

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY



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

# Lightning Round Talks

# Saying one thing, doing another...

Author: Cal Jamerson, Produce Safety Extension Associate, KSRE



## 32 Pre-workshop assessments, 20 Post-workshop assessments

Majority knew the right answer and stated that was their practice - Every single farm that participated in post assessment were doing things that directly contradicted the pre-assessments

Penn State Study - "We found that our direct field observations and inspector findings were very similar, yet very different from what most vendors said they were doing — their self-reported behaviors... There was a chasm, if you will, between what we and the inspectors saw, and what vendors reported they were doing... The vendors think they are doing a good job, when in reality they are not. We are not sure why there were such discrepancies."

## Conclusion - or more accurately what next?

- 1) While financial concerns are a factor, it's more the lack of buy-in to food safety and willingness to dedicate the time/energy
- 2) How do we as educators get growers to truly value and implement good produce safety practices?

# FARMERS TRAINERS MAKE GOOD TRAININGS GREAT

Annalisa Hultberg, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota

Minnesota has 9 produce farmers on the training team

Farmers attended TTT in MN in fall 2016 and 2017

Farmer trainers have led modules at all of Minnesota's 23 GTs

Process: Attend TTT → participate in Zoom prep sessions → deliver 1-2 modules at GTs during over winter → continual improvement, study → pre-season Zoom prep sessions, new modules

Farmer trainers paid \$1000 for each training from CAP funds, which includes all prep time, prep meeting attendance, travel

## Benefits:

- Farmer trainers bring authenticity and a positive, approachable tone
- Their voices are respected, as they have experience implementing practices
- Farmers give specific, ground-tested suggestions
- When farmers talk about the benefits of food safety, participants really listen. Their passion cannot be replaced.

**Challenges:** They are busy, and this is not their primary job. Cross-training.

*Quote from eval: Thank you for having farmers present this material. It is so good to hear from a fellow farmer about how they do this on their farm. I thought that this would be so hard, but I see it is actually not that difficult.*

*Farmers should lead in all trainings!*



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA | EXTENSION

# BRINGING THE CURRICULUM TO LIFE

Ren Olive, University of MN Extension – Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships



## OBJECTIVE:

- Activities, clickers, stories and anecdotes
- Build audience buy-in and value

## RESULTS:

- Who, when, where, what
- Risks
- Rewards



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA | EXTENSION

# Building Online GAPs Curriculum For Farmers... With Farmers!

Anne Sawyer, PhD  
Extension Educator, On-Farm Food Safety  
University of Minnesota

## Objective:

Create online GAPs curriculum, including on-farm photos and videos, activities, supplemental materials, and knowledge assessments for MN farmers.

## Primary activities:

- Script writing
- Farmer script review team (paid)
- Farmer actors and on-farm footage (paid)
- Work with Extension Technology for filming, photos, module development
- Farmer video review team (paid)
- Go live!

**Funding:** MDA Specialty Crop Block Grant







**CLEARINGHOUSE**

## **Background**

**One-stop shop serving up  
food safety resources**

**Connecting: People – Projects – Publications**

**Curated and Crowd-sourced**

**Extending the reach of local and regional  
outputs nationally**

## **Summary of National Use**

12 months ending May 13, 2019

**304** resources from

**62** contributors

**18,175** page views in

**5,305** sessions @ 3.3 min,

**291** contact hours by

**2,593** unique users

**go.uvm.edu/clearinghouse**

**necafs@uvm.edu**

## **Types of Resources**

- Guidance - Federal
- People
- Project
- National Curricula
- Add-on / Supplemental Educational Material
- Fact Sheets
- Published Plans & Statutes (State)
- Published Rules (Federal)
- Coverage Assessment Tools
- Videos
- Tools & Calculators
- Funding Source
- Informational Overview
- TAN Question/Answer

## **Topics Covered**

### **Preventive Controls for Human Foods (PCHF)**

General (PCHF)

Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs)

Preventive Controls (PCs)

Food Safety Plan

### **Produce Safety Rule (PSR)**

General (PSR)

Worker Health, Hygiene & Training

Soil Amendments

Wildlife, Domestic Animals & Land Use

Ag Water (Preharvest)

