

November 2018 Newsletter



North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension
and Technical Assistance

Educational Add On Updates:

- **Resources just released for use (all available on the NCR website):**
 - Farm Stand and U-Pick Produce Operations Safety Best Practices: signage, bathrooms, pets, samples, and harvest bins to run a compliant Farm Stand or U Pick operation.
 - FSMA Produce Rule Summary for Midwest Orchards: covers FSMA regulations, best practices, and a checklist for growers.
 - Value Added Products Fact Sheets- Fermented Foods; Jams and Jellies; and Pickled Vegetables: best practices based on state-by-state regulations. Includes definitions and tested recipes.

- **Resources previously available for use:**
 - FSMA Compliant On-Farm Thermophilic Composting: How to safely handling biological soil amendments.
 - Pre-Harvest Checklist: a simple way to ensure staff are ready to harvest each day (available as a pdf for easy printing or as an excel document for easy editing).
 - FSMA Produce Safety Rule: Dealing with Wildlife: dealing with wild animals and complying with FSMA.
 - Checklist for Preventive Controls Human Food and Good Manufacturing Practice. Available on the NCR FSMA website.
 - Practical Record Keeping: A tool to aid growers in determination of qualified exemption and documentation.
 - Interactive quizzes are on the NCR website for those who make Value Added Products and wish to test their knowledge about FSMA requirements. Click on the above link and scroll down to “Value Added Agriculture.”
 - GAP training videos in Hmong (with English subtitles).
 - Checklist for Retail Purchasing for Local Fresh Produce. This document provides foodservice buyers with assurances that produce was handled safely. Available on the NCR website.
 - Watch videos on Cleaning a Walk-In Cooler and Cleaning and Sanitizing Crates from Iowa State University through FDA grant (1U18FD005810-01).

- **Resources undergoing final formatting by our graphic designer:**
 - Best Practices for Domestic Animals
 - Guidance for Bodily Fluid Clean Up on the Farm
 - Value Added Products Fact Sheet: Frozen and Dehydrated Foods
- **Resources being edited by the subgroups:**
 - On-Farm Training Guide for Employees and Volunteers
 - Guidance for Vineyards and Hops
- **Produce Safety Resources from other organizations**
 - Mushroom growing guidance is available from Penn State Extension and Luke LaBorde. All the articles Luke has written for the mushroom industry news magazine are there as well as links to peer reviewed research articles and some background on how mushrooms are grown.

Updates from the FDA

- Constituent update
- Commissioner's statement
- Fresh cut
- PSR guidance
- PSR guidance page with fact sheets
- The FDA will host public meetings to discuss the draft guidance for documents on Nov. 27 (Portland, OR), Nov. 29 (Anaheim, CA), Dec. 11 (Albany, NY), and Dec. 13 (Atlanta, GA). More information can be found on the NCR website.

Regional Job Posting

- Food Safety Assistant/Associate Professor, Lincoln University
The Cooperative Research and Extension Programs at Lincoln University (LU) of Missouri invite applications for an Assistant or Associate Professor Food Science. This is a 12-month, non-tenure track, full benefit eligible faculty position with responsibilities of 80% research and 20% extension. Qualifications: Ph.D. degree in Food Science, Food Engineering, or a closely related field with an emphasis on food safety. Applicants must be familiar with FSMA and food safety standards.

Congratulations to everyone in the North Central Region who was awarded a Food Safety Outreach Program grant. The USDA-NIFA Food Safety Outreach Competitive Grant Program provides funding for food safety training and education for small and mid-sized producers and processors affected by the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). In addition to the regional center grant that Iowa State University received, five proposals were funded.

- Food Safety Education Program for Veteran Farmers by Yaohua "Betty" Feng at Purdue University
- Expanding FSMA Produce Safety Rule Outreach to Underserved Diversified Fruit and Vegetable Farms in Minnesota by Annalisa Hultberg at the University of Minnesota
- Community Based Technical Assistance and Training Reach New Audiences to Help Small Processors Reach FSMA Compliance by Majed Dweik at Lincoln University (Jefferson City, MO)
- Identifying FSMA Preventive Controls Training and Technical Assistance Needs of Food Manufacturers in Rural Nebraska by Byron Chaves- Elizondo at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln
- Document Development and Management Training for Small-Scale Processor of Fermented, Acid, and Acidified Foods by Abigail Snyder at The Ohio State University

Upcoming Events

Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training Courses

- Upcoming Grower PSA courses to be held in the North Central Region:
 - Illinois: Nov. 5; Jan. 9
 - Iowa: Nov. 8 and 27; December 11; Jan. 24 and 30; Feb. 5 and 28; Mar. 7 and 12
 - Kansas: Nov. 9 and 13
 - Michigan: Nov. 7; Dec. 6; Jan. 9, 17, 24, and 31; Feb. 5 and 8; Mar. 14; April. 9 and 11
 - Minnesota: Nov. 9, 14, and 28; Dec. 5, 12, and 17; Jan. 9, 16, 23, and 25; Feb. 6 and 20; March 13 and 20;
 - Missouri: Nov. 7; December 4 and 7; Jan. 10 (Great Plains conference)
 - Nebraska: November 9
 - Ohio: Nov. 27
 - Wisconsin: Dec. 7; Jan. 10, 18, and 23; Feb. 7, 15, and 28. Mar. 15
- Contact your State Lead about honorarium opportunities to attend a PSA Course.
- 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: Nov. 6, 7, 13, 14, and 28; Dec. 3; and Jan. 16. FSVP: Nov. 8 and 12
 - Iowa: PC Human Food: Dec. 3
 - Minnesota: FSVP: Nov. 7
 - Missouri: PC Human Food: Nov. 12 and Dec. 12
 - Nebraska: PC Human Food: May 7
 - Ohio: FSVP: Nov. 13
 - Online: Human Food: Nov. 13; Dec. 11; Jan. 22. FSVP: Nov. 5; Jan. 15; Mar. 12; Apr. 9; May 1. PC Animal Food: Nov. 19; Dec. 10; Jan. 7; Mar. 4; Apr. 1; May 6
- Contact your State Lead about an honorarium to attend a FSPCA Course.
- Check out the calendar for postings of FSPCA courses offered nationally.

Resources from other agencies

The Center for Produce Safety announced their annual call for preliminary research proposals. Pre-Proposals and required documents should be sent no later than 12:00 noon (Pacific Standard Time) on Tuesday, November 13, 2018.

- CPS Grant Opportunities webpage provides guidance documents and required forms. Updates will be posted on this page.
- 2019 Research Priorities (click here)
- They encourage scientists to ask questions about the proposal process, research priorities and CPS expectations.

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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,
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