



Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Operational Plan Overview

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Background

- Farm community:
 - Diverse by size, commodities, practices and agroecological conditions
 - Numerous and concentrated/ unevenly distributed across the US and abroad
 - Subject to multiple marketing agreements/orders and supplier audits
 - Limited interaction with FDA in the past



Regulator Capacity

- Increase produce knowledge, skills and credibility of the food safety staff of FDA and regulatory partners

Build a workforce with specialized skill set focused on produce.



Regulator Capacity

- Increase knowledge, skills and credibility of produce food safety staff of FDA and regulatory partners.
 - Build a workforce with specialized skill set focused on produce.
 - **Comprehensive, Hands-On Regulator Training including**
 - PSA core curriculum
 - Regulator course including on-farm assessment
 - Continuing education (PSA curricula, as developed)



Regulator Capacity

- Increase knowledge, skills and credibility of produce food safety staff of FDA and regulatory partners.
 - Build a workforce with specialized skill set focused on produce.
 - **Comprehensive and Hands-On Model for Regulator Training**
 - On-farm learning in training program
 - » University and other federal agency farm sites
 - » Volunteer farms
 - Farm protocol and etiquette component
 - New tools and forms component



Regulator Capacity

- Increase knowledge, skills and credibility of produce food safety staff of FDA and regulatory partners.
 - Build a workforce with specialized skill set focused on produce.
 - **Regulator Technical Assistance Call Center**
 - Allows for inquires and responses while at the inspection sites
 - Access to SMEs & additional resources



Regulatory Approach

- Establish and utilize “new” regulatory strategy focused on education, training and voluntary compliance
 - Joint FDA and State regulatory inspections: fosters trust with farming community
 - Emphasize and encourage preventive measures and practices: less focus on violative citations



Regulatory Approach

- Establish and utilize “new” regulatory strategy focused on education, training, and voluntary compliance.
 - Encourage corrections in field
 - Routinely share guidance and other resources
 - Share findings, trends, and observations with farms
 - local meetings with commodity groups
 - Webinars
 - On-line information access



Regulatory Approach

- Better Execution of an Expanded Set of Farm Related Activities by Regulators to Facilitate Compliance
 - Data sharing among regulators and other stakeholders
 - Data Analysis
 - Trends
 - Identification of risks
 - Focus on risks
 - Targeted Sampling Programs



Questions