



Produce Safety
ALLIANCE



Produce Safety Alliance Annual Trainers & Lead Trainers Update



October 25, 2022





Welcome!

- **All participants are muted**
- **There will be time for questions and discussion throughout the meeting**
 - Please use Q&A or chat, or raise hand to be unmuted
- **This session will be recorded and the presentation will be shared via the listserv and on our website after the call**

Agenda

- Team Updates
- Training Metrics
- Remote & Online Training Updates
- Policy Updates & Reminders
- Trainer Resources
- General Resources
- FDA Updates
- Spanish-language Efforts
- International Updates
- Update on PSA Funding Timeline

Produce Safety Alliance Team

The image features a map of the United States with various regions highlighted in different colors. Overlaid on the map are several portrait photos of team members, each with a text box containing their name and title. The regions and their corresponding members are:

- Spanish-Language EA** (Southwest): Mariana Villarreal D.V.M., Ph.D. and Davis Blasini, M.S.
- Southwest EA**: Thais Ramos, Ph.D.
- Northwest EA**: Collins Bugingo, Ph.D.
- Spanish-Language EA** (Northwest): Ricardo Orellana, Ph.D. and Laura Acuña-Maldonado, Ph.D.
- EA** (Midwest): Don Stoeckel, Ph.D.
- Midwest EA**: Laurie George, Ph.D.
- Southeast EA**: Tommy Saunders, M.S.
- PSA Coordinator & Northeast EA**: Donna Clements, M.S.
- Cornell Agritech**: Betsy Bihn, Ph.D., Michele Humiston, Rob Way, and Toria Melville.

The cutest PSA Team Members continue to grow!



**Lander –
(Gretchen)**

Joined the team Dec. 2020
PSA Alumnus



**Beau –
(Donna)**

Joined the team Aug. 2021



**Jimmy –
(Tommy)**

Joined the team May 2021



2022: Building and Adapting

- Hiring and Training new PSA Team Members
 - Mariana, Collins, and Thais
- Settling into a new COVID normal
 - Optimizing training schedules, developing longer-term plans for PSA function
- Expanding into international training as a formal objective
- Preparing for new things
 - Subpart E release, Traceability, Trade disruptions



PSA Training Milestones

Overall Stats

Sept. 2016 – Sept. 30, 2022

79,707 Grower Training Participants

3,486 Train-the-Trainer Participants

Train-the-Trainer Courses

Domestic

- 97 Train-the-Trainer Courses
- 2,070 Trainers
- 281 Lead Trainers

International

- 25 Train-the-Trainer Courses
- 855 Trainers
- 224 Lead Trainers

Grower Training Courses

Domestic

- 2,473 Grower Training Courses
- 48,230 Grower Participants

International

- 1,269 Grower Training Courses
- 31,477 Grower Participants



PSA's Data Sharing Policy

- PSA and AFDO do not share contact information for course attendees or evaluation reports with anyone but the Lead Trainer(s)/Trainer(s) involved in the course
 - This is to protect the privacy of course participants and to ensure that fear of ending up on a “list” does not prevent growers from attending the PSA GT to receive the education they need
- Quarterly reports are produced which include state and country breakdown of courses and participants
 - Most recent report available through Sept. 30, 2022

Cornell CALS College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Produce Safety Alliance

TRAINING - PSA CURRICULUM - RESOURCES - FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT - THE ALLIANCE - CONTACT US - PSA EN ESPAÑOL

Graphical Reports and Distribution List

Training Report Distribution List

PSA Training Reports are comprehensive reports with charts, graphs, and maps detailing the training activities domestically and internationally. These reports are available upon request and distributed quarterly. Fill out the form below if you would like to be added to the distribution list to be sent the quarterly training reports when they become available.

Name *

Email Address *

Training

- Grower Training Course
- Train-the-Trainer Course
- Advanced Trainer Workshop
- Trainer Directory
- Trainer Resources



PSA Trainer Directory

- Please to update your entry with any changes!

Produce Safety Alliance Trainer Directory

- Trainers listed in this directory have attended a [Produce Safety Alliance Train-the-Trainer Course](#), agreed to be publicly listed in this directory, and taught at least one PSA Grower Train-the-Trainer course in their recent [quarterly training report](#) as some trainers choose to not be listed in the directory or are not actively training.
- For trainers, please use the [Update my Entry form](#) to request a listing update or to be added to this directory.
- View information about our trainer types: [PSA Trainer](#) and [PSA Lead Trainer](#), [PSA Trainer-of-Trainers \(TOT\)](#).

Search Options

First Name Last Name Business

Select a Language Select a State Select a Country Select a Trainer Type

Total results found in the Trainer Directory: 32

Name	Business	Location
Laura Acuña-Maldonado Phone: 607-882-5635 Email: lea6@cornell.edu	Produce Safety Alliance	New York United States
Elizabeth Bihn Phone: 315-787-2625 Email: eab38@cornell.edu	Produce Safety Alliance	New York United States

Update my Entry - For Trainers Only

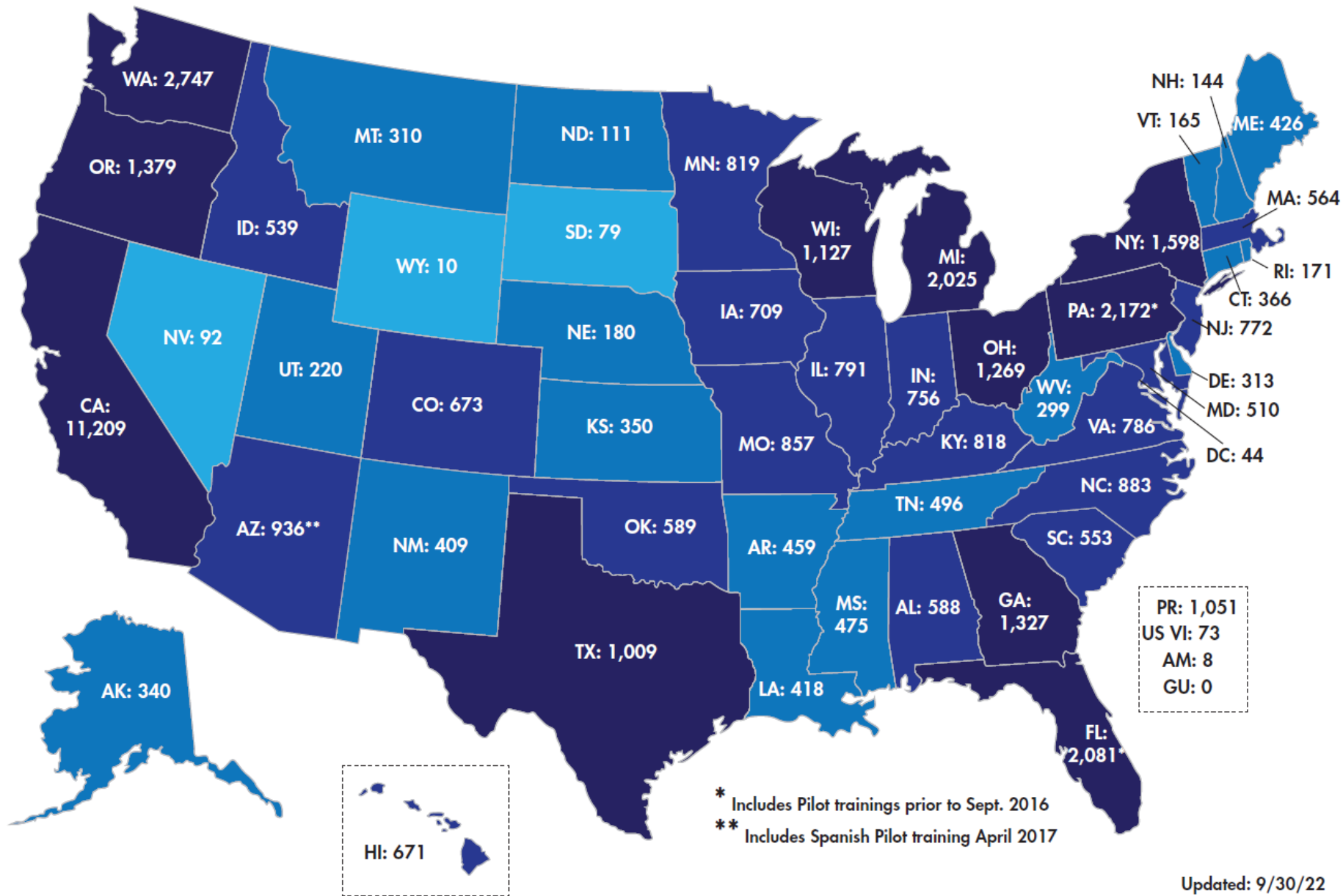
Please use the form below to request changes in a listing or if you have completed a Train-the-Trainer course and would like to be added to this directory.

