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New Hampshire
*Department of Agriculture,
Markets, and Food*

Shawn N. Jasper, Commissioner



December 12, 2025

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

1. Authorize the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food, to enter into a grant agreement with NOK Vino (VC# 569725), Warner, NH, for the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program in the amount of \$69,938.00, effective upon Governor and Council approval through May 1, 2027. **100% Federal Funds.**
2. Further authorize an advance payment in the amount of \$69,938.00 to NOK Vino, Warner, NH, in accordance with the terms of the agreement, effective upon Governor and Council approval. **100% Federal Funds.**

Funding is available in account Resilient Food Sys Infra as follows

	FY 26
02-18-18-180010-28710000-072-502683 – Subaward Payments	\$69,938.00

EXPLANATION

The Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program is a USDA funded grant program intended to serve middle-of-the-supply-chain needs to add value and provide more, new, and better markets for locally or regionally produced food.

The funds are intended to support expanded capacity for the aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling, and distribution of locally and regionally produced food products.

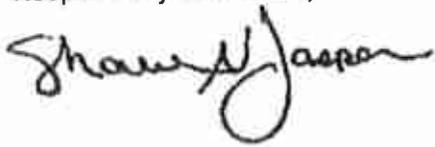
This project will support NOK Vino, Warner, NH, to purchase specialized food processing equipment. This project was selected by a review panel comprised of industry relevant experts and subsequently approved by USDA to be aligned with the eligibility criteria for the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program.

The department has determined that the vendor is in good standing with the Secretary of State's Office, has secured the required level of insurance, and has provided evidence of authority to

execute and be bound by the contract. Documents supporting these assertions are available at the agency, for review upon request.

In the event that Federal Funds are no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shawn N. Jasper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "S".

Shawn N. Jasper
Commissioner

GRANT AGREEMENT

The State of New Hampshire and the Grantee hereby
Mutually agree as follows:
GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Identification and Definitions.

1.1. State Agency Name Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food		1.2. State Agency Address 1 Granite Place South, Concord, NH 03301	
1.3. Grantee Name NOK Vino		1.4. Grantee Address 22 Loud Lane, Warner, NH 03278	
1.5. Grantee Phone # 603-315-5272	1.6. Account Number 28710000	1.7. Completion Date May 1, 2027	1.8. Grant Limitation \$ 69,938.00
1.9. Grant Officer for State Agency Joshua Marshall		1.10. State Agency Telephone Number 603-271-3551	
If Grantee is a municipality or village district: "By signing this form we certify that we have complied with any public meeting requirement for acceptance of this grant, including if applicable RSA 31:95-b."			
1.11. Grantee Signature 1 <i>NOK Kimberly</i>		1.12. Name & Title of Grantee Signor 1 <i>Nicholas Kimberly, Owner</i>	
Grantee Signature 2		Name & Title of Grantee Signor 2	
Grantee Signature 3		Name & Title of Grantee Signor 3	
1.13. State Agency Signature(s) <i>Shawn N. Jasper</i>		1.14. Name & Title of State Agency Signor(s) <i>Shawn N. Jasper, Commissioner</i>	
1.15. Approval by Attorney General (Form, Substance and Execution) (if G & C approval required). By: <i>J. D. Lavelle</i> Assistant Attorney General, On: 12 / 17 / 2025			
1.16. Approval by Governor and Council (if applicable) By: _____ On: / /			

2. **SCOPE OF WORK:** In exchange for grant funds provided by the State of New Hampshire, acting through the Agency identified in block 1.1 (hereinafter referred to as "the State"), the Grantee identified in block 1.3 (hereinafter referred to as "the Grantee"), shall perform that work identified and more particularly described in the scope of work attached hereto as EXHIBIT B (the scope of work being hereinafter referred to as "the Project").

