

Produce Safety Acronyms

Most of these acronyms are pronounced by reading the individual letters. I've tried to note where they are pronounced as words.

Acronym	Term	Notes
AFDO	Association of Food and Drug Officials	pronounced Aff-dough. Regulatory organization that connects food and medical-products safety stakeholders and impacts the regulatory environment by shaping sound, science-based rules, law, regulations, and sharing best practices that protect public health. Sends certificates after participants have completed the Produce Safety Alliance grower training.
AFRI	Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	pronounced Aff-ree. The nation's leading competitive grants program for agricultural sciences
AMS	Agricultural Marketing Service	part of the USDA that helps create opportunities for growers and buyers through GAP and GHP audit programs
APHL	Association of Public Health Laboratories	works to strengthen laboratory systems serving the public's health in the US and Globally
ARS	Agricultural Research Service, USDA	in-house research agency of the USDA
BSAAO (sometimes BSAOAO)	Biological Soil Amendments of Animal Origin	pronounced B-S-A-A-O or Bah-sow (sow as in the pig, not sowing seeds). biological soil amendment which consists, in whole or in part, of materials of animal origin, such as manure or non-fecal animal byproducts
CAC	Codex Alimentarius Commission	sets the food code, as part of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization
CBP	U.S. Customs and Border Protection	regulates and facilitates international trade, collects import duties, and enforces U.S. regulations

CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	the nation's health protection agency, works to save lives and protect people from health, safety, and security threats
CFSAN	Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition	pronounced Sif-San. Responsible for promoting and protecting the public's health by ensuring that the nation's food supply is safe, sanitary, wholesome, and honestly labeled
CFU	Colony Forming Units	way of measuring bacteria (part of water sampling)
CSI/CSO	Consumer Safety Inspector/Officer	works to inspect various industries that are regulated by the government
DHHS/HHS	(U.S. Department of) Health and Human Services	works to enhance and protect the health and well-being of all Americans
DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security	works to improve the security of the United States
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	conducts environmental assessment, research, and education
FAS	Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA	helps bring U.S. agricultural products to international markets
FDA	U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services	government agency responsible for protecting and promoting public health
FNS	Food and Nutrition Service, USDA	administers the nation's domestic nutrition assistance programs
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act	provides the public the right to request access to records from any federal agency
FSMA	Food Safety Modernization Act	pronounced Fizz-muh. Gave the FDA new authorities to regulate the way foods are grown, harvested and processed

FSOP	Food Safety Outreach Program	pronounced "F"-sop. Grants that provide funding for food safety training and education for small and mid-sized producers and processors affected by FSMA Funds the regional centers, including the NCR FSMA
FSPCA	Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance	broad-based public private alliance consisting of key industry, academic and government stakeholders whose mission is to support safe food production by developing a nationwide core curriculum, training and outreach programs to assist companies producing human and animal food in complying with preventive controls regulations
FSVP	Foreign Supplier Verification program	import requirements of FSMA that deal with verification of the safety of imported food
GAP	Good Agricultural Practice	pronounced like a word- gap. Any agricultural management practice or operational procedure that reduces microbial risk or prevents contamination of fruits and vegetables on the farm or in the packing areas
GAP Audit	Good Agricultural Practice Audit	voluntary audits that verify that fruits and vegetables are produced, packed, handled, and stored as safely as possible to minimize risks of microbial food safety hazards
GAP	Good Agricultural Practice Harmonized Audit	attempts to reconcile GAPs and FSMA
GHP	Good Handling Practices	voluntary audit that verifies that fruits and vegetables are handled as safely as possible to minimize risks of microbial food safety hazards
GM	Geometric Mean	measure of microbial water quality
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practices	outline sanitary standards and practices for handling of food