Ag Water (Postharvest)

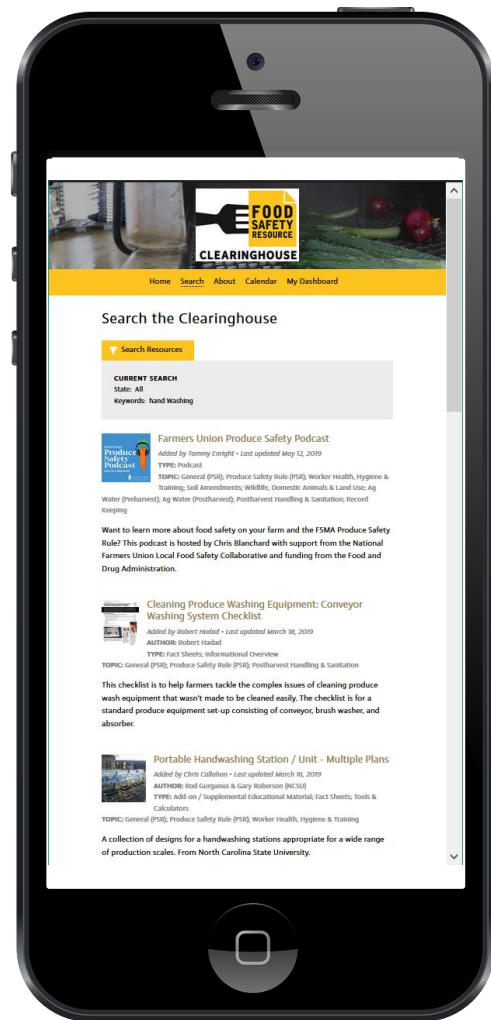
Postharvest Handling & Sanitation

Food Safety Plans

Record Keeping

## **Future Work**

- Increase National Presence and Use
- Add Resource Review Function
- Add Download / “Like” Metrics
- Add Auto-Notifications
- Improve User Experience (e.g. Search features)
- Other ideas?



# Nebraska Department of Agriculture

In the Nebraska Produce Grower Inventory are:

- 7 Covered farms
- 34 Qualified Exempt farms
- 219 Exempt farms

5 “large” covered farms set to be inspected in 2019

Because of flooding, inspections may be delayed indefinitely

NDA is also offering post flood readiness reviews

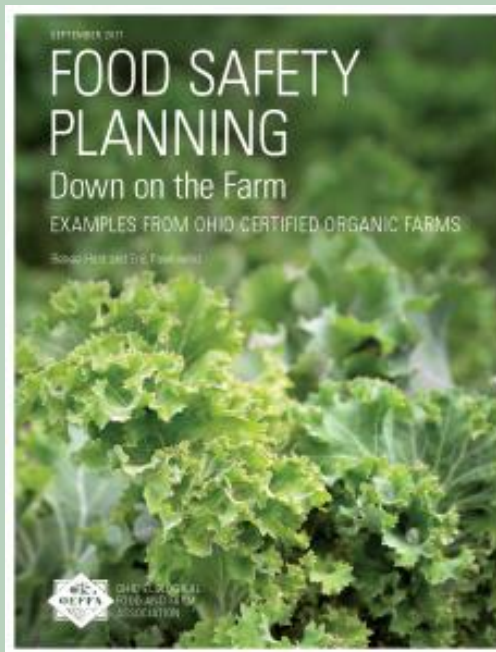
Goal to conduct OFRRs on every farm before it is inspected

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**NEBRASKA**  
Good Life. Great Roots.  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



## OHIO ECOLOGICAL FOOD AND FARM ASSOCIATION



### Objective:

Alleviate farmer anxiety about creating an on-farm food safety plan. 2015 ODA SCBG # AGR-SCG-15 2

### Results:

- Published case studies with resources & templates
- 30+ plans created
- Every 3<sup>rd</sup>-party audit passed with 90+% grade
- On-farm tours and workshops
- On-demand technical support maintained

### Conclusions:

- Community, commiseration and affirmation
- Specialized service for demographics
  - BFRDP – Plain community – Homesteaders
- Commitment