3. ARFA COVERED. Except as otherwise specifically provided for herein, the Grantee shall perform the Project in, and with respect to, the State of New Hampshire.
4. EFFECTIVE DATE: COMPLETION OF PROJECT.
- 4.1. This Agreement, and all obligations of the parties hereunder, shall become effective on the date of approval of this Agreement by the Governor and Council of the State of New Hampshire if required (block 1.16), or upon signature by the State Agency as shown in block 1.14 ("the Effective Date").
- 4.2. Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, the Project, including all reports required by this Agreement, shall be completed in ITS entirety prior to the date in block 1.7 (hereinafter referred to as "the Completion Date").
5. GRANT AMOUNT; LIMITATION ON AMOUNT; VOUCHERS; PAYMENT.
- 5.1. The Grant Amount is identified and more particularly described in EXHIBIT C, attached hereto.
- 5.2. The manner of, and schedule of payment shall be as set forth in EXHIBIT C.
- 5.3. In accordance with the provisions set forth in EXHIBIT C, and in consideration of the satisfactory performance of the Project, as determined by the State, and as limited by subparagraph 5.5 of these general provisions, the State shall pay the Grantee the Grant Amount. The State shall withhold from the amount otherwise payable to the Grantee under this subparagraph 5.3 those sums required, or permitted, to be withheld pursuant to N.H. RSA 80:7 through 7-c.
- 5.4. The payment by the State of the Grant amount shall be the only, and the complete payment to the Grantee for all expenses, of whatever nature, incurred by the Grantee in the performance hereof, and shall be the only, and the complete, compensation to the Grantee for the Project. The State shall have no liabilities to the Grantee other than the Grant Amount.
- 5.5. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, and notwithstanding unexpected circumstances, in no event shall the total of all payments authorized, or actually made, hereunder exceed the Grant limitation set forth in block 1.8 of these general provisions.
6. COMPLIANCE BY GRANTEE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS. In connection with the performance of the Project, the Grantee shall comply with all statutes, laws, regulations, and orders of federal, state, county, or municipal authorities which shall impose any obligations or duty upon the Grantee, including the acquisition of any and all necessary permits and RSA 31-85-b.
7. RECORDS and ACCOUNTS.
- 7.1. Between the Effective Date and the date seven (7) years after the Completion Date, unless otherwise required by the grant terms or the Agency, the Grantee shall keep detailed accounts of all expenses incurred in connection with the Project, including, but not limited to, costs of administration, transportation, insurance, telephone calls, and clerical materials and services. Such accounts shall be supported by receipts, invoices, bills and other similar documents.
- 7.2. Between the Effective Date and the date seven (7) years after the Completion Date, unless otherwise required by the grant terms or the Agency pursuant to subparagraph 7.1, at any time during the Grantee's normal business hours, and as often as the State shall demand, the Grantee shall make available to the State all records pertaining to matters covered by this Agreement. The Grantee shall permit the State to audit, examine, and reproduce such records, and to make audits of all contracts, invoices, materials, payrolls, records of personnel, data (as that term is hereinafter defined), and other information relating to all matters covered by this Agreement. As used in this paragraph, "Grantee" includes all persons, natural or fictional, affiliated with, controlled by, or under common ownership with, the entity identified as the Grantee in block 1.3 of these provisions.
8. PERSONNEL.
- 8.1. The Grantee shall, at its own expense, provide all personnel necessary to perform the Project. The Grantee warrants that all personnel engaged in the Project shall be qualified to perform such Project, and shall be properly licensed and authorized to perform such Project under all applicable laws.
- 8.2. The Grantee shall not hire, and it shall not permit any subcontractor, subgrantee, or other person, firm or corporation with whom it is engaged in a combined effort to perform the Project, to hire any person who has a contractual relationship with the State, or who is a State officer or employee, elected or appointed.
- 8.3. The Grant Officer shall be the representative of the State hereunder. In the event of any dispute hereunder, the interpretation of this Agreement by the Grant Officer, and his/her decision on any dispute, shall be final.
9. DATA; RETENTION OF DATA; ACCESS.
- 9.1. As used in this Agreement, the word "data" shall mean all information and things developed or obtained during the performance of, or acquired or developed by reason of, this Agreement, including, but not limited to, all studies, reports, files, formulae, surveys, maps, charts, sound recordings, video recordings, pictorial reproductions, drawings, analyses, graphic representations,
- computer programs, computer printouts, notes, letters, memoranda, paper, and documents, all whether finished or unfinished.
- 9.2. Between the Effective Date and the Completion Date the Grantee shall grant to the State, or any person designated by it, unrestricted access to all data for examination, duplication, publication, translation, sale, disposal, or for any other purpose whatsoever.
- 9.3. No data shall be subject to copyright in the United States or any other country by anyone other than the State.
- 9.4. On and after the Effective Date all data, and any property which has been received from the State or purchased with funds provided for that purpose under this Agreement, shall be the property of the State, and shall be returned to the State upon demand or upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, whichever shall first occur.
- 9.5. The State, and anyone it shall designate, shall have unrestricted authority to publish, disclose, distribute and otherwise use, in whole or in part, all data.
10. CONDITIONAL NATURE OR AGREEMENT. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, all obligations of the State hereunder, including, without limitation, the continuance of payments hereunder, are contingent upon the availability or continued appropriation of funds, and in no event shall the State be liable for any payments hereunder in excess of such available or appropriated funds. In the event of a reduction or termination of these funds, the State shall have the right to withhold payment until such funds become available, if ever, and shall have the right to terminate this Agreement immediately upon giving the Grantee notice of such termination.
11. EVENT OF DEFAULT; REMEDIES.
- 11.1. Any one or more of the following acts or omissions of the Grantee shall constitute an event of default hereunder (hereinafter referred to as "Events of Default").
- 11.1.1 Failure to perform the Project satisfactorily or on schedule; or
- 11.1.2 Failure to submit any report required hereunder; or
- 11.1.3 Failure to maintain, or permit access to, the records required hereunder; or
- 11.1.4 Failure to perform any of the other covenants and conditions of this Agreement.
- 11.2. Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, the State may take any one, or more, or all, of the following actions:
- 11.2.1 Give the Grantee a written notice specifying the Event of Default and requiring it to be remedied within, in the absence of a greater or lesser specification of time, thirty (30) days from the date of the notice; and if the Event of Default is not timely remedied, terminate this Agreement, effective two (2) days after giving the Grantee notice of termination; and
- 11.2.2 Give the Grantee a written notice specifying the Event of Default and suspending all payments to be made under this Agreement and ordering that the portion of the Grant Amount which would otherwise accrue to the Grantee during the period from the date of such notice until such time as the State determines that the Grantee has cured the Event of Default shall never be paid to the Grantee; and
- 11.2.3 Set off against any other obligation the State may owe to the Grantee any damages the State suffers by reason of any Event of Default; and
- 11.2.4 Treat the agreement as breached and pursue any of its remedies at law or in equity, or both.
12. TERMINATION.
- 12.1. In the event of any early termination of this Agreement for any reason other than the completion of the Project, the Grantee shall deliver to the Grant Officer, not later than fifteen (15) days after the date of termination, a report (hereinafter referred to as the "Termination Report") describing in detail all Project Work performed, and the Grant Amount earned, to and including the date of termination.
- 12.2. In the event of Termination under paragraphs 10 or 12.4 of these general provisions, the approval of such a Termination Report by the State shall entitle the Grantee to receive that portion of the Grant amount earned to and including the date of termination.
- 12.3. In the event of Termination under paragraphs 10 or 12.4 of these general provisions, the approval of such a Termination Report by the State shall in no event relieve the Grantee from any and all liability for damages sustained or incurred by the State as a result of the Grantee's breach of its obligations hereunder.
- 12.4. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, either the State or, except where notice of default has been given to the Grantee hereunder, the Grantee, may terminate this Agreement without cause upon thirty (30) days written notice.
13. CONFLICT OF INTEREST. No officer, member of employee of the Grantee, and no representative, officer or employee of the State of New Hampshire or of the governing body of the locality or localities in which the Project is to be performed, who exercises any functions or responsibilities in the review or