Name *

Email *

Nationwide Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training Course Participants

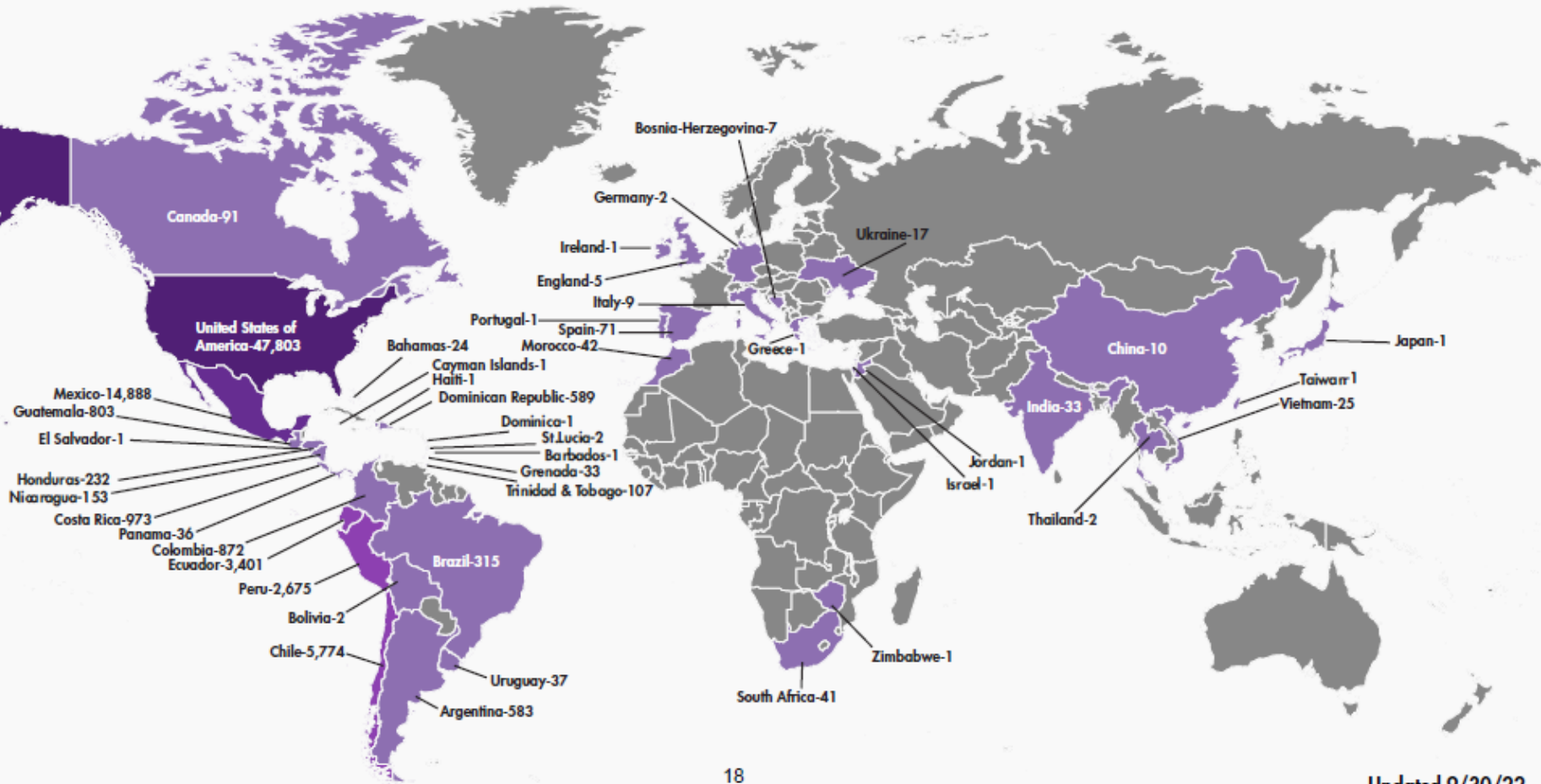
Locations of Participants Through September 2022 (In-Person, Remote, and Online Deliveries)



Updated: 9/30/22

Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training Course Participants

Locations of Participants Through September 2022 (In-Person, Remote, and Online Deliveries)





Remote Training Updates

- The Temporary PSA Grower Training Course Policy will be in effect until **June 30, 2023**
 - Visit <https://cals.cornell.edu/produce-safety-alliance/training/grower-training-course/remote-delivery> for details
 - FAQ document also available
- Currently analyzing evaluation data to determine whether the remote training policy will be made permanent

REMINDER!

