



Produce Safety NEWSLETTER

PROGRAM UPDATE

The Idaho State Department Produce Safety Division (ISDA) have fully resumed face to face activities. This means inspections along with other activities are underway for 2020. In addition to inspections, ISDA is still offering On-Farm Readiness Reviews in collaboration with University of Idaho Extension to help covered farms prepare for a regulatory inspection. On-Farm Readiness Reviews are strictly educational, confidential, voluntary, non-regulatory, and available to all farms with covered produce. Please contact us to schedule your On-Farm Readiness Review at fsma@isda.idaho.gov or (208) 332-8502

Qualified Exempt farms are expected to update their status with ISDA annually to maintain the exemption. If you haven't updated your status or if you are unsure of your farms status, please contact ISDA for more information (208)332-8502.

FDA is seeking public comment for the potential expansion of the commodity rarely consumed raw list. FDA will consider submitted comments and determine whether any commodities should be added to the "rarely consumed raw" list and thereby be exempt from the Produce Safety Rule. The items currently on the exhaustive rarely consumed raw list are not subject to the requirements of the Produce Safety Rule. If you would like to comment on a commodity subject to the Produce Safety Rule, you can do so by clicking here: [Submit a Formal Comment](#)

[Click here for all program news and updates](#)

PRODUCE SAFETY ALLIANCE (PSA) GROWER TRAININGS

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture in collaboration with University of Idaho Extension, will be presenting the Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training Courses remotely via Zoom Online Conference platform. The trainings will be presented over the course of two days, for four hours each day. See below for technological requirements, instructions and accessibility in order to successfully attend the remote trainings. If a participant requires the training and doesn't have capabilities to attend the training remotely (online), participants will need to reach out to University of Idaho Extension to make alternate arrangements to attend the training by emailing Lu Hauger at: lhauger@uidaho.edu.

[Register for a Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training](#)

TRAINING DATES

All sessions will be held remotely through Zoom

- November 12th, 2020 – November 13th, 2020
- January 12th, 2021 – January 13th, 2021
- January 28th, 2021 – January 29th, 2021
- February 16th, 2021 – February 17th, 2021
- March 9th, 2021 – March 10th, 2021

All training courses will be scheduled 9:30AM (MST) - 2:00PM (MST)

There is no cost to attend the training at this time. If participants register for the course, they are expected to attend. Please do not register for the course if you are unsure you will be able to attend the remote trainings. Instead, please wait to register until you are certain you can attend. If you register for the training and are unable to attend the training, please contact University of Idaho Extension so you can be removed from the course.

NEW TO ZOOM?

Additional information will be provided to participants upon registering for the course, in addition to a tutorial on joining the training courses.

WHO? **Who Should Attend PSA Trainings:** Fruit and vegetable growers and others interested in learning about produce safety, the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule, Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), and co-management of natural resources and food safety. The PSA Grower Training Course is one way to satisfy the FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirement outlined in § 112.22(c) that requires *'At least one supervisor or responsible party for your farm must have successfully completed food safety training at least equivalent to that received under standardized curriculum recognized as adequate by the Food and Drug Administration.'*

WHAT? **What to Expect at the PSA Grower Training Course:**

The trainers will spend approximately eight hours of total instruction time over the two days (four hours each day), covering content contained in these seven modules:

1. Introduction to Produce Safety
2. Worker Health, Hygiene, and Training
3. Soil Amendments
4. Wildlife, Domesticated Animals, and Land Use
5. Agricultural Water (Part I: Production Water; Part II: Post-harvest Water)
6. Postharvest Handling and Sanitation
7. How to Develop a Farm Food Safety Plan

In addition to learning about produce safety best practices, key parts of the FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirements are outlined within each module. There will be time for questions and discussion, so participants should come prepared to share their experiences and produce safety questions.

Why? **Benefits of Attending the Course:**

The course will provide FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirements, a foundation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and co-management information, FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirements, and details on how to develop a farm food safety plan. Individuals who participate in this course are expected to gain a basic understanding of:

- ✦ Microorganisms relevant to produce safety and where they may be found on the farm
- ✦ How to identify microbial risks, practices that reduce risks, and how to begin implementing produce safety practices on the farm
- ✦ Parts of a farm food safety plan and how to begin writing one
- ✦ Requirements in the FSMA Produce Safety Rule and how to meet them

After attending the entire course, participants will be eligible to receive a certificate from the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) that verifies they have completed the training course. To receive an AFDO certificate, a participant must be present for the entire training and submit the appropriate paperwork to their trainer at the end of the course.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

All PSA Grower Training Courses are being held remotely (online). Participants must be present for all modules in order to receive credit for participating in the course. In order for participants to be present during the training, participants must be able to engage through video and audio throughout the remote training. Participants engagement will be monitored throughout the duration of the training course to ensure the requirements have been met. Participants will require an active internet connection, access to Zoom, camera, microphone, and the ability to interact throughout the training. ISDA will be mailing out required educational materials approximately two weeks prior to the training date. If attendees do not attend, they will be expected to return the educational materials as soon as possible.

Contact Information:

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