- approval of the undertaking or carrying out of such Project, shall participate in any decision relating to this Agreement which affects his or her personal interest or the interest of any corporation, partnership, or association in which he or she is directly or indirectly interested, nor shall he or she have any personal or pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in this Agreement or the proceeds thereof.
14. GRANTEE'S RELATION TO THE STATE. In the performance of this Agreement the Grantee, its employees, and any subcontractor or subgrantee of the Grantee are in all respects independent contractors, and are neither agents nor employees of the State. Neither the Grantee nor any of its officers, employees, agents, members, subcontractors or subgrantees, shall have authority to bind the State nor are they entitled to any of the benefits, workmen's compensation or emoluments provided by the State to its employees.
15. ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONTRACTS. The Grantee shall not assign, or otherwise transfer any interest in this Agreement without the prior written consent of the State. None of the Project Work shall be subcontracted or subgranted by the Grantee other than as set forth in Exhibit B without the prior written consent of the State.
16. INDEMNIFICATION. The Grantee shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State, its officers and employees, from and against any and all losses suffered by the State, its officers and employees, and any and all claims, liabilities or penalties asserted against the State, its officers and employees, by or on behalf of any person, on account of, based on, resulting from, arising out of (or which may be claimed to arise out of) the acts or omissions of the Grantee or subcontractor, or subgrantee or other agent of the Grantee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State, which immunity is hereby reserved to the State. This covenant shall survive the termination of this agreement.
17. INSURANCE.
- 17.1 The Grantee shall, at its own expense, obtain and maintain in force, or shall require any subcontractor, subgrantee or assignee performing Project work to obtain and maintain in force, both for the benefit of the State, the following insurance:
- 17.1.1 Statutory workers' compensation and employees liability insurance for all employees engaged in the performance of the Project, and
- 17.1.2 General liability insurance against all claims of bodily injuries, death or property damage, in amounts not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate for bodily injury or death any one incident, and \$500,000 for property damage in any one incident, and
- 17.2. The policies described in subparagraph 17.1 of this paragraph shall be the standard form employed in the State of New Hampshire, issued by underwriters acceptable to the State, and authorized to do business in the State of New Hampshire. Grantee shall furnish to the State, certificates of insurance for all renewals) of insurance required under this Agreement no later than ten (10) days prior to the expiration date of each insurance policy.
18. WAIVER OF BREACH. No failure by the State to enforce any provisions hereof after any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of its rights with regard to that Event, or any subsequent Event. No express waiver of any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of any provisions hereof. No such failure of waiver shall be deemed a waiver of the right of the State to enforce each and all of the provisions hereof upon any further or other default on the part of the Grantee.
19. NOTICE. Any notice by a party hereto to the other party shall be deemed to have been duly delivered or given at the time of mailing by certified mail, postage prepaid, in a United States Post Office addressed to the parties at the addresses first above given.
20. AMENDMENT. This Agreement may be amended, waived or discharged only by an instrument in writing signed by the parties hereto and only after approval of such amendment, waiver or discharge by the Governor and Council of the State of New Hampshire, if required or by the signing State Agency.
21. CONSTRUCTION OF AGREEMENT AND TERMS. This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the law of the State of New Hampshire, and is binding upon and inures to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and assignees. The captions and contents of the "subject" blank are used only as a matter of convenience, and are not to be considered a part of this Agreement or to be used in determining the intent of the parties hereto.
22. THIRD PARTIES. The parties hereto do not intend to benefit any third parties and this Agreement shall not be construed to confer any such benefit.
23. ENTIRE AGREEMENT. This Agreement, which may be executed in a number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the parties, and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings relating hereto.
24. SPECIAL PROVISIONS. The additional or modifying provisions set forth in Exhibit A hereto are incorporated as part of this agreement.

Exhibit A, Special Provisions

A.1 If the date for commencement for Exhibit A precedes the Effective Date all services performed by the Grantee between the commencement date and the Effective Date shall be performed at the sole risk of the Grantee and in the event that this Agreement does not become effective, the State shall be under no obligation to pay the Grantee for any costs incurred or services performed.

Exhibit B, Scope of Work

B.1 The grantee shall utilize awarded Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program (RFSI) funds (USDA-AMS Award #23RFSINH0012) for project titled "Winemaking Infrastructure at NOK Vino to Support Northeast Fruit Growers in Emerging Wine Region" to purchase specialized food processing equipment as detailed in the grantee's Infrastructure Grant Proposal as approved by USDA, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

B.2 Outcomes shall be measured in accordance with the Expected Performance Measures section of the grantee's Infrastructure Grant Proposal, increasing capacity in the middle of the supply chain and economic viability of local/regional producers and processors.

B.3 **Compliance.** All project work shall be managed by the grantee who shall be responsible for all project development and oversight. This includes adhering to applicable federal grant uniform administrative requirements as specified in the Code of Federal Regulations and other federal requirements as follows:

- a. Grant funds awarded to state, local, and Tribal governments; public and private colleges and universities; and non-profit organizations are subject to the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards contained in 2 CFR part 200 and 2 CFR part 400.
- b. Grant funds awarded to federal government entities are subject to the Uniform Administrative Requirements and Cost Principles for Federal Awards contained in 2 CFR part 200 and 2 CFR part 400.
- c. Grant funds awarded to For-Profit Organizations are subject to the Uniform Administrative Requirements contained in 2 CFR part 200 and 2 CFR part 400, and the Cost Principles contained in the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 31.2, Contracts with Commercial Organizations, codified at 48 CFR 31.2.
- d. Recipients are responsible for the consistent application of the Federal regulations to the RFSI grant funds including the USDA AMS General Terms and Conditions and the RFSI Program Specific Terms and Conditions.
- e. The CFR is accessible on the National Archives and Records Administration website and in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations at www.ecfr.gov.

B.4 **Prior Approval Requirements:** To make any changes to proposed equipment purchases, the grantee must submit a written request detailing the desired changes and obtain written approval from the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food (DAMF). Certain changes may also require approvals from the US Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service and or Governor and Executive Council.