30 participant maximum for remote trainings



PSA Grower Trainings

Trainer Discussion

- What is the demand for Grower Trainings (GTs)? **(poll)**
- Do you think all of your covered farms have attended a GT? **(poll)**
- How can we help engage and identify growers who need to be trained? **(chat)**




Online PSA Grower Training Updates

- The Online English PSA Grower Training Course continues to have high enrollment
 - 3-week, asynchronous, instructor-assisted
 - Currently led by the PSA team
 - 14-day requirement that participants submit at least one discussion
- Currently enrolling through spring 2023
- Registration cost has been subsidized with PSA time
 - Discount for English course was available through the COVID pandemic
 - Discounted price no longer be available as we work with external PSA Lead Trainers, so full registration cost of \$450 will be charged in courses offered after March 2023.
- Finalizing the Online Spanish PSA Grower Training Course
 - Anticipate an early 2023 launch



Online PSA Grower Training Updates

- Finalizing the Online Spanish PSA Grower Training Course
 - Anticipate an early 2023 launch
- Initial courses will be subsidized as was done for the English
 - This means the courses will be offered for \$125 per seat
 - PSA team will teach initial courses
- We will send announcement through listservs and newsletter when enrollment begins



eCornell

Curso de capacitación para productores de la Alianza PSA (Produce Safety Alliance)

Atajos del curso

- ▼ Módulo 0) Para empezar
 - Descarga de responsabilidad de la Alianza para la inocuidad de los productos agrícolas frescos (Produce Safety Alliance)
 - Política de plagio
 - Política del día 14
 - Leer: Sobre la Alianza para la inocuidad de los productos agrícolas frescos Produce Safety Alliance
 - Ver video: Introducción al manual de capacitación para productores de la Alianza-PSA
 - Tarea opcional — Preséntese ante el grupo
- ▼ Módulo 1) Introducción a la inocuidad de los productos agrícolas frescos
- ▼ Módulo 2) Salud, higiene y capacitación de los trabajadores

Lo que incluye este curso:

- Los requisitos reglamentarios de la Norma de inocuidad de los productos agrícolas frescos de FSMA
- La base de las Buenas Prácticas Agrícolas e información de la cogestión
- Detalles de cómo desarrollar un plan de inocuidad de los alimentos para la huerta
- Retroalimentación y asistencia por parte de Instructores Líderes de la Alianza PSA
- [Una copia en PDF del manual del curso de capacitación para productores de la Alianza PSA \(P.S.A.\)](#)

Por hacer

Nada por ahora



Reminder: PSA TTT Prerequisite

- Effective October 1, 2021, all individuals interested in enrolling in a PSA TTT Course must have attended at least one registered PSA GT Course.
- Successfully completing an in-person, online, or remote PSA Grower Training Course meets this requirement

<https://cals.cornell.edu/produce-safety-alliance/training/train-trainer-course>



Our website has changed!

- PSA website has migrated to a new platform
- We've tried to make the new site as easy to navigate as the previous one
- Hyperlinks to resources and materials have changed
- We recommend updating any PSA hyperlinks within your resources





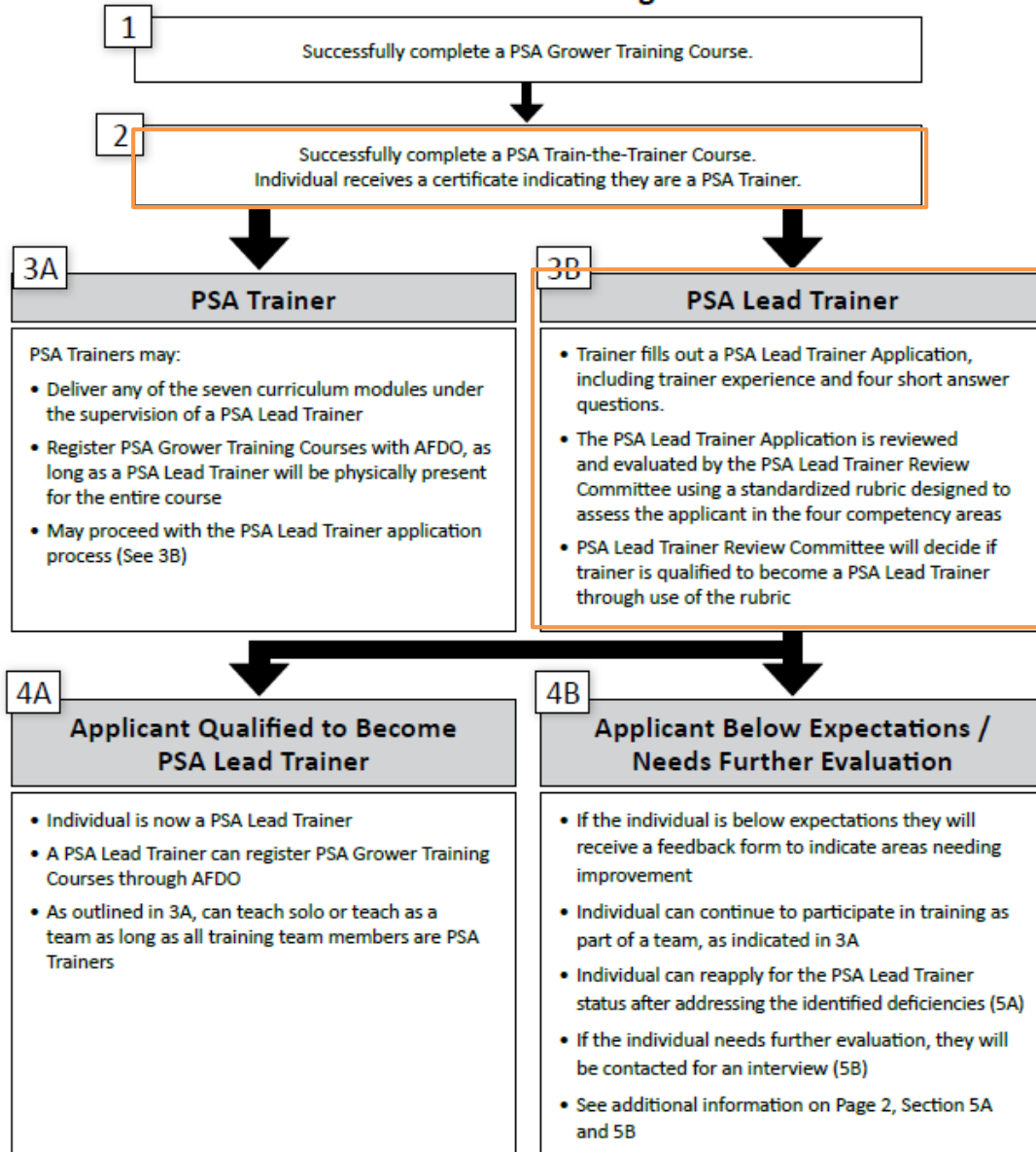
PSA Lead Trainer Application Process Pause

- Acceptance of PSA Lead Trainer Applications has been paused until January 9, 2023
- Temporary pause due to website migration to make sure new website is functional
 - Migration impacted all PSA webforms
- Temporary pause allows us to streamline the submission process for PSA Lead Trainer Applications
 - Applicants will keep same short answer questions



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PSA Trainer Flow Diagram





5

Applicant Below Expectation / Needs Further Evaluation

5A

Below Expectations

If applicant is scored “Below Expectations” in any area of the application, they will not achieve PSA Lead Trainer status.

