

# **Agricultural Innovations Contest for Market Growers**

*Sponsored by Central Kentucky Ag Credit*

## **Kentucky Fruit & Vegetable Growers Conference**

*January 3-4, 2011, Lexington, KY*

Have you built labor-saving equipment of your own design? Have you modified existing equipment to make it do your job better? Have you come up with an innovative way to handle the unique aspects of field production that is faced by market growers?

Have you developed a special display or marketing innovation for your farmers market operation? Have you come up with a better way to handle and move product to the market or to set up at the market?

*If you have done any of the above things, you should enter the Agricultural Innovations Contest for Market Growers at the 2011 Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Growers Conference.*

Central Kentucky Ag Credit is offering cash prizes of \$100 for First Place; \$50 for Second Place; and \$25 for Third Place in each of two (2) different categories for Agricultural Innovations for Market Growers. Plaques will accompany all prize positions.

### ***The categories are:***

- **Market Grower Mechanization Activities** - For mechanization innovations used on-the-farm by market growers (*those selling at farmers markets, on-farm markets, or through CSA's*).
- **Farmers Market Marketing Activities** – For marketing, display, and/or set-up innovations used at farmers markets.

## **Contest Rules**

*(Judges)*

*Janet Eaton, retired Farmers Market Specialist, Kentucky Department of Agriculture, and  
President of the Kentucky Farmers Market Contest*

*Terry Jones, retired Vegetable Specialist, Robinson Station, University of Kentucky*

*John Wilhoit, Extension Specialist in Specialty Crops Mechanization, Biosystems and  
Agricultural Engineering Department, University of Kentucky*

1. Contests are limited to people who are registered for the 2011 Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference.
2. **Market Grower Mechanization Activities Entries** should be new innovations or modifications to existing equipment, relating to any aspects of production of fruits, vegetables and cut flowers, from ground preparation through harvesting, handling, processing, packaging and/or storage. Can include cover crops and crop protection.

3. **Farmers Market Marketing Activities Entries** should be innovations in marketing at farmers markets, including set-up, displays or ways to transport product to the market or to handle it at the market.
4. Entries should specify which contest they are entering.
5. Contestants must submit pictures and a description of the innovation, with enough explanation to clearly describe what the innovation is, and how it works. Video footage is encouraged, but not required. Electronic submissions to the address below are preferred, but you can also mail a hard copy. The deadline for submissions is December 23, 2010.
6. By entering a contest, contestants agree to allow pictures/videos of their entry to be shown during a presentation devoted to the contest at the conference. They also agree to allow Central Kentucky Ag Credit to display pictures/videos of entries on the Ag Credit Website, in press releases and in the Ag Credit Leader Magazine.
7. Contestants are welcome to bring their innovative piece of equipment to the conference to show others.
8. Prizes will be awarded at the conference. The decision of judges is final.

**Mail hard copy entries to:**

John Wilhoit  
9225 McCowans Ferry Road  
Versailles, KY 40383  
Phone: 859-257-3000 (Extension 208)

**Email electronic copies (preferred) to:**

[jwilhoit@bae.uky.edu](mailto:jwilhoit@bae.uky.edu)

*Information and registration forms for the 2011 Fruit and Vegetable Conference and the Kentucky Vegetable Growers Association are available online at <http://www.uky.edu/Ag/Horticulture/meetings.html> and at <http://www.kentuckyfarmersmaeket.org>*