NOK 11/26/25

B.5 Reporting/Monitoring: The grantee will submit documentation to DAMF confirming the purchase of eligible equipment as detailed in the grantee's Infrastructure Grant Proposal as approved by USDA. The grantee is required to submit an Annual Performance Report (template provided by USDA-AMS) during each year of the project. Grantee is also subject to monitoring site visits from DAMF and/or University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension staff.

B.6 Records: Record retention and accessibility is governed by 2 CFR 200.333 and 200.337. The grantee must retain financial records, project records, and supporting documents for a period of three years from the date the Grant Agreement is closed

Exhibit C, Payment

C.1 The State shall disburse a maximum of \$69,938.00 for the purposes of the project described in Exhibit B as an advance disbursement.

C.2 Payment Process: In order to receive payment, Grantee must first be registered with the New Hampshire Department of Administrative Services (DAS) for a State of New Hampshire vendor number. If Grantee already has a vendor number and supplied it to DAMF, initial payment will be made once we receive Governor and Council approval. If Grantee does not already have a vendor number, registration is available at:
[https://apps.das.nh.gov/vendorregistration/iS\(rnkbxvllloscaesvq1n3np2\)/welcome.aspx](https://apps.das.nh.gov/vendorregistration/iS(rnkbxvllloscaesvq1n3np2)/welcome.aspx).

C.3 Method of Disbursement: Payment by the State shall be completed by check or Electronic Funds Transfer ("EFT") in accordance with the vendor registration.

NOK 11/26/25

State of New Hampshire
Department of State

CERTIFICATE

I, David M. Scanlan, Secretary of State of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby certify that NOK VINO LLC is a New Hampshire Limited Liability Company registered to transact business in New Hampshire on February 20, 2020. I further certify that all fees and documents required by the Secretary of State's office have been received and is in good standing as far as this office is concerned.

Business ID: 837056

Certificate Number: 0007336883



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF,
I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed
the Seal of the State of New Hampshire,
this 26th day of November A.D. 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Scanlan", is written over a faint circular outline.

David M. Scanlan
Secretary of State

(Limited partnership, Limited liability professional partnership or LLC)

Certificate of Authority # 3

Limited Partnership or LLC Certification of Authority

I, Nicholas Kimberly, hereby certify that I am the sole Partner, Member or
(Name)

Manager and the sole officer of NOX VINO a limited liability partnership
(Name of Partnership or LLC)

under RSA 304-B, a limited liability professional partnership under RSA 304-D, or a limited liability company under RSA 304-C.

I certify that I am authorized to bind the partnership or LLC. I further certify that it is understood that the State of New Hampshire will rely on this certificate as evidence that the person listed above currently occupies the position indicated and that they have full authority to bind the partnership or LLC and that this authorization **shall remain valid for thirty (30) days** from the date of this Corporate Resolution.

DATED: 11/15/25

ATTEST: Nicholas Kimberly
(Name & Title)



CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (M/DD/YYYY)
11/19/2025

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

PRODUCER Michael N Bertolone Agency 295 Sheep Davis Road Concord NH 03301		CONTACT NAME: Steph Sosinski PHONE (A/C No, Ext): 603.223.6686 FAX (A/C, No): E-MAIL: steph.sosinski@american-national.com ADDRESS:	
INSURED Nicholas Kimberly and NOK Vino LLC 22 Loud Lane Warner NH 03278-4303		INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE INSURER A: Farm Family Casualty Insurance Co NAIC # 13803 INSURER B: INSURER C: INSURER D: INSURER E: INSURER F:	

COVERAGES **CERTIFICATE NUMBER:** **REVISION NUMBER:**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL SUOR INSP WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS
A	COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special Farm Package GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLICY <input type="checkbox"/> PRO-JECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	Y	2801G3788	03/03/2025	03/03/2026	EACH OCCURRENCE \$ 1,000,000 DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence) \$ 100,000 MED EXP (Any one person) \$ 5,000 PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$ 1,000,000 GENERAL AGGREGATE \$ 2,000,000 PRODUCTS - COMP/DP AGG \$ 2,000,000
	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> ALL OWNED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS					COMB'D SINGLE LIMIT (Per accident) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per person) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per accident) \$ PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) \$
	UMBRELLA LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUR EXCESS LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE DED <input type="checkbox"/> RETENTION \$					EACH OCCURRENCE \$ AGGREGATE \$
A	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH) If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS	Y/N Y N/A	2801W0936			PER STATUTE OTH-ER E.L. EACH ACCIDENT \$ 500,000 E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE \$ 500,000 E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT \$ 500,000

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)

NH Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food is listed as Additional Insured on this policy.

CERTIFICATE HOLDER NH Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food 1 Granite Place South, Suite 211 Concord, NH 03301	CANCELLATION SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE <i>Michael Bertolone</i>
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Agricultural Marketing Service

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The PPS/Equipment/Grant Proposal should include a project narrative that describes the overall scope of the project and how it aligns with the program goals and priorities. Applicants must attach documentation to substantiate the costs of each piece of equipment, which can include contracts, catalog pricing, or binding quotes provided by license commercial entities.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant Organization Name:	NOK VINO
UEI:	[REDACTED]
Phone Number:	603 315 5272
Email Address:	tendrils@nokvino.com

Physical Address

Street:	146 Londonderry Turnpike, Building 3, Unit 23
City:	Hooksett
State:	NH
Zip:	03106

Mailing Address (If different from above)

Street:	22 Loud Lane
City:	Warner
State:	NH
Zip:	03278

PRIMARY POINT OF CONTACT

List the person who will be the main contact for any correspondence and is responsible for signing any documentation should the grant be awarded

Name:	Nicholas Kimberly
Title:	Owner
Phone Number:	603 315 5272
Email Address:	tendrils@nokvino.com

DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES INDEX

Using the Distressed Communities Index Map, provide the community distress score for the county(ies) benefiting from your project.

Note: U.S. Territories are not required to submit Distressed Communities Index data.

Click the + or - button to add or remove items as needed.

