



North Central Region

Center for FSMA Training, Extension and Technical Assistance

October 2020

Knowledge Assessment Report



The results of the Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training pre- and post-test evaluation have been posted to the NCR website. [Read the regional report](#), which includes separate charts for remote trainings and trainings targeting special populations.

NCR Annual Conference 2021

Planning Committee Wanted

It is time start thinking about annual conference 2021. The plan right now is to go virtual for 2021 and use the time we have to make it an interactive conference. If you would like to be involved, [send Joe a note](#). We are also looking for input on conference themes this year. A concept to center and focus the conference on.

Software Programs

Does your state use a software system for inspections (either food or produce)? Would you be willing to [share what works and what doesn't](#) about your system? This could help other states make better-informed decisions.

Job Opening

The University of Missouri seeks a talented full-time [Assistant Professor and State Extension Specialist in Food Processing](#). The position is offered as a nine-month, tenure-track at the Assistant Professor rank with a split appointment between extension (70%) and research (30%).

Federal Updates

The Food and Drug Administration has announced the Food Defense Awareness for the Intentional Adulteration Rule online training course is [now available in Spanish](#).

On September 15, the FDA announced its [first consent decree](#) of permanent injunction against a firm or grower for violating public safety standards under the Produce Safety Rule enacted under the Food Safety Modernization Act of 2011.

On September 21, the FDA announced a [proposed rule](#) to establish additional traceability recordkeeping requirements for certain foods. The FDA also published a draft “Food Traceability List,” which describes the foods that would be subject to the proposed requirements. The list includes leafy greens, fresh cut fruits and vegetables, some types of fish, shell eggs, nut butters, and more. The proposed rule is a key component of the FDA’s New Era of Smarter Food Safety Blueprint and would implement Section 204(d) of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA).

Produce Safety Alliance remote training updates

The NCR will cover the cost of PSA manuals and AFDO certificates for collaborative remote trainings (up to 10 participants per state). We’re defining “collaborative” as a training where trainers from 2 or more states work together to plan and lead the event (not a training that one state hosts and a grower from another state happens to register for). Money is available until it has all been requested. Trainer sharing money is still available for trainings targeting one state. Contact Ellen if you have questions or would like logistical help during your remote training.



A [list of remote PSA courses](#), sponsored by trainers in the North Central Region, is available on the NCR website. This can be shared with growers in your state, if they are looking for additional options.

A [google calendar](#) that includes more details about the training (including how many spots are reserved for growers in a particular state) is also available. To add your remote courses, [please fill out this survey](#).

The Produce Safety Alliance is hosting [webinars focused on teaching the PSA Grower Training remotely](#) each Thursday in October and November at 11:00 Central time. The webinars will focus on one module with tips for teaching remotely.

Upcoming NCR FSMA Meetings



The **Listening Sessions/ Webinars** happen the third Thursday of every month at 2:00 Central time. Join us for the next meeting on **October 15**. We'll be sharing ideas for engagement during remote trainings (PSA and other trainings). What has worked well in trainings you've attended or led? What's your best suggestion for encouraging participation during virtual events?

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:

If you missed the September 17 call about the exemptions and coverage tool, you can find a [recording and notes](#) in the Box. Contact Ellen if you don't have access.

The **meeting for inspectors/state regulators** happens the first Friday of the month 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 October meeting has been cancelled, so the next meeting is scheduled for **Friday, November 9**. Discussion topic is sanitizers. Contact [Ellen](#) for call information.

The **meeting about farm inventories** for state government employees is happening on **Friday, November 20**, at 9:00 am Central time. If you are charged with developing or maintaining the farm inventory in your state, please plan to join the call. Contact [Ellen](#) for call information.

Funding Available

[Funds are available](#) to help NCR partners (anyone who participates in NCR activities) attend virtual trainings/events (including events like the upcoming, virtual IAFP meeting). 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.

Congratulations

-Carmen Holmes was awarded the “State Master Gardener Sustained Excellence Award” for Illinois

-Iowa State University On-Farm Produce Safety Team was awarded the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach “Team Award”



If you or your team has received an award, please [let us know](#) so we can celebrate your accomplishments.

Upcoming PSA Courses

Kansas and Missouri: Nov. 5 (remote course)

Michigan: Oct. 20; Nov. 10; Dec. 1; Jan. 12; Feb. 9; March 9 (all remote courses)

North Dakota: Nov. 14 (in-person course)

Produce Safety Alliance: Oct. 14-15 (remote course)

Online course: begins every two 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: Oct. 5, 12, 13, 20, and 28; Nov. 3, 4, 16, and 30; Dec. 1, 7, 8, and 14

PC Animal Food: Oct. 19

FSVP: Oct. 8, 20, and 29; Nov. 17 and 19; Dec. 10

Iowa: PC Human Food: Dec. 7

Michigan: PC Human Food: Oct. 7 and 20; Nov. 10

FSVP: Nov. 17

Minnesota: PC Human Food: Oct. 21

Nebraska: PC Human Food: Dec. 2

Ohio: PC Human Food: Nov. 3; Dec. 8

Wisconsin: PC Human Food: Oct. 5 and 6; Nov. 4 and 10; Dec. 8 and 14

Online: Human Food: Oct. 1, 2, 7, 8, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27, and 28; Nov. 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 30; Dec. 1, 2, 8, 10, 16, and 18

PC Animal Food: Oct. 5, 7, 9, 12, and 14; Nov. 2 and 16; Dec. 7

FSVP: Oct. 1, 13, 14, 16, and 23; Nov. 2, 10, 16, and 18; Dec. 1, 7, 15, and 17

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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