

April 2019 Newsletter



North Central Region
Center for FSMA Training, Extension
and Technical Assistance

~ Register Now for the Annual Conference ~

The NCR FSMA will be hosting its first annual conference

June 10-11, 2019

at the

Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Airport

2501 South High School Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46241

www.crowneplaza.com/ind-airport

Register at <https://psr.extension.iastate.edu/events/1003/register>

Make your hotel reservation by calling 317-244-6861

and ask for the NCR FSMA Annual Conference rate.

Registration fee for the conference is \$75, which includes Monday snacks and evening appetizer reception and Tuesday breakfast, lunch, and snacks.

The conference will begin at 1:00pm on Monday and conclude at 3:00pm on

Tuesday. An optional farm tour will be available Monday morning.

When you register, you will be asked if you'd like to participate in a lightning round talk or a poster session. If you'd like to be part of either but don't have a final title for talk/poster, feel free to register and give a tentative title.

We will need the final titles by May 10.

Upcoming Meetings

You should have received a meeting invitation for our new meetings happening the third Thursday of every month at 2:00 Central time. These will replace the Tuesday listening sessions. Some months will be Listening Sessions and some will be more structured webinars. If you have a topic you'd like to discuss in depth, please let us know. Join us for the first meeting on April 18.

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

Please click this URL to start or join. <https://iastate.zoom.us/j/845702039>

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

Upcoming Events from other groups

The Association of Public Health Laboratories is hosting a webinar on [Water Testing Requirements](#) under the FSMA Produce Safety Rule on Monday, April 15, at 12:00 Central time. Join this webinar to learn how testing requirements for these water samples may be different from those of more traditional laboratory clients; regulatory sampling and water quality requirements that apply; and acceptable analysis methods.

Communications Survey

Thanks to everyone who filled out the survey. We are looking at the results and hope to implement changes soon. Congratulations to Tom Buller, Annalisa Hultberg, Theresa Klaman, and Phil Tocco who each won a gift card.

Comment Period Closes April 22

If you'd like to submit comments about the **Produce Safety Rule Draft Guidance**, visit the [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) website and search for Docket No. FDA-2018-D-3631. You can also send comments to: Docket Management Staff (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061, Rockville, MD 20852

Educational Add On Updates:

- **Recently Released Resource:**
Ensuring Food Safety: Wineries: This document is to assist wineries with distinguishing food safety regulations whether you buy the grapes or grow your own.
- **Highlighted Resource:**
Record Keeping envelope: a tool that not only explains exemption status, but also offers a place to record sales to help calculate your status. Because it is an envelope, growers can keep receipts inside it so they can prove their status if necessary. We will be updating the numbers for inflation each time we print the envelope. State leads should have each received envelopes for distribution last fall. We can mail them to anyone for distribution or you can print the front and back on an envelope locally.



- **Find all the resources previously available for use on our website.**
- **Resources being edited by the subgroups:**
 - FSMA Summary for Midwest Hops Growers: This document is to assist those who grow Hops with compliance with the Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Safety Rule.
- **Resources being reviewed by the FDA**
 - On-Farm Training Guide for Employees and Volunteers: This is a flip-chart that can be used as a training guide for employees and volunteers on produce farms. It is broken into Pre-Harvest, Harvest, and Post-Harvest activities and can be used in one session or multiple sessions.

FDA Updates

- **FDA Finalizes Water Requirement Dates**

In March, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued a rule to finalize the new compliance dates for the agricultural water requirements in the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule.

Larger farms are now required to comply with the agricultural water requirements by January 26, 2022, while small farms have until January 26, 2023 and very small farms until January 26, 2024. This rule does not change the compliance dates for sprout operations.

- **FDA Announces Enforcement Discretion Policy for Certain Produce Commodities**

The FDA announced this week that it intends to exercise enforcement discretion for the requirements of the Produce Safety Rule as they apply to entities growing, harvesting, packing, and holding wine grapes, hops, pulse crops, and almonds.

- **Statement from FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, M.D., and Deputy Commissioner Frank Yiannas on new steps to strengthen FDA's food safety program for 2020 and beyond**

The president's 2020 Budget includes new resources to advance the agency's food safety program, and expand food safety monitoring.

- **FDA Publishes Translated VQIP Documents**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has published a number of translated documents on FDA.gov to provide stakeholders with information related to the Voluntary Qualified Importer Program (VQIP).

- **New Certification Body**

Last week, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) notified the U.S. Food and Drug Administration of a new certification body (CB) accredited under FDA's Accredited Third-Party Certification Program for the following program scopes: Preventive Controls for Human Food; Juice HACCP, and Seafood HACCP. This is part of the Voluntary Qualified Importer Program (VQIP).

- **Second Installment of a Draft Guidance Document on Intentional Adulteration**

The FSMA final rule on intentional adulteration is designed to address hazards that may be intentionally introduced to foods.

Most of the content from the first installment, published in June 2018, has not been changed in the second installment. They have indicated new content, mostly located

in Chapter Two, Chapter Eight, Appendix 1 and Appendix 4, with brackets stating, “[New March 2019] or [Updated March 2019].”

- **FDA Guidance on Floods**

The FDA’s Guidance for Industry: Evaluating the Safety of Flood-affected Food Crops for Human Consumption provides the information that producers can use as they assess potential damage to their food crops. This guidance is an important resource for the growers who produce and market these crops, as they are responsible for assuring the safety of flood-affected food crops for human consumption.

Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training Courses

- Upcoming Grower PSA courses to be held in the North Central Region:
 - Illinois: April 12; May 6
 - Indiana: Apr. 3
 - Kansas: April 5; May 16; July 11; Oct. 3
 - Michigan: April 9 and 11
 - Minnesota: April 24
 - Missouri: April 30
 - Ohio: April 4
 - Wisconsin: Apr. 2, 3
- Check out the Calendar for postings of PSA courses offered nationally.
- Find a list of registered PSA Trainers.

Food Safety Preventive Control Alliance Courses (FSPCA) in NCR

- Upcoming FSPCA Courses in the North Central Region
 - Illinois: PC Human Food: Apr. 1, 8, and 16; May 9, 14, and 15; Jun. 17 and 18; July 15 and 17; Aug. 6 and 12; Sept. 16; Oct. 21; Nov. 4 and 5; Dec. 9
FSVP: May 6
PC Animal Food: Apr. 24
 - Iowa: PC Human Food: May 17 and 21; Jun. 12; Sept. 30; Dec. 2
 - Michigan: PC Human Food: May 21 and 23; June 18
FSVP: Apr. 29; Oct. 10
 - Minnesota: PC Human Food: June 12 and 19; Sept. 11 and 23
FSVP: Sept. 26
 - Nebraska: PC Human Food: May 7
PC Animal Food: Jun. 25
 - North Dakota: PC Human Food: June 24
 - Ohio: PC Human Food: Apr. 9; May 8
 - South Dakota: PC Animal Food: June 19
 - Wisconsin: PC Human Food: Apr. 10; May 21; Aug. 7; Nov. 5
FSVP: Jun. 26

- Online: Human Food: Apr. 16; May 2, 17. June 5, 21, 25, and 27; July 3, 12, and 25; Oct. 10 and 24; Nov. 7 and 21; Dec. 12
FSVP: Apr. 9; May 1
PC Animal Food: Apr. 1; May 6
- 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

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