FOR EXAMPLE:

County 1: Enter County name

Distress Score 1: Enter County Distress Score

County 2: Enter County name

Distress Score 2: Enter County Distress Score

+	County	Distress Score
-	Merrimack	15.5392
-	Cheshire	19.6554
-	Rockingham	3.0951
-	Coos	71.8251
-	Rutland	52.6484
-	Hillsborough	13.2738

TYPE OF APPLICANT

Select applicant type:

- Agricultural producers or processors**, or groups of agricultural producers and processors.
- For-profit entities** operating middle-of-the-supply-chain activities such as processing, aggregation, or distribution of targeted agricultural products, whose activities are primarily focused for the benefit of local and regional producers, and that meet the eligibility requirements of the SBA small business size standards are eligible. For more information on these size standards, please visit [SBA's Size Standards webpage](#). For a quick check on whether your business qualifies, please use the [Size Standards Tool](#).
- Nonprofit organizations** operating middle-of-the-supply-chain activities such as processing, aggregation, distribution of targeted agricultural products
- Local government entities** operating middle-of-the-supply-chain activities such as processing, aggregation, distribution of targeted agricultural products
- Tribal governments** operating middle-of-the-supply-chain activities such as processing, aggregation, distribution of targeted agricultural products.
- Institutions** such as schools, universities, or hospitals bringing producers together to establish cooperative or shared infrastructure or invest in equipment that will benefit multiple producers middle-of-the-supply-chain activities such as processing, aggregation, distribution of targeted agricultural product.

PROJECT TITLE

Provide a descriptive project title in 15 words or less in the space below.

Winemaking Infrastructure at NOK Vino to Support Northeast Fruit Growers in Emerging Wine Region

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Include a project summary of 250 words or less suitable for dissemination to the public. A Project Summary provides a very brief (one sentence, if possible) description of your project. A Project Summary includes:

1. The name of the applicant organization that if awarded a grant will establish an agreement or contractual relationship with the State Applicant to lead and execute the project.

2. The project's purpose, deliverables, and expected outcomes and
3. A description of the general tasks/activities to be completed during the project period to fulfill this goal

NOK VINO farms hybrid grapes and buys grapes and apples, and ferments these fruits into wine. NOK VINO is deeply committed to regional agriculture and sources apples and grapes exclusively from New Hampshire and Vermont organic farmers. NOK VINO requests grant funds for the purpose of purchasing necessary equipment to expand value-added wine and cider production to meet the demands of the emerging Northeast wine market. These grant fund requests align with the New Hampshire priorities of addressing gaps in aggregation, transportation and distribution, light processing and packaging and labeling. Additionally, this project will directly increase the revenue streams for the 11 fruit farms from which NOK VINO buys fruit.

This project will fund the purchase of macro bins and a forklift to aggregate, transport and offload fruit from vineyards and orchards into the winery, a commercial-grade apple grinder to process apples, commercial-grade fruit press to process both grapes and apples, and a bottle labeler. The expected outcome is for NOK VINO to streamline existing winemaking operations through improved aggregation, processing, storage and distribution capabilities, as well as to be able to expand our value-added product line, through the ability purchase and process an additional 8 tons of fruit, creating substantial economic impact for the growers and NOK VINO alike.

PROJECT PURPOSE

OPERATIONS IDENTIFIER

Provide where within the Middle of the Supply Chain the requested equipment be used:

- Processing
- Aggregation
- Distribution
- Value Added Production

Other

TYPE OF AGRICULTUREAL FOOD PRODUCTS PROCESSED WITH THE EQUIPMENT?

#	Product Type
6,000	Pounds Grapes - new production
10,000	Pounds Apples - new production

#	Product Type
12,000	Pounds Grapes - Current Production
10,000	Pounds Apples - Current Production

SCOPE OF WORK

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CURRENT BUSINESS OPERATIONS INCLUDING SERVICES BEING OFFERED IN THE GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS AREA.

NOK VINO farms grapes, purchases apples and grapes, and makes wine from these fruits. NOK VINO is envisioning the future of perennial agriculture through ecological farming and building business partnerships with multiple organic fruit farms and wineries across New Hampshire and Vermont. In addition to farming 20% of New Hampshire's grape acreage, NOK VINO also purchases 6-8 tons of organic grapes and 5-6 tons of organic apples each year directly from 11 different growers, and engages in collaborative marketing with some of these growers for mutual benefit. The vineyards and orchards NOK purchases from are located in Cheshire, Rockingham, Coos, Merrimack, Rutland and Hillsborough counties.

Operations: NOK VINO farms vineyards, purchases apples and grapes, harvests apples and grapes, sells grapes, transports grapes and apples to the winery, processes the fruit which includes crushing grapes, grinding apples, pressing grapes and apples, fermenting grapes and apples into the value-added products wine and cider, bottling and labeling wine and cider, selling wine and cider both within New Hampshire as well as in New York City, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Vermont through wholesale distributors.

In 2025, NOK VINO will establish a new fruit buying partnership with Northeast Vine Supply, a Vermont-based vine nursery which is a cornerstone of the region growing and supplying cold-hardy vine stock for commercial winegrape planting. In 2025, Northeast Vine Supply seeks to diversify their revenue stream through selling white wine grapes directly to NOK VINO, which would amount to 1-3 tons of grapes. This is important to NOK VINO's success since white wine currently is only 4% of NOK VINO's production, due to the fact that the majority of grapes available to purchase in New Hampshire are red grapes. This grant would directly support the success of this newly formed partnership by providing the aggregation infrastructure necessary to transport, offload, and process the grape tonnage, as well as for each business to expand its market share, to the mutual benefit of each business.

Additionally, NOK VINO seeks to expand its long-term wholesale fruit buying arrangements with its apple and grape growers. NOK VINO buys 5 tons of apples each

year from Mount Cabot Maple, Dandelion Forest Farm, and Amaranth Farm, however there is opportunity for NOK VINO to purchase even more apples from these growers with improved transport and processing equipment, since each year there are more apples available than NOK VINO can currently process. NOK VINO seeks to strengthen its grape purchasing agreements with six vineyard owners and its grape sales partnership with Lady Blanche Vineyard through improved fruit aggregation, transportation and processing workflow efficiencies.

