Produce Safety & FSMA in Vermont

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VERMONT TREE FRUIT GROWERS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING | FEBRUARY 14, 2019
Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)  
Produce Safety Rule

1. One of 7 final FSMA Rules
2. Effective as of January 26, 2016
3. Sets national standards for farms that grow, harvest, pack or hold produce
4. Tiered compliance and inspection dates based on annual sales
5. Several types of exemptions
Key Requirements
Covered Farms

1. Worker health, hygiene & training
2. Equipment, tools, buildings & sanitation
3. Domesticated & wild animals
4. Agricultural water: pre-harvest, handwashing, food contact
5. Biological soil amendments of animal origin (BSAAO): manure, compost
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Farm Size</th>
<th>Compliance Dates</th>
<th>Inspections Begin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Large ($&gt;$500K)</td>
<td>January 26, 2018</td>
<td>May 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small ($&gt;$250 – 500K)</td>
<td>January 28, 2019</td>
<td>2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualified Exempt Farms – Retention of Records</td>
<td>January 26, 2016</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qualified Exempt Farms – Labeling</td>
<td>January 1, 2020</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tbody>
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Vermont Produce Program
Growing Produce Safety on Vermont Farms

1. Vermont Produce Portal
2. Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training Course
   84 Vermont produce growers trained
3. On-Farm Readiness Reviews (OFRR)
   18 Vermont farms have received an OFRR
4. Technical Assistance & Site Visits
5. Produce Safety Improvement Grant Program
   17 Vermont farms awarded to date
6. UVM Extension Produce Safety Team
   producesafety@uvm.edu

Program Overview Video
Accreditation & Certification Programs

1. Community Accreditation for Produce Safety (CAPS & CAPS+)
   A voluntary, practical approach to documenting on-farm practices that reduce food safety risks. capsvt.org

2. USDA Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) & Good Handling Practices (GHP)
   The Vermont Agency of Agriculture no longer offers USDA GAP audits. Growers may obtain an audit by contacting USDA.

3. Harmonized GAP & Harmonized GAP+
Contact Information

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Questions?