GRAS	Generally Recognized As Safe	pronounced like a word- grass. Substance that is generally recognized, among qualified experts, as having been adequately shown to be safe under the conditions of its intended use
HACCP	Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point	pronounced Ha-sip. identifies critical control points where contamination can occur and manages these points as a way of ensuring the safety of the products being produced
IAFP	International Association for Food Protection	association that helps members exchange information on protecting the food supply
IFSH	Institute for Food Safety and Health	food science research institute
IFPTI	International Food Protection Training Institute	protects public health and the global food supply by building workforce capacity
IFT	Institute of Food Technologists	advances the science of food and its application across the global food system
JIFSAN	Joint Institute for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition	pronounced Jiff-san. Fosters the missions of FDA and the University of MD through the creation of partnerships to increase the quantity and quality of research, which will provide the basis for sound public health policy
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheets	now known as Safety Data Sheets (SDS)
NACMCF	National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods	provides guidance and recommendations regarding the microbiological safety of foods
NASDA	National Association of State Departments of Agriculture	pronounced as a word, Nas-duh. Grows and enhances agriculture by forging partnerships and creating Departments of Agriculture consensus to achieve sound policy outcomes between state departments of agriculture, the federal government, and stakeholders. Hosts the Produce Safety Consortium each year.

NCC	National Coordination Center	no longer exists
NCR FSMA	North Central Region Center FSMA Training	pronounced N-C-R Fizz-muh. Housed at Iowa State University, covers 12 for Midwestern states
NECAFS	Northeast Center for the Advancement of Food Safety	pronounced Knee-cafs. Housed at the University of Vermont, covers 12 New England/Mid-Atlantic states and DC
NIFA	National Institute of Food and Agriculture	pronounced as a word- niffa. Partners with the FDA to provide grants to fund food safety training, education, extension, outreach, and technical assistance Oversees the FSOP program that funds this project
NOP	National Organic Program	develops and enforces uniform national standards for organically-produced agricultural products
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service	part of the USDA, partners with farmers to support conservation on farms
ORA	Office of Regulatory Affairs	inspects regulated products and manufacturers, conducts sample analyses of regulated products, and reviews imported products offered for entry into the United States
PCQI	Preventive Controls Qualified Individual	qualified individual who has successfully completed training
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment	worn to minimize exposure to hazards
PSA	Produce Safety Alliance	collaboration between Cornell University, FDA, and USDA to prepare fresh produce growers to meet the regulatory requirements included in the FSMA Produce Safety Rule
PSN	Produce Safety Network	produce safety experts from CFSAN and ORA who are regionally-based and responsible for collaborating and communicating with regional partners to support high levels of compliance in the farming community

PSR	Produce Safety Rule	1 of 7 major rules in FSMA
OREI	Organic Research and Education Initiative	seeks to solve critical organic agriculture issues
RC's	regional centers	four centers established to identify needs specific to their area (Northeast, Western, Southeast, and North Central). Funded by USDA NIFA funding through the FSOP grant. NECAFS, WRCEFS, SC, and NCR FSMA
rTAN	regulator TAN	pronounced ARE- tan: Technical support network available on-demand to inspectors to address questions related to FSMA rules, programs, and strategies
SC	Southern Center for FSMA Training	housed at the University of Florida, covers 13 states in the South, Southeast, and Puerto Rico
SCI	Specialty Crops Inspection	division of USDA Agricultural Marketing Service- provides quality assurance reviews, inspections, audits, and develops standards
SCRI	Specialty Crops Research Initiative	pronounced as a word- scree. Addresses the needs of the specialty crop industry by awarding grants
SDS	Safety Data Sheets	previously known as Material Safety Data Sheets. Contain information on the potential health effects or exposure to chemicals
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure	set of step-by-step instructions compiled by a site to help employees carry out operations
SSA	Sprout Safety Alliance	develops a core curriculum and training and outreach programs for stakeholders in the sprout production community
SSOP	Sanitation Standard Operating Procedures	written plan of procedures conducted daily, prior to and during processing to prevent cross contamination and adulteration of product

STEC	Shiga-toxin Producing Escherichia coli	pronounced "S"-teck. Type of pathogenic E. coli that produce Shiga toxin
STV	statistical threshold value	measure of variability of water quality
TAN	Technical Assistance Network	pronounced as a word- tan: Addresses questions related to FSMA rules, programs and strategies
TtT	Train the Trainer	workshops that prepare people to train others in SSA, PSA, etc.
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture	develops and executes federal laws related to farming, forestry, and food
WRCEFS	Western Regional Center to Enhance Food Safety	pronounced Were-sefs. Housed at Oregon State University, covers 13 Western states and 2 territories