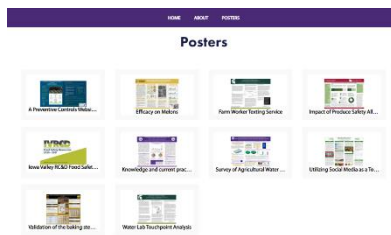


North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension and Technical Assistance

April 2022

NCR FSMA Annual Conference



Thank you to the 94 people who attended the NCR FSMA virtual annual conference on March 1 and 3, 2022. You can see powerpoint slides from most of the presenters on [our website](#). The [Poster Session](#) is still available. You'll have until April 10 to read those posters/powerpoint slides or watch the videos. If you watch/read five of them, [fill out this form](#), and we'll send you a \$10 gift card as a "door prize."

Please fill out the [annual conference evaluation](#) by March 31.

NCR FSMA Center Changes

We will have some position changes within the NCR FSMA Center. Angela Shaw (current PI) will move to Co-PI in August 2022 and Ellen Johnsen (current Project Coordinator) will move into the PI role. Angela Shaw has accepted a faculty position at Texas Tech University within the Animal and Food Science Department. Angela will remain in a leadership role until the end of this grant. All of the deliverables and timelines of this grant will remain unchanged. Please contact [Angela Shaw](#) if you have questions about this change.

FDA Updates

On March 21, the FDA released a new user-friendly online **Agricultural Water Assessment Builder** to help farms understand the proposed requirements for an agricultural water assessment in the **Agricultural Water Proposed Rule**. Use of the tool is optional. If finalized, the proposed rule would require farms to conduct systems-based agricultural water assessments to determine and guide appropriate measures to minimize potential risks associated with pre-harvest agricultural water. The Agricultural Water Assessment Builder prompts users to answer questions and/or fill in information specific to their farms. Information entered into the tool is not shared with the FDA and will not be saved.

In March, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration **finalized guidance** to help companies prepare to **quickly and effectively remove violative products** from the market.

In mid-March, the FDA **issued guidance on its intent not to enforce certain provisions** of five

rules that implement the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). As they began implementation of these rules, the FDA received questions and comments from stakeholders regarding specific provisions. In certain situations, the FDA has determined it is appropriate to take time to consider options, including rulemaking, to address concerns raised by stakeholders, while continuing to protect public health.

Train-the-Trainer Bridging the GAPS May 19 and 20

Fruit and vegetable growers are continually assessing their operations to determine where they can limit risk and increase productivity. As a result, many have expressed interest in learning more about how on-farm pre-harvest water treatment systems work and how they may fit within their current setup. Come for two, ½-day virtual sessions with extension specialists from across the United States to gain exposure to this newly developed curriculum so that you may offer it to your stakeholders. Goals of the course are to teach participants about different approaches to treating water on-farm; how to implement these systems to meet requirements of the Produce Safety Rule; and how to verify that the system is operating as intended. The course will be held on Zoom, May 19, 1pm-5pm CST and May 20, 8am-12pm CST. Registration is free and includes all course resources (TTT manual, Grower Training workbook PDFs, Hands-on activity PDFs, and Module PowerPoints). Registration link:

https://iastate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eXTxFbh5Bd4OMU6

Registration deadline is April 29, and the course is capped at 30 participants.

Add-On Reviewers

If you are interested in reviewing add on materials through the Produce Safety Clearinghouse, please fill out [this survey](#). If you filled out a survey about a year ago, you do not need to fill it out again. If you can't remember, you're welcome to fill it out again or contact [Stephanie Brown](#) with questions. This survey will close on May 31, 2022.

If you have an interest in reviewing a short-course, please let Ellen know. This would take a bit more time, but the NCR would compensate you for your work.

Success Stories



A unique partnership between Iowa State University's CIRAS and the Extension and Outreach Iowa Grain Quality Initiative (IGQI) equips university staff to work with [food and feed manufacturers from Iowa and across the world](#).

At the 2019 NCR FSMA annual conference (the only in-person conference), state regulators met as a group. They decided it would be helpful to continue the conversation through [monthly video calls](#). A few months later, the state employees responsible for their states' inventories

decided meetings would be helpful for their roles as well. Read a song parody from Ben Marshall in this success story.

Drew McCulley and his wife Stephanie had both worked in agriculture in their hometown in Indiana. The two of them had an opportunity to buy an existing farm, with all the ground, equipment, and even a home. Along with Stephanie's mother, Janie Shriver, they bought the whole operation and renamed it [Valhalla Farms](#).



Do you have a story worth celebrating? Unfortunately, all the stipends for writing these stories have been sent out, but the NCR staff can write one for you or we can share a story that you have written.

Projects from Partners

Researchers working on a USDA Food Safety Outreach Project are conducting interviews with **small-scale processors** to better understand current practices around food safety training and regulation barriers at their farm/company. The interview will be 30-45 minutes long and will contain a short survey at the end. Participants will be compensated with a \$75 gift card. The data gathered will be used to help develop better training for small-scale food processors. If you are a small-scale food processor and are interested in participating in the study, you can [schedule an interview](#). For more information contact: [Maeve Swinehart](#).

New Mexico State University (NMSU) is offering a [Better Process Control School](#) (BPCS) course using Consumer Brands Association (CBA) manuals, online using Zoom, over 7 sessions from 8:00 am- 12:30 pm each session. Two course options are offered: one for acidified foods (5 session) and one for low acid foods (7 sessions). Registration cost includes online instruction and testing using NMSU OnDemand (Canvas based platform).

Kim Butz from Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, Donna Clements from Produce Safety Alliance, Chris Callahan at University of Vermont, and Billy Mitchell from Local Food Safety Collaborative have kicked off a little **sanitizer crowd-sourcing project** using the form below. This all came about because of mass confusion over an approved use on a germicidal bleach label, or lack thereof, for wash water.