- Individual can reapply for PSA Lead Trainer status after addressing the identified deficiencies
- Actions to address deficiencies could include the following:
 - Re-attend a PSA Train-the-Trainer Course
 - Participate in registered PSA Grower Training Courses under the supervision of a PSA Lead Trainer
 - Take and document other actions to improve knowledge (e.g., enrolling in a microbiology short course)
- All actions taken to improve deficiencies must be communicated in the reapplication. Reapplication can occur no sooner than 6 weeks after the date of the decline letter

5B

Needs Further Evaluation

If applicant is scored “Needs Further Evaluation” on any of the four short answer questions, a telephone interview will be scheduled with the applicant to collect additional information.

- The telephone interview will last approximately 1 hour (likely less) and will be conducted with at least 2 members of the PSA Lead Trainer Review Committee
- Applicants will be asked at least one additional question from any area that “Needs Further Evaluation”. Additional clarification questions may be asked by committee members
- PSA Lead Trainer Review Committee will decide if trainer is qualified to become a PSA Lead Trainer
- If applicant does not achieve PSA Lead Trainer status through the follow-up interview, they may proceed with the actions outlined in 5A
- If applicant achieves PSA Lead Trainer status, they may proceed with the actions outlined in 4A

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Appeals Process

If an applicant wishes to appeal the decision of the PSA Lead Trainer Review Committee, an appeal form can be filled out. The appeal will then be reviewed by the PSA Lead Trainer Review Committee.



PSA Lead Trainer Evaluation Components

PSA Lead Trainer candidates will be evaluated by two components:

1. PSA Trainer Experience
 - Educational background
 - Training and teaching experience
 - Produce production and handling experience
2. Short Answer Questions
 - Four short answer questions relating to each of the four competency areas including knowledge of the Produce Safety Rule



PSA Policy Reminders

- **Printed PSA Grower Training Manuals**

- Printed PSA Grower Training manuals are required for in-person and remote PSA Grower Trainings
- Participants **MUST** have a printed manual prior to the start of the course or they will not be eligible for the training certificate
- Participants cannot be expected to print their own copies
- If participants do not have manuals, we will follow up with the PSA Lead Trainer(s) on record

- **Electronic PSA Grower Training Manual**

- Available for download as a resource
- **MAY NOT** be used as substitute for the printed manual for in-person and remote
- <https://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/curriculum/english-grower-manual-v12-interactive-pdf-download/>

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- Produce safety can be challenging for a number of reasons.
 1. Many fruits and vegetables are consumed raw, so there is no cooking or "kill step" to destroy pathogens that may be on the produce.
 2. Contamination events are often sporadic, affecting small portions of the crop, so knowing contamination has occurred is difficult.
 3. Microorganisms, as their name suggests, are not easily seen, so contamination is difficult to detect visually.
 4. Contamination is usually present at very low levels and difficult to detect through product testing.
 5. Rough surfaces (e.g., cantaloupe), large folded surface areas (e.g., leafy greens), and stem scars (e.g., tomatoes) provide great places for pathogens to hide, thereby making pathogens difficult to remove by any amount of washing at the farm level or in the consumer's home.
- For these reasons, the focus of produce safety is on preventing contamination from occurring in the first place. Contamination is difficult to remove once present.

Notes:

Online Course Version
For distribution to participants in the Online PSA Grower Training Course. No other use or modification is authorized.
% <https://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/> for web site
Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training Course • Version 1.2 • © 2019

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Grower Training
Version 1.2



Reminder: Be Clear When Marketing Your Courses

- **Remote Course**
 - Course led in real time by instructors delivered with video conferencing
- **In-Person Course**
 - Some places are allowing in-person training
 - Important to let people know if vaccinations and masks are required and if there will be social distancing
- **Online Course**
 - A three-week course that can be completed at your own pace
 - The online course is expected to take 15-30 hours for successful completion. Important to share required discussions!
- See details at <https://cals.cornell.edu/produce-safety-alliance/training/grower-training-course>



Reminder: Be Clear When Marketing Your Courses

Remember: Advertise as a *PSA Grower Training Course*!

There are other food safety training courses available (e.g., GAPs) and it is important for participants to know what course they are taking.

- **In-Person Course**
 - Some places are allowing in-person training
 - Important to let people know if vaccinations and masks are required and if there will be social distancing
- **Online Course**
 - A three-week course that can be completed at your own pace
 - The online course is expected to take 15-30 hours for successful completion. Important to share required discussions!
- See details at <https://cals.cornell.edu/produce-safety-alliance/training/grower-training-course>



Evaluation Reminders

- **PSA Evaluations – Remote Trainings**
 - Remote PSA Grower Trainings utilize Qualtrics evaluations
 - Must achieve 50% return rate; if not achieved for 3 or more courses, PSA Lead Trainer status may be revoked for delivering remote courses
- **PSA Evaluations – In-person Trainings**
 - Changes to return of paper evaluations for in-person PSA Grower Trainings
Produce Safety Alliance –Attn: Evaluation Processing
Food Research Laboratory
665 W North Street
Geneva, NY 14456
 - Reminder: Option for scanning and returning **paper** evaluations from in-person

**REMINDER: Do not reuse evaluations
(paper or Qualtrics URLs)**



PSA Policy Reminders

- **Please make sure to register courses at least 2 weeks in advance!**
 - This provides AFDO the necessary time to generate the registration paperwork and set up the course within the database.
 - Retroactive registration not accepted unless all paperwork can be presented including PSA evaluations, course documentation, and proof of PSA Lead Trainer/Trainer attendance, and subject to \$250 administrative fee.
 - If the training date changes, please be sure to contact AFDO to update your course registration – this impacts the course ID and evaluation!
- **PSA Lead Trainer Responsibilities**
 - Reminder: PSA Lead Trainers are responsible for ensuring that all paperwork is completed and returned to AFDO after the course concludes, regardless of other individuals or organizations assisting with the course.
 - ALL PSA Lead Trainers who participate in the course will be responsible and subject to potential Lead Trainer status suspension or revoking if course policies are not followed.



Important Trainer Resources

Bookmark this
NEW URL!

PowerPoint Access

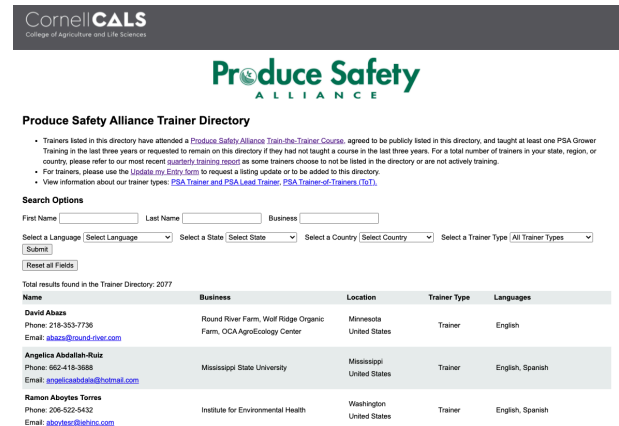
- Download at:
<https://cals.cornell.edu/produce-safety-alliance/grower-training-powerpoint-modules>

Keep your contact info up-to-date with AFDO and the PSA

- resources.producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/directory
- Use the 'Update my Entry' section

Check Updates on the Trainer Update Page

- <https://cals.cornell.edu/produce-safety-alliance/training/psa-trainer-updates>



Produce Safety Alliance Trainer Directory

- Trainers listed in this directory have attended a [Produce Safety Alliance Train-the-Trainer Course](#), agreed to be publicly listed in this directory, and taught at least one PSA Grower Training in the last three years or requested to remain on this directory if they had not taught a course in the last three years. For a total number of trainers in your state, region or country, please refer to our most recent [county, region or country](#) as some trainers choose to not be listed in the directory or are not actively training.
- For trainers, please use the [update my Entry form](#) to request a listing update or to be added to this directory.
- View information about our trainer types: [PSA Trainer](#) and [PSA Lead Trainer](#); [PSA Trainer-of-Trainers \(ToT\)](#).