NOK VINO will be opening a tasting room in May 2025 that will offer NOK wine and cider by the glass, paired with organic food from local vegetable farms, providing an opportunity for community members and tourists alike to experience the best of New Hampshire-farmed food and beverage. The Tasting room will also feature produce & local products that customers can purchase to take home, further promoting local farms and building New Hampshire's reputation as a destination for premium food experience. We anticipate having 10-15 local products stocked in our tasting room at any given time, supporting an additional 4-6 local food producers.

Specifically, the equipment requested will allow NOK VINO to increase white wine production by 220% and cider production by 40% to meet market demand for these beverages, increasing gross sales revenue by a projected 40-50% through bringing new value-added products to market to appeal to new customer demographics. This increased revenue would be reinvested in the business to promote 2 employees from part-time to full-time, resulting in a more robust staffing model and increased employee retention, further enabling NOK VINO's success. NOK VINO's expanded fruit aggregation, handling & processing capability would streamline processing, enable more robust relationships with its fruit growing partners, and is projected to increase the growers' revenue by \$12,000, in addition to diversifying their revenue models and allowing for cross-selling and marketing opportunities.

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE SPECIFIC NEED THAT THE REQUESTED EQUIPMENT WILL ADDRESS.

Currently, NOK VINO owns 7 macro bins, which are large bins for aggregating, transporting and storing bulk fruit. These 7 bins are sufficient for current levels of production, however, NOK VINO seeks to increase white wine and cider production, and to do so will need to expand its fruit transport and processing capacity. The four requested macro bins will address the need for large containers to transport the additional 5 tons of purchased fruit from the farms to the winery on the transport truck, in alignment with the grant priority of addressing aggregation, transportation and distribution.

Currently, NOK VINO uses a manual pallet jack to move macro bins and pallets in the winery, and does not own machinery to unload large quantities of grapes from the transport truck. The forklift will address the specific need to unload the macro bins full of grapes and apples off the transport truck into the wine production space, and subsequently move pallets of bottled wine to storage areas and onto distribution trucks for sale out of state. It will also facilitate the sales of grapes to other wineries in the state. This equipment addresses the grant priority of transportation and distribution.

Currently, NOK VINO uses a homestead apple grinder, which is drastically undersized for the 5 tons of apples processed each year at current production levels. As a result, this grinder breaks often, and slows down our processing time, resulting in a 15% loss of apples, which begin to rot as they wait to be processed. The commercial apple grinder will eliminate this crucial processing bottleneck, reducing waste, improving efficiency, and resulting in the ability to accommodate current and increased apple volumes, while at the same time producing higher quality cider. Additionally, the requested grinder is able to be positioned directly over the macrobin or press, eliminating the current process of manually moving buckets of apple mash into the press or macro bin. This equipment will address the grant priority of supporting light processing and strengthening the middle of the supply chain for value-add producers.

Currently, NOK VINO owns two presses for transforming grapes and apple mash into juice for fermentation. One press is a 160 liter bladder press, the other a 170 liter manual basket press. Each press is labor intensive, low yielding, and relatively slow to operate, the bladder press because one must wait for it to inflate with water, and then monitor it constantly throughout the press cycle, and then wait again for it to drain water before starting another press cycle, taking at least 45 minutes per press cycle. The basket press requires substantial manual labor to operate, as the user is literally using a handle and ratchet to press the grapes, which is quite tiresome and takes at least an hour and half per press cycle. With the commercial-grade Zambelli Aton 700 330 liter press, the apples or grapes are pressed via hydraulic power and the press cycle can be completely programmed and automated, eliminating manual processes and significantly reducing the time a press cycle takes to complete. Additionally, the Aton 700 can press fruit at up to 350 bar, which is far superior than the 2.5 bar that the bladder presses at, resulting in significantly better juice yields per pound of fruit.

Currently, NOK VINO does not own a labeler, and uses a manual process to apply labels to the 7,000 bottles produced each year. A labeler would dramatically increase efficiency with current production and the additional 1,850 bottles produced from the increased amount of fruit purchased, and improve overall production time for the business. This equipment will support the priority to address packaging and labeling.

Overall, these pieces of equipment would improve the current process in the middle of the supply chain for NOK VINO, from grape and apple transport to bottling, benefiting multiple producers and supporting the expansion of wine and cider production to meet current and future market demand in the emerging Northeast wine region.

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE IMPACT THIS EQUIPMENT WILL HAVE ON LOCAL AND REGIONAL PRODUCERS, MARKET OUTLETS, AND MORE.

The impact this equipment will have on the local and regional producers is substantial, given that NOK VINO is a major purchaser of organic apples and grapes in the region. This equipment would directly address the fact that nearly every year, there are apples and grapes that go unsold and unprocessed due to current bottlenecks in NOK VINO's transportation and processing workflows. With this equipment, fruit growers would be able to sell more of their crop to NOK VINO, thereby increasing their revenue and business stability.

Specifically, the macro bins will allow the farms that NOK VINO buys fruit from to sell at least 3 tons more grapes and at least 5 tons more apples to NOK VINO, as they will provide an efficient method of aggregation, transport and processing in the winery. These bins can be left at the farms and picked directly into, reducing the labor of picking into smaller bins and then manually dumping into larger bins, thereby streamlining aggregation. They are durable and easy to clean, with an estimated lifespan of 10-12 years.

The forklift allows for producers to sell an additional 8 tons of fruit to NOK VINO on top of the current production of 11 tons, a 72% increase, since NOK VINO will have an efficient and safe method of unloading large quantities of fruit into the winery. The forklift addresses the need to improve aggregation and storage capacity for both raw materials and value-added products. Additionally, the forklift will expand the ability to move and sell larger volumes of bottled wine, giving access to larger markets which is critical for the growth of the emerging Northeast wine region. This access to larger-scale markets provides substantial marketing benefit to NOK and growers alike as their name recognition expands through increased distribution.