[Google Form](#)

For those of you who [can't access Google](#)

The CONTACT Team is delighted to bring you “**Tales from the Trenches: Building and Implementing Effective Environmental Monitoring Programs**”, on April 14, at 2:30 pm Central time. This webinar is free and will be held via Zoom. Registration is required. This webinar will feature content to help build and implement effective environmental monitoring programs (EMPs) including reasons for EMPs, identification of hazards, likelihood of occurrence (risk), sampling, and corrective actions.

FSOP Meeting



The Lead Regional Coordination Center, along with the four USDA-NIFA regional centers, is hosting the 2022 Food Safety Outreach Program Project National Project Director's Meeting. This will run from May 25-26, at the Wyndham Lake Buena Vista hotel in Orlando, FL. The expectation for each project is to submit an abstract for publication in the abstract booklet. Abstracts should be sent to southerncenter@ifas.ufl.edu by May 1, 2022. Information about hotels and registration was emailed to all the project directors. Please let Ellen know if you didn't receive it.

Funding Available

Funds are available to pay for educator/regulator professional development, the trainer sharing program, honorariums, training supplies, translation services, and to help members of underserved communities become trainers. In most cases, the NCR FSMA will reimburse you for expenses after the event.

Stipends are \$500 each for the professional development funds and trainer sharing program. Each state may apply for one stipend for each program per year (September through August). If not all the funds have been requested by July, states may apply for additional stipends.

Upcoming NCR FSMA Meetings

The **Listening Sessions/ Webinars** happen on the third Thursday of every month at 2:00, Central time. The next meeting will be on April 21. We will be hearing about Hazard Analysis and Risk Assessment, from a processing perspective.

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device:

[Join the meeting.](#)

Or, go to <https://iastate.zoom.us/join> and enter meeting ID: 845 702 039

Join from dial-in phone line:

Dial: +1 646 876 9923 or +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 845 702 039

Update from the last meeting:

We heard presentations about one of the mini-grants that the NCR FSMA awarded. Thank you to Jordan DeVries for sharing about your project and showing us how it works. You can [listen/watch a recording](#) in the Box folder. Let us know if you can't access it.



The **meeting for state inspectors/regulators** will meet at their regular time, the first Friday of the month (April 1), at 9:00 am Central time.

The **meeting for data/inventory** will happen Friday, April 15, at 9:00 am Central time. The website mentioned last month for looking up EPA registration numbers and information can be found [here](#).

The **meeting for program managers** will happen Tuesday, April 12, at 10:00 am Central time. If you oversee your state's CAP grant, please plan to join to discuss FDA reporting and other projects.

Upcoming PSA Courses

Indiana in-person: Apr. 7

Indiana remote: Apr. 26

Iowa/Nebraska/North Dakota/South Dakota remote: April 5 & 6

Iowa in-person: May 2

Michigan remote: Apr. 12 and 25 & 26

Minnesota in-person: Apr. 8

Ohio in-person: Apr. 12 and 20; May 17

Online course: begins every three weeks

Check out the [Calendar](#) for postings of PSA courses offered nationally.

Find a list of [registered PSA Trainers](#).

Upcoming FSPCA Courses

Illinois: PC Human Food: Apr. 4, 5, 25, and 27; May 3, 9, and 25;
June 6, 7, and 27; July 11, 12, and 20; Aug. 9 and 29
PC Animal Food: Apr. 19
FSVP: Apr. 12 and 28; May 5; June 14 and 30

Indiana: PC Human Food: Apr. 26

Iowa: PC Human Food: Apr. 7 and 12
PC Animal Food: June 6

Michigan: FSVP: May 25

Nebraska: PC Human Food: June 7

North Dakota: PC Human Food: May 11
PC Animal Food: May 16

Ohio: PC Human Food: May 17; June 8

Wisconsin: PC Human Food: Apr. 5; May 17; Aug. 16

Online: PC Human Food: Apr. 4, 5, 7, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, and 25;
May 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 23, and 25;
June 6, 8, 13, 16, 20, 22, 23, and 28; July 5, 19, and 22;
Aug. 3, 5, 8, 9, 17, 22, and 31
PC Human Food (Spanish): Apr. 4 and 11
PC Human Food (Chinese): Apr. 4 and 11

PC Animal Food: Apr. 4, 6, 8, 19, 20, and 27; May 9, 13, 16, 19, 25, and 30;
June 1, 6, 8, 14, 17, 22, and 27; July 11, 20, and 28; Aug. 15 and 23
FSVP: April 1, 6, 7, 12, 13, 21, and 28; May 3, 4, 5, 17, 18, 20, 25 and 26;
June 2, 14, 16, 22, 24, 28, and 29; July 6, 12, 19, 25, 26, and 29

Check out the [Calendar](#) for postings of FSPCA courses offered nationally.

[Follow us on Facebook](#)

[Visit our website](#)

Thanks for your continued interest in the North Central Region Center for FSMA Training, Extension, and Technical Assistance as we develop the necessary foundation for future collaboration. If you have specific questions or feedback, please email ncrfsma@iastate.edu.

Sincerely,
NCR FSMA Training Center Team

2018-2022* Funding

Anirudh R. Naig

*No Cost Extension

2018-2024 Funding

Angela M Shaw,

Project Director

Arlene Enderton

Ellen Johnsen

2021-2024 Funding

Byron Chaves

Dan Fillius

Kathiravan Krishnamurthy

Phil Tocco

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach is an equal opportunity provider.
For the full non-discrimination statement or accommodation inquiries, go to
www.extension.iastate.edu/diversity/ext.



North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension
and Technical Assistance