Search Options

First Name Last Name Business

Select a Language Select a State Select a Country Select a Trainer Type

Total results found in the Trainer Directory: 2077

Name	Business	Location	Trainer Type	Languages
David Abasz	Round River Farm, Wolf Ridge Organic Farm, OCA AgroEcology Center	Minnesota United States	Trainer	English
Angelica Abdallah-Ruiz	Mississippi State University	Mississippi United States	Trainer	English, Spanish
Ramen Aboytas Torres	Institute for Environmental Health	Washington United States	Trainer	English, Spanish



New Resources

Cornell **CALS** College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Produce Safety Alliance

- TRAINING - PSA CURRICULUM - RESOURCES - FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT - THE ALLIANCE - CONTACT US - PSA EN ESPAÑOL

HOME

General Resources

Recursos en español

Trainer Resources

Farm Food Safety Plan

Writing Resources

Produce Safety Educators' Group

Resources

Course Set Up

- ▲ [Register a PSA Grower Training with AFDO](#) - Courses must be registered at least 2 weeks in advance of the training date.
- ▲ [PSA Grower Training Course Agenda Template](#)
- ▲ [PSA Grower Training Course Set Up Guide](#)
- ▲ [PSA Grower Training Course Checklist](#)
- ▲ [PSA Grower Training Course Template Language for Advertising](#)

<https://cals.cornell.edu/produce-safety-alliance/resources>

Resources

General Resources

Recursos en español

Trainer Resources

More Than Words illustrations

Farm Food Safety Plan



General Resources

- Produce Safety Factors to Consider when Using BSAAO: factsheet
- PSA GT Manual in Korean
 - Joins English, Spanish, Chinese, Portuguese



Produce Safety

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Produce Safety Factors to Consider when Using Biological Soil Amendments of Animal Origin (BSAAO)

Ricardo Orellana, Donna Clements, Davis Blasini, Collins Buggingo, Laurie George, Laura Pineda-Bermudez, Thomas Saunders, Mariana Villarreal Silva, Elizabeth Bihn – August 2022

The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule (PSR), a regulation intended to reduce the number of foodborne illness outbreaks associated with fruits and vegetables, establishes requirements for certain agricultural inputs ([FSMA PSR](#))¹. Regulated inputs include biological soil amendments that consist, in whole or in part, of materials of animal origin (FDA [BSAAO factsheet](#))². [Examples of biological soil amendments of animal origin \(BSAAO\) include](#) untreated manure, composted manure, animal mortalities, blood meal, fish hydrolysate, and other non-fecal animal byproducts. It is important to note that the term 'BSAAO' does not include any form of human waste, because human waste may contain pharmaceuticals, heavy metals, and human pathogens, though the FSMA PSR does allow "sewage sludge biosolids used in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR part 503, subpart D, or equivalent regulatory requirements"³.

Current Soil Amendment Challenges

Growers are currently facing disrupted shipments of chemical fertilizers, food, and other products. Due to these global supply chain disruptions, the price of chemical fertilizers in the United States has more than doubled since 2021 ([USDA](#))⁴. High prices and lack of access to chemical fertilizers have resulted in growers looking for alternatives for chemical fertilizers ([Washington Post Article](#))⁵.

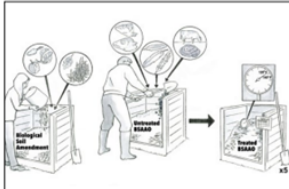
BSAAO containing animal manure or compost may be used as a substitute or supplement for chemical fertilizers; these amendments help to improve soil fertility and health by incorporating organic matter into the soil, adding supplemental nutrients, and improving soil structure, porosity, and [water holding capacity](#)⁶.

Despite these benefits, there are limitations and risks to the use of certain BSAAO. BSAAO often have a lower nutrient content than chemical soil amendments, meaning that when BSAAO are used to replace chemical soil amendments a larger volume may be needed to provide an equivalent nutrient load. BSAAO can also be a source of human pathogens, however such risks can be managed with the proper knowledge, training, and practices.

Managing BSAAO Risks for Microbial Safety in Fresh Produce: Treatment Status

BSAAO can pose a food safety risk by introducing human pathogens into the soil and to fresh produce. Growers selecting and applying soil amendments on produce fields should be familiar with the risks and practices to mitigate those risks. The primary factor that growers should consider when selecting a BSAAO is whether the amendment is treated or untreated.

Scientifically validated treatment processes, such as composting, kill human pathogens through high temperatures and microbial competition.



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V 1.1 • 10/13/2022



Alternate Language Policy

- For those serving growers that need a PSA Grower Training Course in a language not currently available or for those with limited literacy
- Policy can be found here at PSA Curriculum → Alternative Language Delivery policy
- Addresses language barriers by making the curriculum and training available to a wider audience
 - Allows for trainings to be conducted in the language (verbal and written) that is best for participants
- **Plan Ahead!** Likely increases planning and organizational effort for trainers in order to deliver high quality training
- Contact Donna Clements (dmp274@cornell.edu) if you are interested in training under this policy



New Resources: 'More Than Words' Illustrations



Packinghouse Flow: Considerations for Food Safety

- [High resolution image - Packinghouse Flow: Considerations for Food Safety](#)
- [Teaching guide - Packinghouse Flow: Considerations for Food Safety](#)



Cleaning and Sanitizing Tools

- [High resolution image - Cleaning and Sanitizing Tools](#)
- [Teaching guide - Cleaning and Sanitizing Tools](#)



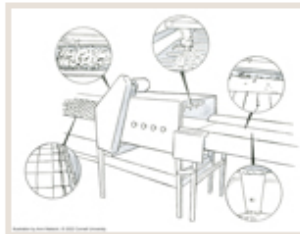
Harvest Equipment Sanitation

- [High resolution image - Harvest Equipment Sanitation](#)
- [Teaching guide - Harvest Equipment Sanitation](#)



Packinghouse Sanitation: Dry Cleaning

- [High resolution image - Packinghouse Sanitation: Dry Cleaning](#)
- [Teaching guide - Packinghouse Sanitation: Dry Cleaning](#)



