



North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension
and Technical Assistance

May 2022

Save the Date: June 28 and 30

Environmental Monitoring Short Course

The environment in which fresh produce is processed can affect the food safety of the end product. Environmental monitoring is a process used in facilities that assess how effectively the plant is being cleaned. Come for two, ½-day virtual sessions to learn about how to implement and interpret a monitoring program. This course is designed for educators and inspectors. The course will be held on Zoom, June 28, 12pm-4pm CST and June 30, 12pm-4pm CST. Registration is free and includes all course resources (Training workbook PDFs, Hands-on activity PDFs, and Module PowerPoints). [Registration link](#)
Registration deadline is June 14, and the course is capped at 12 participants. We anticipate a waiting list so please ensure your schedule will allow for the two- ½ days. There will be another offering in August 2022.

Your feedback is needed



The folks who have traditionally planned the fall Professional Development workshop (formerly News & Brews) are interested in your feedback. We want to make sure that what we're doing meets YOUR needs. We have three questions we are asking of all of you. 1) Do you need or would you like a fall Professional Development workshop (formerly News & Brews)? 2) Would you prefer this to be in-person or virtual? 3) What three topics are you most in need of a deep dive in? Please fill out this quick Qualtrics [here](#).

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.

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

The Train-the-Trainer Bridging the GAPS course is **full**. To be placed on the waiting list please [email Ellen](#).

SAVE the DATE- Indiana Water Day June 16 and 17



The Indiana Water Day workshop will expand on the knowledge obtained during the Bridging the GAPS workshop in a farm environment. This workshop will include the application of the FDA Agricultural Water Assessment Builder Tool on-farm, a demonstration from a mobile postharvest water treatment unit, and have concentrated time to expand knowledge on agricultural water and the use of post-harvest water sanitizers. Course will occur in West Lafayette, IN on the Purdue University campus. More details to follow. [Registration will open on May 13.](#)

EPA/FDA Discussion on Hydrogen Peroxide and other Sanitizers

Staff from the EPA and FDA are going to hold a meeting with those of us in the North Central Region, on Friday, August 5, at 10:00 am Central time. Everyone is welcome to join the call to discuss hydrogen peroxide and other sanitizer use. The government staff would like to know your questions on the topic. Please email your questions to Ellen, so they can be compiled and submitted before July 21. Please RSVP via [email to Ellen](#), if you'd like to join the call.

Projects from Partners

The PSA, in collaboration with the FSMA Southern Center for Training, Outreach, and Technical Assistance, will be hosting an advanced training workshop on June 14-16, 2022, for PSA Trainers and Lead Trainers. The workshop will be located at the Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station, and is intended to help participants enrich their training skills and further their understanding of the FSMA Produce Safety Rule. The workshop will include a blend of lecture, hands-on activities, and breakout groups. Please see the [Advanced Trainer Workshop](#) web page on the [PSA website](#) to register.

NECAFS will host presenters from the FDA during an [upcoming webinar](#), on May 16, 11:30 - 1:00pm, Central time, to share current information regarding the pathogenic parasite [Cyclospora cayetanensis](#). This webinar is open to anyone in the produce safety community, and from any region.

The [CONTACT Team](#) is delighted to bring you “Food Safety in the Supply Chain: The Web You Can’t Escape”, on May 12 at 2:30 pm Central time. This webinar will feature the talented and knowledgeable Dr. Bob Whitaker and a panel of experts from industry and academia to untangle the complex, and often challenging web that is the produce supply chain. This webinar will include an interactive Q&A with the audience. It serves as the season finale to CONTACT's Produce Safety Webinar Series, and it is sure to be a special treat and dynamic end to the season. This webinar is free and will be held via Zoom. [Registration is required.](#) Produce safety industry, government, and academia are encouraged to come. All are invited!

FDA’s Coordinated Outbreak Response and Evaluation (CORE) would like your feedback on its newly released [CORE Outbreak Investigation Table \(CIT\)](#). The CIT, located about halfway down the webpage, is a list of outbreak investigations being managed by FDA’s CORE Response Teams. The CIT was developed to publicly share current outbreaks earlier on in the investigation process, even if there isn’t actionable advice for the public yet. Your feedback is completely voluntary, and your responses will be kept secure to the extent allowed by law. Your feedback is crucial for helping us determine what improvements could be made to ensure that the table is informative, easy to understand, and an effective tool for the public. Please click the link below to take the 10-minute survey about the CIT. Your survey response is requested by May 11, 2022.

[Take the survey](#)

Open Jobs and Internships

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture has an open position for a summer internship. The position will work for the [Food Safety and Consumer Protection Focus Area](#), with a focus on the Manufactured Food program. The internship is anticipated to last approximately 3 months at a part-time level (approximately 25 hours/week).

PrimusLabs is hiring an assistant director of microbiology. This is a full-time position, located in Santa Maria, CA. [Apply by email.](#)

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.

Funding Available

Our hope is to support produce safety in all twelve states, so please let us know how we could help fund educator/regulator professional development, trainer sharing program, training supplies, or outreach to underserved communities. Stipends are \$500 each for the professional development funds and trainer sharing program. [Funds are available.](#)

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 May 19. Ed Treacy from the Produce Marketing Association will discuss non-single-use-plastic options that are hitting the market and Jeff Brandenburg will talk about survival of pathogens on packaging and incorporating newer, non-plastic options.

We realize this meeting conflicts with the Bridging the Gaps Train-the-Trainer event, so just remember this talk will be recorded and you can watch it afterwards.

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:

Dr. Byron Chaves presented on hazard analysis and risk management from a processing perspective. You can [listen/watch a recording](#) in the Box folder. His slides and an article that was mentioned are also available in the Box.

The **meeting for state inspectors/regulators** will meet at their regular time, the first Friday of the month (May 6), at 9:00 am Central time.

The **meeting for data/inventory** will happen Friday, May 20, 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, May 10, 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

Iowa in-person: May 2

Ohio in-person: 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: May 3, 9, 18, and 25; June 6, 7, and 27; July 11, 12, and 20; Aug. 8, 9, and 29; Sept. 12, 13, and 28
PC Animal Food: Sept. 20
FSVP: May 5 and 11; June 14 and 30; July 19 and 28; Sept. 1 and 20

Iowa: PC Animal Food: June 6

Kansas: PC Animal Food: Aug. 23

Michigan: PC Human Food: Sept. 20
FSVP: May 25

Minnesota: PC Human Food: June 2; Sept. 19

Missouri: PC Human Food: July 14

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: May 17; Aug. 16; Sept. 13 and 20

Online: PC Human Food: May 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 23, 25, and 30;
June 2, 6, 8, 13, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 28; July 5, 8, 12, 13, 19, and 22;
Aug. 1, 3, 5, 8, 9, 15, 17, 22, and 31; Sept. 19, 23, and 28
PC Human Food (Spanish): May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30
PC Human Food (Chinese): May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30

PC Animal Food May 9, 13, 16, 19, 25, and 30; June 1, 6, 8, 14, 17, 22, and 27;
July 11, 20, and 28; Aug. 8, 15, and 23; Sept. 6
FSVP: 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; Aug. 16; Sept. 13, 14

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

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

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