



# North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension  
and Technical Assistance

June 2023



## [FSOP Project Directors' Meeting](#)

The Food Safety Outreach Program Project Directors' Meeting will be May 31-June 1, in Tampa, FL. There is an expectation that FSOP project directors will attend, in-person or virtually.

**If you do not have an active FSOP award, you are invited to attend virtually to learn more about projects that involve both processing and growing produce.** [Registration is free \(and required\) for those attending virtually.](#) Registration closes May 30. Project abstracts will be posted on the Clearinghouse.

## [Upcoming NCR FSMA Event](#)

Byron Chaves and Kathir Krishnamurthy will be offering a “Food Safety Validations – How to Do a Microbial Challenge Study” webinar, on July 13, from 1:00-2:30 Central time. This webinar will present the fundamentals of microbial challenge studies to ensure the microbiological safety and stability of foods. Topics include microbial target, experimental design, choice of microbial surrogates, and data interpretation. [Sign up for the webinar.](#)

## [Highlighted NCR FSMA Resource](#)



[Bodily Fluid Clean Up on the Farm](#)- All bodily fluids are considered potentially infectious. In order to be safe, assume that all bodily fluids will make you sick. This document includes best practices for safely handling bodily fluids on food-contact surfaces, clothes/shoes, and in the field.

## [New Resources on the Produce Safety Clearinghouse](#)

No resources have been posted to the Clearinghouse in the past month, but there are several on the same topic as the highlighted NCR FSMA Resource. Check out:

- Michigan State University's [Blood and Bodily Fluids Policy](#)
- California Alliance with Family Farmers' resource on [Balancing Food Safety and Organic Requirements for: Worker Training and Health and Hygiene](#)

## Announcements from our partners

Since the Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative's start in 2013, IFAI has been dedicated to empowering Tribal Nations through agricultural economic development, providing educational opportunities, and enhancing Tribal health and wellness through agriculture. The organization recently released a [video to celebrate its 10-year anniversary](#).

The Center for Produce Safety is pleased to announce the [CPS Research Symposium](#) will happen June 20-21, at the Grand Hyatt Atlanta. Register by May 31 for a cheaper rate.

Register by June 19 to receive the Early Registration cost for the 2023 [IAFP conference](#) in Ontario. "Get a Bird's Eye View of Food Safety" at this annual gathering, July 16-19.

In May 2023, the PSA amended its policy for PSA Grower Training delivery, [allowing remote delivery to become a permanent option](#).

## Surveys to share with your networks



### "Food Safety Needs Assessment for Indoor Agriculture"

You are invited to participate in the survey because you are a fresh produce grower, harvester, packer, seller, food safety personnel, or otherwise involved in fresh produce production using indoor, soilless growing systems. The purpose of [this survey](#) is to improve the quality of food safety education programs. The survey is being conducted by Camila Rodrigues, Ph.D., in the Auburn University Department of Horticulture.

### "Fruit and Vegetable Grower Feedback Needed on Produce Safety Costs, Needs, and Barriers"

The Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) Team and personnel from the Northeast Center to Advance Food Safety (NECAFS) at the University of Vermont would like to understand the costs and the barriers of beginning or expanding food safety practices on farms and in packinghouses to make educational materials more relevant to fruit and vegetable growers and packers. To do so, we have developed a survey to collect food safety information from fruit and vegetable growers. This survey closes June 1.

- Direct link to the English-language survey:  
[https://qualtrics.uvm.edu/jfe/form/SV\\_agW9o6VWOUcivCC](https://qualtrics.uvm.edu/jfe/form/SV_agW9o6VWOUcivCC)
- Direct link to the Spanish-language survey:  
[https://qualtrics.uvm.edu/jfe/form/SV\\_agW9o6VWOUcivCC?Q\\_Language=ES](https://qualtrics.uvm.edu/jfe/form/SV_agW9o6VWOUcivCC?Q_Language=ES)

## Federal Updates

The [FDA has released a report on its investigation of the Salmonella Typhimurium outbreak](#) that caused 87 reported illnesses and 32 hospitalizations from July through September 2022.

In mid-May, the FDA published a [Small Entity Compliance Guide](#) for the FSMA Food Traceability

Rule. The compliance guide describes the requirements of the Food Traceability regulation to assist small entities, including farms and small businesses, in complying with the applicable recordkeeping requirements.

## Funding Available

The NCR FSMA budgeted funds to support professional development, outreach to underserved communities, and resource development/translation. To access these \$500 stipends, [apply on our website](#). One of each of these stipends is available to each state, per year of our grant.

## NCR FSMA Meetings



The [Listening Sessions/ Webinars](#) happen on the third Thursday of every month at 2:00, Central time. The next meeting is on Thursday, June 15. The presentation will be processor-focused.

Update from last month's meeting: We did not record the discussion that we had during the May webinar.

The meeting for [state inspectors/regulators](#) will be Friday, June 2, at 9am, Central time.

The meeting for [data/inventory/outreach staff](#) will be on Friday, June 16, at 9am, Central time.

The meeting for [program managers](#) will not meet in June, because of the AFDO conference. The next meeting will be Tuesday, July 11, at 10am, Central time.

Please contact us if you need call information for any of these meetings.

## PSA Courses

Remote training offered by the Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative: June 1 & 2

The Online delivery course is offered monthly.

Check out the [calendar](#) of PSA courses offered nationally.

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

## Upcoming FSPCA Courses

Illinois:      PC Human Food: June 12 and 14; July 26; Aug. 16; Sept. 14  
                  PC Animal Food: July 11  
                  FSVP: June 15; July 13; Sept. 19

Kansas:      PC Animal Food: Aug. 22

Michigan: PC Human Food: June 14; Sept. 19  
FSVP: Sept. 12

Ohio: PC Human Food: July 26

Online: PC Human Food: June 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 23, 26, and 28;  
July 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 17, 20, 24, 25, 26, and 31;  
Aug. 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 23, 24, 28, 29, and 30;  
Sept. 5, 11, 12, 13, 19, 22, 25, 26, 27, and 28  
PC Human Food (Spanish): June 2, 5, 12, 19, and 26;  
July 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31  
PC Human Food (Chinese): June 5, 12, 19, and 26;

PC Animal Food: June 7, 12, 14, and 21; July 6, 10, 12, 19, and 24;  
Aug. 1, 2, 9, and 23; Sept. 5, 7, 13, 20, 27, and 29  
FSVP: June 2, 5, 9, 12, 19, 20, 21, 23, and 26;  
July 3, 5, 7, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, and 25; Aug. 1, 11, 15, 16, 22, 25, and 31;  
Sept. 5, 8, 12, 25, 28, and 29  
FSVP (Spanish): June 13  
FSVP (Korean): June 21 and 28

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

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Thank you for your continued involvement with the NCR FSMA!

Sincerely,  
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If you'd like to be [removed from the NCR FSMA mailing list](#), please let us know.