Sanitation Challenges: Hard to Clean Equipment

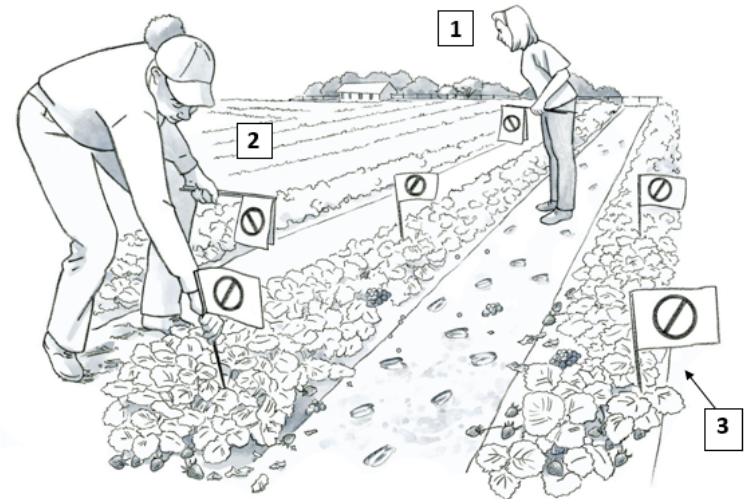
- [High resolution image - Sanitation Challenges: Hard to Clean Equipment](#)
- [Teaching guide - Sanitation Challenges: Hard to Clean Equipment](#)



'More than Words' Teaching Notes

- Each illustration is accompanied by an illustration guide and teaching notes
 - Key teaching points
 - Relevant FSMA references
 - Suggested location for use in PSA GT
 - Supporting resources
- Will be translating into Spanish

Establishing No Harvest Buffer Zones
Illustration Guide and Teaching Notes



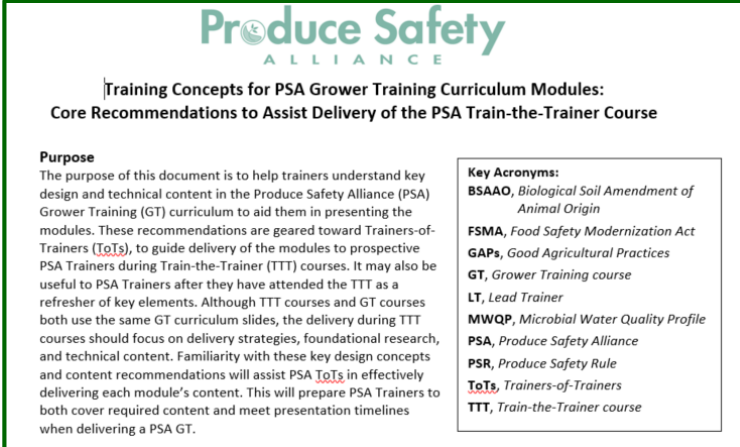
Key Teaching Points

1. Workers must be able to recognize when produce must not be harvested. This requires training and understanding food safety risks in the field, such as those from wildlife or domestic animals. Review § 112.22(b)(1), § 112.83, and § 112.112. In this illustration, two workers scout for evidence of animal intrusion and fecal contamination in a strawberry field prior to harvest. Visible hoof prints and deer feces are shown in the rows as well as in the path between the rows of strawberries.
2. While buffer zones are not required to be established by the FSMA Produce Safety Rule, they are one way to manage risk. Buffer zones may vary from a 1-25 foot radius, depending on the type of feces, extent of the contamination, and environmental conditions such as prior rain or wind events. Growers should also consult with current industry guidance and marketing agreements for specifics of buffer zone distances required for certain commodities such as leafy greens.



Oldies but Goodies: Training Refreshers

- Presenting the PSA GT Course and need a refresher?
 - Training Concepts for PSA GT Modules: Core Recommendations to Assist Delivery of the PSA TTT Course
 - PSA TTT Refresher Office Hours (available for each module)
 - Note: Planning to record a new refresher for Module 5.1

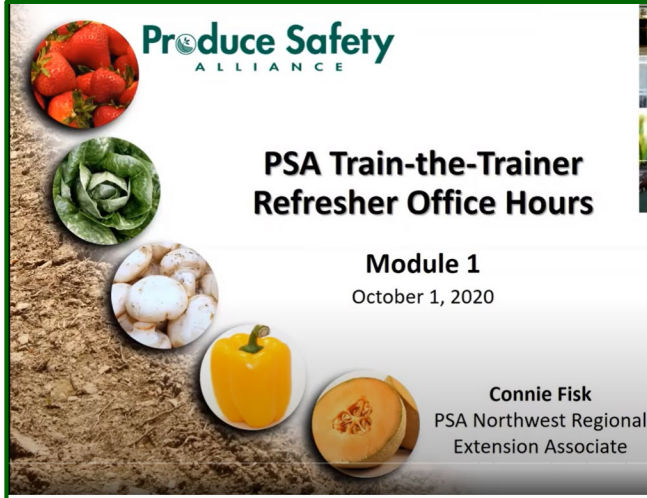


Produce Safety ALLIANCE

Training Concepts for PSA Grower Training Curriculum Modules:
Core Recommendations to Assist Delivery of the PSA Train-the-Trainer Course

Purpose
The purpose of this document is to help trainers understand key design and technical content in the Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) Grower Training (GT) curriculum to aid them in presenting the modules. These recommendations are geared toward Trainers-of-Trainers (ToTs), to guide delivery of the modules to prospective PSA Trainers during Train-the-Trainer (TTT) courses. It may also be useful to PSA Trainers after they have attended the TTT as a refresher of key elements. Although TTT courses and GT courses both use the same GT curriculum slides, the delivery during TTT courses should focus on delivery strategies, foundational research, and technical content. Familiarity with these key design concepts and content recommendations will assist PSA ToTs in effectively delivering each module's content. This will prepare PSA Trainers to both cover required content and meet presentation timelines when delivering a PSA GT.

Key Acronyms:
BSAAO, Biological Soil Amendment of Animal Origin
FSMA, Food Safety Modernization Act
GAPs, Good Agricultural Practices
GT, Grower Training course
LT, Lead Trainer
MWQP, Microbial Water Quality Profile
PSA, Produce Safety Alliance
PSR, Produce Safety Rule
ToTs, Trainers-of-Trainers
TTT, Train-the-Trainer course



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PSA Train-the-Trainer Refresher Office Hours

Module 1
October 1, 2020

Connie Fisk
PSA Northwest Regional Extension Associate



Produce Safety Educators' Group: English

- Group is open to the public; do not have to be a PSA Trainer to participate
- 62 meetings held since 2013
- Most recent (yesterday): *Building Interactive Elements into Your Produce Safety Training*
- Upcoming topics: Dates TBD
 - Final Traceability Rule
 - Subpart E (Agricultural Water): Harvest and Postharvest Water
- Also available in Spanish!





