

# West Virginia Department of Agriculture

Walt Helmick, Commissioner



304-558-3708

www.agriculture.wv.gov



Facebook: West Virginia Department of Agriculture



Twitter: @WVDeptofAg

**NEWS RELEASE**  
January 6, 2017

**Contact: Buddy Davidson**  
Communications Officer  
304/558-3708; 304/541-5932 (cell)  
[bdavidson@wvda.us](mailto:bdavidson@wvda.us)

## **SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANT WEBINAR SET FOR JANUARY 17**

**Charleston, W.Va.** – Specialty crops play a big part in West Virginia agriculture, and the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) hopes to see that expand even more in 2017. The Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP), available once a year, is one way the WVDA continues to grow the industry. A webinar explaining the process is set for later this month.

The purpose of the SCBGP is to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops in West Virginia. For purposes of the program, specialty crops are defined as fruits, vegetables, peas, lentils, horticulture and nursery crops (including floriculture). The WVDA anticipates at least \$200,000 in SCBGP funding for West Virginia in 2017.

To find out more about the SCBGP and if a specialty crops project you're interested in meets the criteria, you can participate in a webinar on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. The webinar will explain the program and the qualifications, who is eligible and how to apply for a grant. Sign up at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8500925107185748227>.

The deadline to apply for the SCBGP is February 17, 2017.

###