



Farm Food Safety

A Brief Introduction to the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)

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Relevance to the Farm

- You can prevent and reduce risks on the farm
- You know your farm and practices better than anyone, but you may not know the consequences of your current practices on food safety risks
- Your actions directly impact food safety and the financial viability of your farm





The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)

- FSMA includes:
 - Produce Safety Rule
 - Preventive Controls for Human Food
 - Preventive Controls for Animal Food
 - Foreign Supplier Verification Programs
 - Accreditation of Third-Party Auditors/Certification Bodies
 - Sanitary Transportation of Human and Animal Food
 - Prevention of Intentional Contamination/Adulteration
- Focused on prevention of food safety issues and encompasses the entire food system





FSMA Produce Safety Rule

- First ever mandatory federal standard for growing, harvesting, packing, and holding of fresh produce
- Some growers may be eligible for an exemption or excluded based on:
 - Commodities grown (e.g., rarely consumed raw)
 - Processing activities that include a ‘kill step’
 - Average annual produce sales
 - Average annual food sales and sales to ‘qualified end users’
- Ultimately, all growers should understand and take action to reduce food safety risks on the farm



What produce is exempt from the PS rule?

Sweet potatoes!





What produce is exempt from the PS rule?

- **Asparagus**; black, great Northern, kidney, lima, navy, and pinto beans; **garden beets** (roots and tops); sugar beets; **cashews**; sour cherries; chickpeas; **cocoa beans**; **coffee beans**; **collards**; **sweet corn**; cranberries; **dates**; **dill** (seeds and weed); **eggplants**; **figs**; **ginger**; hazelnuts; horseradish; lentils; **okra**; **peanuts**; pecans; **peppermint**; **potatoes**; **pumpkins**; **winter squash**; **sweet potatoes**; and water chestnuts.
- Food grains: barley, dent- or flint-corn, sorghum, oats, rice, rye, wheat, amaranth, quinoa, buckwheat, and oilseeds



What is your farm income?

Q4. What is Your Farm Income?

Average Annual Produce Sales

Produce sales is greater than \$25K*:

- Monetary value of all produce sales (covered and not covered)

Average annual produce sales:

- Rolling value based on sales over previous 3 years



Grossing >\$25K in annual sales? You *might* still be exempt depending on your market



What requirements must I comply with?

What Requirements Must I Comply With?

Standards for Growing, Harvesting, Packing, and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption

- ▣ Personnel qualifications and training
- ▣ Health and hygiene
- ▣ Agricultural water
- ▣ Biological soil amendments of animal origin
- ▣ Domesticated and wild animals
- ▣ Growing, harvesting, packing, and holding activities
- ▣ Equipment, tools, buildings, and sanitation
- ▣ Sprouts





We are here to help!

- Produce Safety Alliance Grower Trainings
- On-Farm Readiness Reviews
- Farm visits and consultations

Contact Emilie or Roshan for more information

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