Produce Safety Educators' Group: Spanish

- Group is open to the public; do not have to be a PSA Trainer to participate
- Started in September 2021
 - 9 meetings held so far
 - Recordings available on website
- Next on November 9th, 2022 from 2:00-3:30 PM
 - *Environmental monitoring programs and sanitation of equipment surfaces with the highest prevalence of Listeria spp. in produce packinghouses*
- Upcoming Topic: Final Traceability Rule
- Participation is going strong





Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing, and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption Relating to Agricultural Water

- FDA released the proposed revisions to Subpart E – Agricultural Water on December 2, 2021
 - Docket FDA-2021-N-0471
 - <https://www.regulations.gov/document/FDA-2021-N-0471-0001>
- Proposed revisions move from testing as the primary metric for decision making to an Agricultural Water Assessment (AgWA) meant to look at the whole water system
- The expectation is for each grower to set their standards and understand why these standards are appropriate for their farm
 - Should be prepared to explain to inspectors



PSA Subpart E Supplemental Slides

- Includes proposed Subpart E requirements and enforcement/compliance dates
- Gives recommendations on how to present information and where within PSA GT
- Available in English and Spanish



Agricultural Water Assessment

- Growers would be required to evaluate these factors to identify conditions reasonably likely to introduce known or reasonably foreseeable hazards onto produce or food contact surfaces

Ag Water system	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Source and location (surface, ground, municipal)• Water distribution system (open or closed)• Degree of protection from possible contamination including other users, animal impacts, and adjacent land uses
Ag Water practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Type of application method (overhead, drip, furrow, flood)• Time interval between last direct application and harvest
Crop characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Susceptibility to surface adhesion or internalization
Environmental Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Frequency of rain or extreme weather that might impact the agricultural water system or might damage produce• Air temperatures• Sun (UV) exposure
Other factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Includes results of testing

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

3



FDA Subpart E Compliance Dates

- FDA will begin enforcement for harvest and postharvest agricultural water requirements

Business Size	Water Related Enforcement Dates
All other businesses (>\$500K)	January 26, 2023
Small businesses (>\$250K-500K)	January 26, 2024
Very small businesses (>\$25K-250K)	January 26, 2025



FDA Proposes Subpart E Compliance Dates

- FDA proposes compliance dates for proposed pre-harvest agricultural water requirements for covered produce other than sprouts

Business Size	Proposed Water Related Compliance Dates
All other businesses (>\$500K)	9 months after the effective date
Small businesses (>\$250K-500K)	1 year, 9 months after the effective date
Very small businesses (>\$25K-250K)	2 years, 9 months after the effective date



Presenting Module 5.1

- Reminder that trainers must present all required slides in Module 5.1 (Agricultural Water) in the PSA GT
 - As always, trainers may skip optional slides
 - May add supplemental slides
 - Make a plan for how to fit in the extra material within the time frame allotted for your presentation
 - Trainers need to be clear supplemental slides are proposed not final
 - Trainers can decide how much depth to cover



Assessing Water Systems Now

- Growers currently testing their water may continue to do so
- If not testing, growers may consider starting to test to better understand their water quality
- Follow Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) to protect and maintain water quality
- **Develop water management strategies, such as water system surveys, to identify and reduce risks**
 - **PSA is actively creating materials to support these strategies**





PSA Plans for Subpart E Outreach: Curriculum Updates


- Update PSA Grower Training Curriculum (version 2.0)
 - Changes include updates to:
 - Module 1 (compliance dates)
 - Module 2 (postharvest water provisions)
 - Module 4 (adjacent land use, worker training)
 - Module 5.1 (entire module)
 - Module 5.2 (compliance dates, equivalent water testing methodology supplemental slides, water treatment, provision numbers)
 - Module 6 (postharvest water provisions)
 - Module 7 (documentation and recordkeeping; possibly traceability)
 - Perhaps more, depending on the final Rule
- Incorporating updates into curriculum translations



Plans for Subpart E Outreach: Getting Trainers Trained!

- Almost 3,500 PSA Trainers
- Host several PSA Train-the-Trainer (Ag Water Edition) courses to update PSA Trainers/Lead Trainers
 - Remote and In-person
- Anticipate participation in an update training will be required
 - Do not anticipate attending an entire new PSA TTT will be required – only Module 5 and any other places in curriculum where significant changes occur





Plans for Subpart E Outreach: Getting Growers Trained!

- Almost 80,000 PSA Grower Training participants
- Host several update trainings for PSA GT participants in English and Spanish
 - Remote and In-person
 - PSA Trainer delivered
- Attendance may be required. Will be tracked.





Plans for Subpart E Outreach: Materials & Resources Updates

- Updates to extension factsheets and resources
 - Required Records
- Materials to support implementation of an agricultural water assessment
- Research database of water quality research
- Hands-on, in-person workshop to help growers perform an AgWA





Your turn to provide more input on Subpart E outreach...

- Initial thoughts on our plans
 - Anything that jumps out to you immediately? (**chat**)
- What is your biggest concern about implementation of new Subpart E? (**chat**)



Proposed Traceability Rule

- Proposed Rule published September 2020
- The proposed timeline for implementation is 2 years after the effective date of the Final Rule
 - Anticipated effective date January 2023
 - Anticipated compliance date for all entities January 2025

Proposed Rule: Requirements for Additional Traceability Records for Certain Foods

At-A-Glance



The FDA is proposing to establish additional traceability recordkeeping requirements (beyond what is already required in existing regulations) for persons who manufacture, process, pack, or hold foods the Agency has designated for inclusion on the Food Traceability List. The proposed rule, "Requirements for Additional Traceability Records for Certain

Table 1.0 Food Traceability List

Foods	Description
Cheeses, other than hard cheeses	Includes all soft ripened or semi-soft cheeses, and fresh soft cheeses that are made with pasteurized or unpasteurized milk

www.fda.gov/media/142303/download



Plans for Traceability Rule Outreach and Educational Resources

- PSA has drafted supplemental slides that may be incorporated into PSA GTs
 - Plan to release slides after the Rule is finalized
- Planning PSA Educator’s Call on the topic, scheduled for late November/early December
- New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets ‘Guidance for Produce Traceability’
 - <https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2022/04/guidanceforproducetraceability-blueribbon.pdf>



PSA Spanish-language Efforts

- Still an expanding area for PSA team!
- Ensuring all PSA materials are available in Spanish
 - Translation of FSMA PSR Preamble to Spanish
- Hosting PSA TTTs and GTs
- Emphasis on developing and mentoring PSA trainers
 - Domestic and international
- New podcasts on the horizon
- Please reach out to collaborate!

The screenshot shows the website for the Produce Safety Alliance in Spanish. At the top, there is a red header with the Cornell CALS logo (College of Agriculture and Life Sciences) and the Cornell University seal. Below the header, the text reads 'Produce Safety Alliance en español'. A navigation menu includes links for 'CURSO PARA PRODUCTORES', 'CURSO CAPACITANDO AL INSTRUCTOR', 'CURRÍCULO DE LA PSA', 'RECURSOS', and 'FSMA'. Below the menu is a section titled 'QUIÉNES SOMOS' with a photograph of a produce display in a grocery store. At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a welcome message: '¡BIENVENIDO AL SITIO WEB DE LA ALIANZA (PRODUCE SAFETY ALLIANCE)!' and a tagline: 'Proporcionando conocimientos fundamentales con base científica sobre la inocuidad de los alimentos en la'.