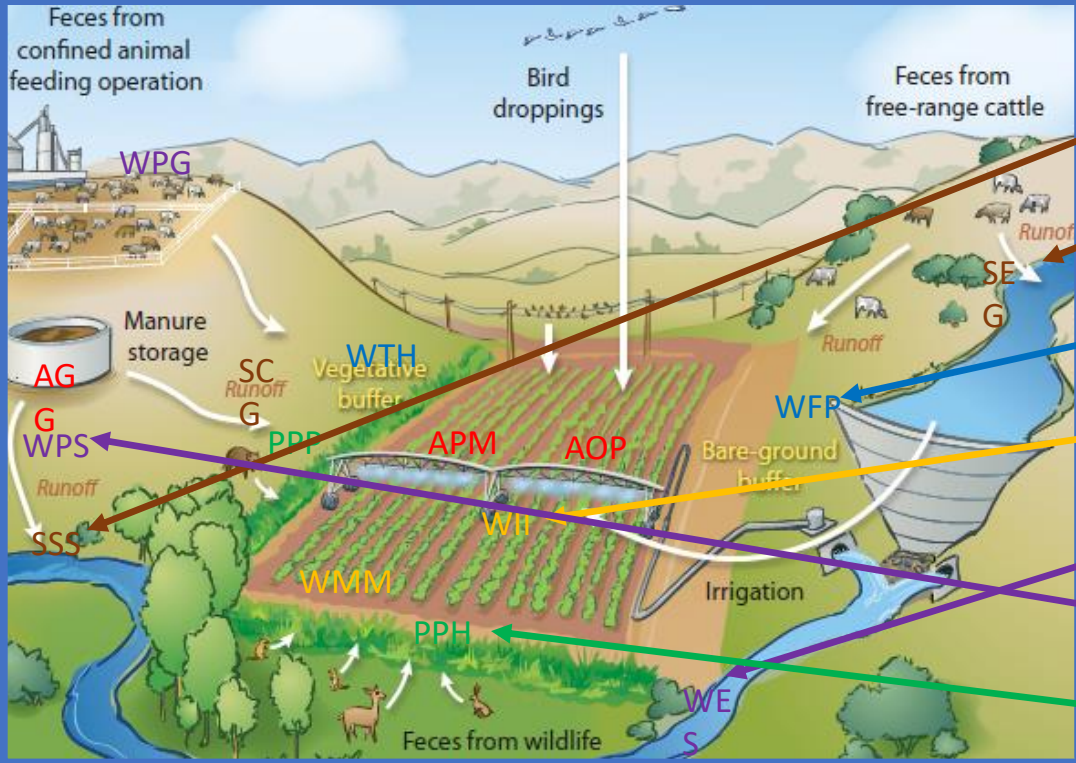
Image: UC Davis Food Safety  
Balancing Food Safety and  
Sustainability Course

- **Objective:** create guidelines that hit on food safety and environmental stewardship management goals.
- **Methods:** Analysis of NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program Ranking\_FY\_2019\_CPPE\_10-19-18 MS Excel spreadsheet (internal NRCS document)
- Soil Erosion
  - Ephemeral gully soil erosion (SEG)
  - Classic gully erosion (SCG)
  - Streambank/shoreline soil erosion (SSS)
- Excess Water
  - Runoff Flooding or Ponding (WFP)
  - Seasonal High Water Table (WTH)
- Insufficient Water
  - Inefficient irrigation (WII)
  - Inefficient moisture management (WMM)
- Water Quality Degradation
  - Excess Pathogen in surface waters (WPS)
  - Excess Pathogen in groundwater (WPG)
  - Excess Sediment in surface water (WES)
- Degraded Plant Condition
  - Undesirable plant productivity and health (PPH)
  - Excessive plant pest pressure (PPP)
- Air Quality Impacts
  - Emissions of Particulate Matter (APM)
  - Emissions of Ozone Precursors (AOP)
  - Emission of Greenhouse Gasses (AGG)