The apple grinder will have an impact on the volume of apples that growers can sell to NOK VINO, as it will increase processing capacity by 82%, which will in turn reduce the amount of apples lost to rot due to processing delays from 15% to under 5%. NOK VINO would also offer the grinder to other local farms to process their apples, as well as be available for community cider processing days, thereby strengthening rural community food systems.

The Aton 700 press will also have an impact on the volume of apples and grapes that

growers can sell to NOK VINO, as it will increase press yield and reduce press cycle time significantly. This faster, larger and more efficient press means that grapes and apples can be processed as fresh as possible, resulting in higher quality juice for fermentation. We expect to see up to 30% higher juice yield, and estimate a time savings of 60 hours. NOK VINO would also offer the press to other local farms to process their fruit, as well as be available for community cider pressing days, thereby strengthening rural community food systems.

The labeler will streamline the labeling process for the current production of 7,000 bottles, in addition to the 1,850 additional bottles expected to be produced in 2025 through expanded fruit buying. The labeler will benefit growers since we highlight the source orchard and vineyard on the label. The labels will appear more professional with a high-quality, efficient labeler, and therefore more appealing on the shelf, improving sales and brand recognition. Additionally, NOK VINO would offer the labeler to other local businesses to utilize to label their products.

As stated in Indicator 3.3, three new products will be processed, aggregated, stored and distributed. The products are the raw materials to be processed for value-added products.

1. Grapes from Northeast Vine Supply. The estimated quantity is 1 - 2 tons, depending on the growing season conditions. They will be aggregated in the macro bins, processed with the fruit press, and stored & distributed with the forklift.
2. Cider Apples from Mount Cabot Orchard & Dandelion Forest Farm. The estimated quantity is 5 tons, depending on growing season conditions. They will be aggregated in the macro bins, processed with the grinder and fruit press, and stored & distributed with the forklift.
3. Grapes from Lady Blanche Vineyard. The estimated quantity is 1 ton, depending on growing season conditions. They will be aggregated in the macro bins, processed with the fruit press, and stored & distributed with the forklift.

As stated in Indicator 3.4, five new value-added products will be developed as a result of this project and the requested equipment. The grapes sourced from Northeast Vine Supply & Lady Blanche will be the raw materials for two of the new value-added products:

1. Still white grape wine
2. Sparkling white grape wine

These wines will address the needs of NOK VINO to meet the market demand for white wine. These two white wines will be sold in the state of New Hampshire at farmers

markets, wine shops, and the NOK VINO tasting room located in Hooksett, NH.

The additional volume of apples that NOK VINO will be able to process from Mount Cabot and Dandelion Forest Farm as a result of this equipment will comprise the raw materials for three of the new value-added products:

1. Still cider aged in clay vessels which addresses the market demand for clay-aged cider.
2. Cider infused with local honey which addresses the market demand for cider with some sweetness.
3. Sparkling, champagne method cider to address the demand in regional markets for high-end cider.

These ciders will be sold in New Hampshire at farmer's markets, wine shops and the NOK VINO tasting room. Additionally, because the equipment requested through this grant will help NOK VINO lower the cost of production, it will allow us to expand our distribution and sales to Massachusetts, New York, and Vermont through our distributors Olmstead and Zev Rovine.

Overall, the impact of the requested equipment would be significant to the current and future state of both NOK VINO and the fruit growers with which we work. For NOK VINO, the equipment would drastically improve the aggregation efficiency, processing times and the transport and distribution capacity of the current workflow, resulting in higher quality value-add products. For the fruit growers from which NOK VINO purchases, the equipment would allow for increased fruit sales and revenue, less waste and improved harvest efficiency. These improvements to the current workflow would support the expansion of both NOK VINO and the fruit growers' businesses, which in turn strengthen the regional food system as a whole, bolstering resilience and enabling future collaboration.

New Hampshire, and the Northeast wine region as a whole, is at a critical milestone. A handful of innovative ecological fruit farmers and fermenters are envisioning the future, a future that realizes the enormous potential of New Hampshire as a grape and apple growing hub, and we request your help implementing this vision by considering our equipment requests outlined in this grant. Overall, this equipment will support the growth of specialty crop growers & processors, and allow them to expand their value-add production, revenue, and market share, which is vitally important to the future of perennial agriculture in the Northeast.

[Empty box]

ESTIMATE THE NUMBER OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL PRODUCERS IMPACTED.

11

DOES THIS PROJECT DIRECTLY BENEFIT:

Check box for all that apply below

- Underserved farmers and ranchers?
- New and beginning farmers and ranchers?
- Veteran Producers?
- Processors or other middle-of-the-supply businesses owned by socially disadvantaged individuals?

EXPECTED PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The outcomes and performance measures below provide a framework that allows grant recipients to track and evaluate project activities. Please provide expected numbers based on the projects scope of work. Select N/A if not applicable to the specific project.

OUTCOME 2: CAPACITY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SUPPLY CHAIN FOR LOCAL/REGIONAL FOOD PRODUCTS

Indicator	Description	Expected Numbers	N/A
2.3	Number of processing equipment units purchased and installed:	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.5	Number of aggregation, storage, distribution equipment units purchased and installed:	5	<input type="checkbox"/>

OUTCOME 3: INCREASE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF LOCAL/REGIONAL PRODUCERS AND PROCESSORS

Indicator	Description	Expected Numbers	N/A
3.2	Number of local/regional agricultural producers who benefited from the new or improved processing/aggregation/storage or distribution capacity:	11	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.3	Number of new local/regional products processed, aggregated, stored or distributed:	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.4	Number of new value-added products developed:	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.5	Number of new market-outlets established.	1	<input type="checkbox"/>

BUDGET NARRATIVE

Please be sure to list and justify all expenses to be covered. If applicable, ensure that you have included Critical Resources and Infrastructure letter(s) to support the application information.

EQUIPMENT

Describe any special purpose equipment to be purchased under the grant. "Special purpose equipment" such as such as, canners, hulling processors, reverse osmosis systems, egg packing machines, flotation tanks, roasters, or other processing equipment, packing and labeling equipment, or delivery vehicles.

