

Produce Safety ALLIANCE

Providing fundamental, science-based, on-farm food safety knowledge to fresh fruit and vegetable farmers with an emphasis on small scale operations

What is the Produce Safety Alliance (PSA)?

The Produce Safety Alliance was established to help prepare fresh produce growers to meet the regulatory requirements included in the United States Food and Drug Administration's Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule. The PSA is supported through a cooperative agreement funded by the USDA and the FDA.

Why is the PSA Important?

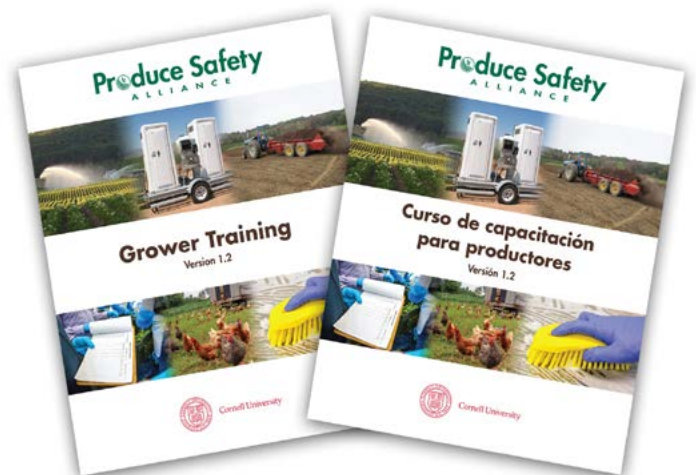
The PSA provides fundamental, science-based, on-farm food safety knowledge to fresh fruit and vegetable farmers, packers, regulatory personnel and others interested in the safety of fresh produce. This includes assessing produce safety risks, implementing Good Agricultural Practices, and how to meet regulatory demands associated with the FSMA Produce Safety Rule, as well as meet buyer requirements for food safety.



Key Details about the PSA Grower Training Curriculum

Through a four year nationwide development process, including ten Working Committees and eight grower focus groups, a seven module curriculum was developed. The curriculum includes content covering Good Agricultural Practices, co-management, and the new FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirements.

The curriculum is designed to meet grower needs. Modules 1 through 6 align with sections outlined in the FSMA Produce Safety Rule. Module 7 is focused on helping growers develop a written farm food safety plan. Even though a farm food safety plan is not required in the FSMA Produce Safety Rule, it is included in the curriculum because growers expressed a need for a plan in focus groups and as part of the Working Committees. Many growers need a written farm food safety plan in order to meet buyer demands for a third-party audit to verify produce safety practices are in place. The PSA Grower Training curriculum is now available in five languages, Chinese, English, Korean, Portuguese, and Spanish, and likely more coming soon.





Produce Safety Alliance Curriculum Modules

Module 1: Introduction to Produce Safety

Module 2: Worker Health, Hygiene, and Training

Module 3: Soil Amendments

Module 4: Wildlife, Domesticated Animals, and Land Use

Module 5: *Part 1:* Production Water; *Part 2:* Postharvest Water

Module 6: Postharvest Handling and Sanitation

Module 7: How to Develop a Farm Food Safety Plan

PSA Efforts to Support Produce Grower Trainings

In order to effectively provide produce safety information, educational resources, and technical assistance to an estimated 186,000 fruit and vegetable farms across the country, the PSA currently has collaborators and trainers in all 50 states from Land Grant Universities, the produce industry, regulatory offices, and grower organizations—and our network is continually growing! The PSA has developed a Train-the-Trainer Course to create a cadre of qualified trainers to support dissemination of the curriculum nationally. The PSA is also collaborating with FDA, the Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (JIFSAN), and other organizations to support international training programs for both growers and trainers. The PSA launched both the Grower Trainings and the Train-the-Trainer Courses in September 2016. Trainings are being conducted on a regular basis throughout the U.S. and are listed on the PSA Website!

How do I get more information about the PSA and training opportunities?

Visit our website at producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu or es.producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu (in Spanish). Join our listserv and follow us on social media to stay up to date with the PSA's education and training activities as well as the FSMA Produce Safety Rule. In addition, the curriculum development process can be reviewed and resources can be found on the website, including links to academic collaborators, government websites, industry organizations, training events, and educational resources related to produce safety.

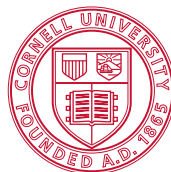
Have more questions? Do not hesitate to contact us!

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