NRCS funding opportunities for edge-of-field corrective actions

Jordan DeVries – Produce Safety Technician

Michigan Conservation Districts



Conservation Practices  
& NRCS funding codes

- Diversion (362)  
5 3 4 3 2 0 17
- Grade Stabilization Structure (410)  
6 0 0 3 0 0 9
- Grassed Waterway (412)  
10 5 0 3 9 1 28
- Microirrigation System (441)  
0 9 3 4 3 4 23
- Irrigation management (449)  
0 1 5 8 4 8 24
- Roof Runoff Structure (558)  
5 1 5 4 0 0 13
- Underground outlet (620)  
9 4 0 1 2 0 14

Conclusions:

- Mixed operations with produce and livestock will be greatest beneficiary of EQIP funding due to greater array of resource concerns.
- Produce-only farms should try to utilize grassed waterways, micro-irrigation and underground outlet (drain tiling) to control water.
- Grassed waterway installations (conveyances) should be used to boost ranking score if waterborne pathogen transport is of concern.
- Micro-irrigation must be paired with Irrigation Water Management Plan: this combo scores well in plant health, air quality, water quality resource concerns, also moves irrigation practice from overhead (high risk) to drip for farms irrigating with surface waters.

# Helping Sprout Operations Stay in Compliance with FSMA

Kaiping Deng, Sprout Safety Alliance (SSA)

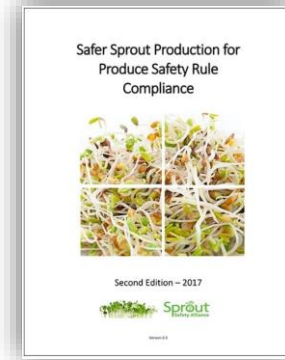
**Objective: to enhance the sprout industry's understanding and implementation of the PSR**

## Key Requirements for Sprouts:

- Building and sanitation
- Environmental sampling for *Listeria*
- Beans and seeds inspection
- Seed treatment
- Spent sprout irrigation water sampling
- Recordkeeping

Subpart M

Produce Rule



## SSA Programs:

- Sprout grower trainings
- Technical Assistance Network (SSA TAN)
- Webinars
- Video series

[sproutalliance@iit.edu](mailto:sproutalliance@iit.edu); (708)-563-8170

# Produce safety assessments and grower water testing in Kansas and Missouri

Author: Londa Nwadike, Extension Food Safety Specialist, and project team  
Kansas State University/University of Missouri

## Project objectives:

1. Compare effectiveness of on-farm produce safety training for farmers to classroom training
2. Provide free water testing to farmers attending trainings, develop capacity for future
3. Smartphone app to assist with FSMA traceability

## Results/ conclusions:

1. Developed quantitative farm assessment to evaluate training effectiveness. 22 participants in 2 on-farm trainings; 70 in 6 classroom trainings in KS/MO. Pre-workshop assessment on 32 farms.
2. Water testing has picked up recently. Planning to submit FSOP grant to continue testing
3. App available for use. Can generate traceability QR code, traceability search available.

Training attended:	Farm training	Classroom training	FSMA training	No training
Average % improvement	10.2%	12.5% (8.5% with farm with +57% removed)	25.3% (p=0.067)	0% (1 farm +12%, 1 farm -12%)
Number of farms (n)	5	12	3	2



# Dropped Produce and Food Safety

Manreet Bhullar





# Building Regulator Regional Partnerships

## Nick Roth – Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Objective: Build a lasting space for all states in the NCR to discuss implementation of the PSR

### Conclusions:

- Interest is high for more communication/cooperation between state regulatory agencies
- The start of inspections makes it crucial that we interpret, enforce, & explain the rule consistently
- We need to foster **active & lasting** partnerships in the region to:
  - Get states talking to each other
  - Keep that communication frequent
- The NCR FSMA center is willing to support us in this effort

### Proposal:

- Jump into the pool:
  - 3 zoom meetings this summer for state inspectors
  - Develop groups for Program Management & Inventory/Data through-out the year
- NCR Staff will assist:
  - Set-up Zoom meetings
  - Act as moderator/note taker for discussions
  - Store notes & a working FAQ on Food Shield

**Tentative 1st Zoom Meeting:** June 17<sup>th</sup> “Describe State Inspection Processes”