEMENT.** Replacement of fat in formulation of baked goods compared to established control. Primary ingredients: Fig Paste; subordinate Fig Juice Concentrate.

Qualifications: Contractor must:

- Have extensive food science and product development experience with professional credentials.
- Have experience in the dried fruit ingredient category, especially figs.
- Background in food science, culinary or allied field.
- Understanding of USDA/FAS Market Access rules and compliance regulations.

Funding:

- \$20,000 – 30,000 USD

Submissions:

Contractor will provide a statement of qualifications, a detailed proposal of implementation of this activity and proposed costs. Proposals should be submitted electronically to the California Fig Advisory Board:

kstockli@californiafigs.com Open date for this solicitation is: April 1, 2016 and submissions must be received by CFAB by April 30, 2016. The successful contractor(s) will be notified of selection within five days of the closing date.

This solicitation is open to all individuals without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital or family status, political beliefs, parental status, or protected genetic information.