



North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension and Technical Assistance

June 2021

Sad News

It is with great sadness that we must report the [death of Holly Mawby](#), our North Dakota partner and Director of the Entrepreneurial Center for Horticulture, Dakota College at Bottineau. Holly dedicated her life to the promotion of local foods in North Dakota and her impacts are immeasurable! Holly always brought joy to NCR FSMA Center virtual and in-person events and her presence will be missed. Condolences can be shared with her family on the funeral home website.

FSOP Roundtable

Join the regional centers on June 9, from 1:00-2:30 PM Central time, to hear updates from USDA-NIFA funded FSOP projects. Read the [final speaker](#) list or [register](#) online. This webinar will not be recorded.

Produce Safety Alliance Updates

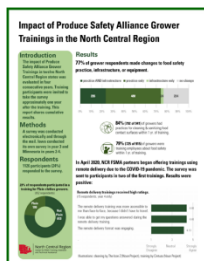
[Laurie George is the new Produce Safety Alliance Midwest Regional Extension Associate](#). She joins the Produce Safety Team after working with University of Illinois Extension for 10 years, specializing in small farms and local foods. Laurie received both her Master of Science degree and Ph.D. in Plant, Soils, and Agricultural Sciences from Southern Illinois University. Laurie began her new position on May 17. You can contact Laurie at ljg233@cornell.edu or 607-882-1500.



The PSA is extending its temporary remote delivery policy for the PSA Grower Training and PSA Train-the-Trainer Courses to March 30, 2022, due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. This extension is being done due to continued focus on reducing COVID transmission globally while ensuring growers have access to quality training to meet regulatory expectations in order to stay viable in the market place.

Connie Fisk has accepted a position with the Washington State Department of Agriculture Produce Safety Program and will be leaving Extension and the Produce Safety Alliance (Northwest Regional Extension Associate) at the end of June.

PSA Follow-up Survey Reports Release



For four years, the NCR FSMA has worked with PSA trainers to conduct a follow-up survey with grower training participants, approximately one year after taking the course. Results show that the vast majority of growers who responded to the survey have made changes to food safety practice, infrastructure, and/or equipment since taking the training. This is true of farmers no matter their FSMA coverage status.

New in 2021, the survey asked questions to assess the effectiveness of trainings offered via remote delivery due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Results showed that respondents were satisfied with remote delivery trainings. They also made changes at a higher rate than participants in face-to-face trainings, but the results are not statistically significant due to a very small sample size.

Read the [whole report](#) and the [executive summary](#) on our website. Reports for individual states were sent directly to state leads.

FDA Updates

On May 5, the FDA issued a new report titled, “[Resiliency Roadmap for FDA Inspectional Oversight](#),” outlining the agency’s inspectional activities during the COVID-19 pandemic and its detailed plan to move toward a more consistent state of operations, including the FDA’s priorities related to this work going forward.

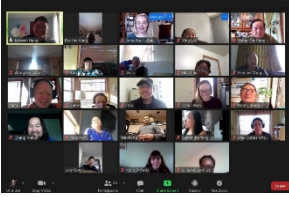


On May 18, the FDA announced that on June 1, they will launch [The FDA New Era of Smarter Food Safety Low- or No-Cost Tech-enabled Traceability Challenge](#), asking stakeholders, including technology providers, entrepreneurs, and innovators, to

develop traceability tools that can be implemented in a scalable, cost-effective way for food operations of all sizes.

On April 29, the FDA launched the [first in a new quarterly podcast series](#) that focuses on the development and use of new technologies to strengthen the ability of FDA, regulated industry, and others to accelerate prevention, speed outbreak response, and more swiftly adapt to crises that could affect the human and animal food supply.

Success Story Honorariums



Annalisa Hultberg wrote a success story about the [Hmong-language PSA training](#), sponsored by the University of Minnesota Extension, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, and the Hmong American Farmers Association. Thanks for letting everyone know about the good work you're accomplishing, Annalisa!

If you have a story to share, please let us know. You can write the story yourself and receive an honorarium or the NCR staff can write it.

Funding Available

Funds are available to help NCR partners (anyone who participates in NCR activities) attend virtual trainings/events. Under most circumstances, the NCR will reimburse you after the event for the registration fee.

The mentoring program and the trainer sharing program also have funding available.

The NCR will cover the cost of PSA manuals and AFDO certificates for collaborative remote trainings. Money is available until it has all been requested. Not every state will be using the money designated for their growers, so please contact Ellen if you'd like to submit additional receipts.

Job Openings

The California Department of Food and Agriculture's Produce Safety Program is hiring four PSR Inspectors in the [Central Valley](#), [Central Coast](#), and [Imperial Valley/El Centro](#) growing areas of California.

Upcoming NCR FSMA Meetings



The **Listening Sessions/ Webinars** happen the third Thursday of every month at 2:00, Central time. Recipients of the NCR mini-grants will be presenting on June 17.

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

[Join the meeting.](#)

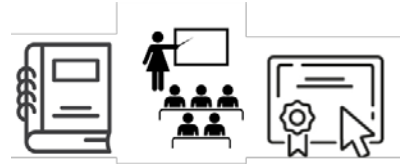
Or, go to <https://iastate.zoom.us/join> and enter meeting ID: 845 702 039

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 discussed yearly/supervisor training at the May meeting. Byron Beerbower shared from a FDA perspective, and several educators shared what they are working on. [Watch the recording or listen to the audio](#) in our shared Box account. If you don't have access to the Box account, please let us know.

The **meeting for inspectors/state regulators** happens the first Friday of most months at 9:00 am Central time. State government staff take turns leading a discussion, and there's time to share what's happening in your state and ask questions. The group will meet next on **Friday, June 4**. Contact [Ellen](#) for call information.

State employees responsible for **farm inventories** have scheduled their next call for **Friday, June 18**, at 9:00 am Central time. Contact [Ellen](#) for call information.

Upcoming PSA Courses

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: June 7, 8, 16, and 22; July 13, 19, and 21; Aug. 9; Sept. 13 and 28 PC Animal Food: Aug. 2 FSVP: June 16; July 15 and 27
Indiana:	PC Human Food: June 8
Iowa:	PC Human Food: June 23; Aug. 30 PC Animal Food: June 16
Kansas:	PC Animal Food: June 22
Michigan:	PC Animal Food: Sept. 14 FSVP: Sept. 8
Ohio:	PC Human Food: June 24; Sept. 28
Wisconsin:	PC Human Food: June 15; Aug. 10; Sept. 13 FSVP: Aug. 24

Online: PC Human Food: June 4, 7, 8, 9, 11, 14, 16, 21, 22, 23, 25, 28, and 29;
July 3, 6, 7, 13, 14, 16, 20, 21, and 28; Aug. 4, 18, 20, 24, and 25;
Sept. 1, 17, 22, 27
PC Animal Food: June 1, 2 (Spanish), 7, 25, and 28;
July 6, 7, and 16; Aug. 2, 3, 9, 11, 14, 16, 25, and 30; Sept. 3, 7, 15, and 29
FSVP: June 1, 3, 4, 9 (Spanish), 10 (Korean), 14, 15, 22, and 23;
July 1, 6, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 26, and 27; Aug. 5, 11, 19, and 20;
Sept. 2, 8, 14, 21, 28, and 30

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

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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

Angela M Shaw, Project Director (FDA Center)

Joe Hannan, Project Director (USDA Center)

Anirudh R. Naig, NCR FSOP Coordinator

Arlene Enderton, Project Evaluator

Ellen Johnsen, Project Manager

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