and their regions, including the following five focus areas:
(1) Research in plant breeding, genetics, and genomics to improve crop characteristics, such as—
(i) Product, taste, quality, and appearance;
(ii) Environmental responses and tolerances;
(iii) Nutrient management, including plant nutrient uptake efficiency;
(iv) Pest and disease management, including resistance to pests and diseases resulting in reduced application management strategies; and
(v) Enhanced phytonutrient content.
(2) Efforts to identify and address threats from pests and diseases, including threats to specialty crop pollinators.
(3) Efforts to improve production efficiency, productivity, and profitability over the long term (including specialty crop policy and marketing).
(4) New innovations and technology, including improved mechanization and technologies that delay or inhibit ripening.
(5) Methods to prevent, detect, monitor, control, and respond to potential food safety hazards in the production and processing of specialty crops, including fresh produce.
(b) Other. CSREES will award research and extension, including integrated, grants to eligible institutions listed in §3430.203. In addition to the focus areas identified in this section, CSREES may include additional activities or focus areas that will further address the critical needs of the specialty crop industry. Some of these activities or focus areas may be identified by stakeholder groups or by CSREES in response to emerging critical needs of the specialty crop industry.

§ 3430.206 Matching requirements.

The definitions applicable to the program under this subpart include:

Integrated project means a project that incorporates the research and extension components of the agricultural knowledge system around a problem area or activity.
Specialty crop means fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, and horticulture and nursery crops (including floriculture).