International Trainings

- New cooperative agreement this year with FDA with international objectives
 - Hosting 15 PSA GTs in Mexico targeting onion, mango, and melon growers
 - If you have connections in Mexico, let us know so we can collaborate
- PSA team delivered three PSA GTs to dragon fruit industry in coordination with Mexican collaborators
 - 94 participants trained; 61 dragon fruit growers and 33 technicians
 - Helped underserved Mayan community members understand food safety expectations and gain access to the US market by meeting food safety requirements





AFDO/PSA Certificate of Completion cost adjustment

- Cost of AFDO/PSA Certificates of Course Completion are now offered at a tiered price structure
 - Certificates are \$35 for participants from high income countries
 - \$15 for participants from all other income countries (based on World Bank designation)
- Intent is to make certificate costs more equitable
- Responsibility of PSA Lead Trainer of each course to determine the correct cost





What can PSA do for you?

- Are there things we can do to support you? (**chat**)
 - Registering, hosting, policy issues
- Are there any additional resources that would help you during trainings? (**chat**)
 - Topic specific information (e.g., water, worker training)
 - More guidance/instruction on adding hands-on activities
 - Other





PSA Funding Timeline

- PSA funded on two cooperative agreements; USDA (9/30/23) and FDA (6/30/2024)
- Current outlook is that funding will be less than half of our operating budget beginning 10/1/23
 - This is not sustainable for the PSA team
- Things we have discussed
 - Inclusion in Farm Bill but this takes support from lots of states/people and although people say we are necessary, not sure that information is making it to those that decide
 - Other funding structures but none seem like a good fit given how we function (e.g., people we serve, changing needs, shifting regulations)
- Welcome thoughts about our value or funding ideas



PSA Advanced Trainer Workshop

- Took break during COVID because not a course that could go remote
- Hosted one in June 2022 in Geneva, NY
- Oddly, not attracting active PSA Trainers
 - This is a HUGE concern...HUGE since it was developed to improve PSA Trainer knowledge and comfort with content areas
- We think this has to do with costs
 - Trying to figure out how to get supplemental funding because the course is expensive to host



PSA Advanced Trainer Workshop

- Tentative upcoming training Feb 6-10, 2023 in Lake Alfred, FL
- Interested in hearing from you all, as trainers, to find out if you are interested
 - IF so, what has stopped you from attending



USDA FSA Program: Financial Assistance through Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops Program

- Farm Service Agency (FSA) program to reimburse expenses associated with obtaining or renewing FFSP and certification
- Informational webinar on November 3rd, 2-3pm EST
 - Registration link:
https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_v4FQsCFLROmC8ZvuZ73VrA

USDA Farm Service Agency
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops Webinar

When:
November 3, 2022
2:00-3:00 p.m. Eastern

Scan the QR Code to register for the webinar.



Thank you!



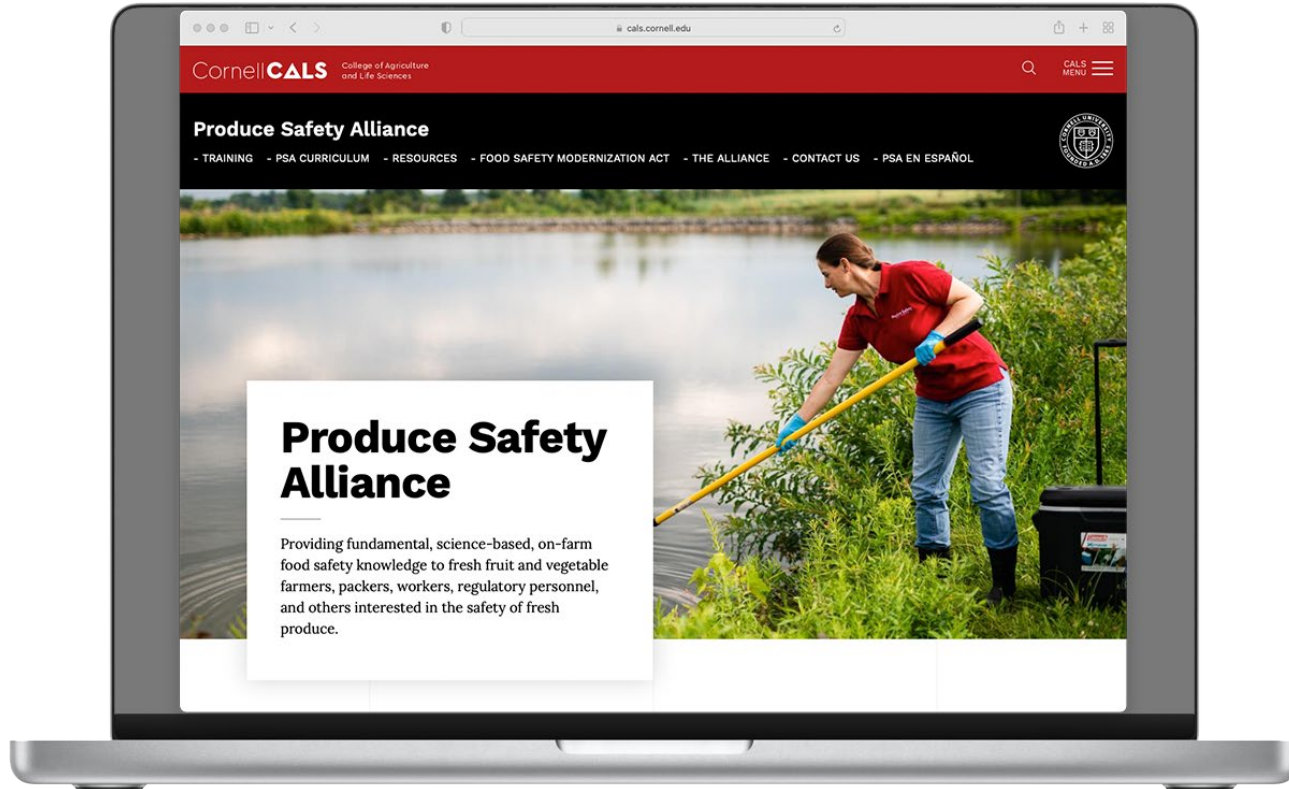
- For your time today and everyday
 - For engaging with the PSA and constantly striving to improve trainings and educational experiences
 - For all the ways you support growers
- Always interested in your feedback!
 - Talked about changes we have made to policies and changing our focus to address needs
 - These result from feedback from you and others
 - Keep it coming! Always open to ideas, suggestions, and criticisms. Only get better through honest dialogue
- Excited for the many good things to come!



The PSA Website

English: producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu

Spanish: es.producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu





The PSA Website

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Spanish: es.producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu



2022 Annual Update webinar (Spanish):
November 30, 2022 at 2-4pm ET

Next Annual Meeting:

Tuesday, October 24, 2023 (English)

Tuesday, November 28, 2023 (Spanish)