+	#	Equipment Item	Purchase Price	Acquisition Date	Funds Requested
-	1	Forklift	\$51,026.00	August 20, 2025	\$51,026.00
-	4	Macro bins	\$1,360.00	August 15, 2025	\$1,360.00
-	1	Bottle Labeler	\$1,595.00	October 1, 2025	\$1,595.00
-	1	Apple Grinder	\$5157.00	September 15, 2025	\$5,157.00
-	1	Fruit Press	\$10,000.00	August 20, 2025	\$10,000.00
Equipment Subtotal					\$69,938.00

EQUIPMENT JUSTIFICATION

For each Equipment item listed in the above table describe how this equipment will be used to achieve the objectives and outcomes of the project. Add more equipment by copying and pasting the existing listing or delete equipment that isn't necessary.

FOR EXAMPLE:

- Equipment 1: Description and justification
- Equipment 2: Description and justification

Equipment 1: Forklift
 The forklift requested is a Hyundai 25BC-9U. This forklift has the following necessary features: electric battery power, compact dimensions, optional fourth hydraulic valve installed, maximum lift capacity of 4,430lbs, and maximum lift height of 24 feet. The electric battery is necessary to maintain air quality for an indoor working environment, for both the workers and the wine, as wine and cider is very susceptible to airborne contaminants. The compact dimensions are essential to working in our 725sq ft winery, where floorspace is at a premium. The fourth hydraulic valve installed supports the functionality of a forklift rotator bar, which would be used to invert macrobins. While this rotator bar is not part of the current workflow, as NOK VINO continues to grow, this functionality will be needed and so we have selected a forklift model with this valve with an eye to the future. The maximum lift capacity is necessary to lift 3,000 pound macro bins off the transport truck, empty bottle pallets from the delivery truck, move full pallets of bottled wine into and out of storage, and onto wholesale distribution trucks. The 24 ft lift height is necessary for our workflow due to the small floorplan of the winery. We have a pallet rack system on which we will store tanks full of wine, as well as full pallets of bottled

wine, and this height will allow for us to use two levels of pallet rack shelving, doubling our amount of possible storage. Overall the forklift addresses the needs of improving aggregation, storage, and distribution by drastically reducing manual labor in the winery, allowing for efficient and safe movement of apples, grapes, and bottled inventory, thereby providing a substantial improvement in our overall workflow. The forklift would be purchased from a NH-based company, and because we are in-state they have given us a discount on the overall price.

Equipment 2: Macro Bins

The Macrobins requested are solid wall bins made from high-impact durable HDPE plastic with the dimensions of 48"L x 40"W x 34"H. These bins are in the wine industry standard for fruit aggregation, transportation and fermentation, and have a lifespan of at least 10 years. The bins nest when empty, and have runners that are compatible with Equipment 1 Forklift in its current configuration, as well as its future possible configuration with the rotator bar. The size of these bins is perfect for transporting between 1,500 - 2,200lbs of fruit and the transport truck can fit 2 bins per load, maximizing efficiency. These bins will allow for improved aggregation workflow for fruit growers, more efficient fruit transport to the winery, and improved workflow for bringing fruit from the transport truck into the winery, and storage of the fruit inside the winery.

Equipment 3: Bottle Labeler

The bottle labeler requested is Primera AP380. This labeler is specifically designed to apply labels to cylindrical materials, and includes a foot pedal for ergonomic and efficient label triggering. With this labeler, we will be able to apply up to 1,500 labels per hour, making our labeling and packing workflow much more efficient. Additionally, this labeler has a spring-loaded pressure arm, which ensures the labels are applied without wrinkles, resulting in a more professional appearance for our bottles of wine and cider on the shelf, increasing our appeal for the out-of-state distribution market.

Equipment 4: Commercial Apple Grinder

The apple grinder requested is a Voran RM 2.2 Centrifugal Fruit Mill, capable of processing up to 1.1 tons of apples per hour. This grinder is manufactured by Voran, the industry standard for fruit processing which has been in business for over 100 years. This heavy-duty grinder is constructed entirely of stainless steel, making it durable and very easy to clean. Additionally, it has interchangeable screens, which allows for adjustable grind size and for the processing of not just apples, but pears as well. Our current grinder can process 400lbs per hour, whereas the Voran RM 2.2 can process 2,200 pounds apples per hour, resulting in an 82% increase in processing capacity. This increased processing capacity will streamline our current production, as well as scale up to future production increases, substantially bolstering our capabilities in the middle of the supply chain. Additionally, this grinder can be positioned directly over a macro bin or press, eliminating the current manual process of moving the ground-up apple mash by hand from the grinder to the press.

Equipment 5: Commercial Fruit Press

The Fruit Press requested is a Zambelli Aton 700 Hydraulic Vertical Press, capable of pressing 330L of fruit in a single press load over the duration of 5-10 minutes. The Aton 700 has both automatic and manual modes; automatic mode has 2 preset press cycles, and manual is fully customizable by the user. The press is fully hydraulic and can be operated in automatic mode, substantially streamlining workflow by eliminating manual processing and freeing up workers to do other tasks while the press automatically completes its cycle. The press has a maximum pressure of 350 bar compared to the maximum pressure of 2.5 bar for the current bladder press, which will result in significantly higher juice yields per press cycle. The Aton 700's faster press cycle will reduce fruit processing times for 330 liters of fruit from 2 hours to 10 minutes, resulting in an incredible savings of time estimated at 60 hours during the critical fruit processing window of harvest season. Finally, the Aton 700 is compatible with both apples and grapes, allowing for dual use for both cider and wine production. This press is used, resulting in a \$5,000 cost savings compared to a new press, and its purchase would benefit a local vineyard, SHARA Vineyards, from whom we buy fruit each year.

***Applicants must submit documentation to substantiate the costs of each piece of equipment, which can include contracts, catalog pricing, or binding quotes provided by license commercial entities.**