



Day 2, Wednesday, Feb. 6th, 2019

8:00am: Federal Updates

Stephen Hughes- FDA

- **Goal is to Educator while and before we regulate**
- Key terminology
 - Standard curriculum
 - Modified curricula- accommodations to suit audience
 - Equivalent curricula- training that is equivalent to standardized curriculum, but with a few different objectives
 - Alternate curricula- FDA recognized equivalent curricula
 - Add to clearinghouse (added:
<http://www.uvm.edu/extension/necafs/clearinghouse/resources/fda-recognized-training-programs-and-materials-standardized-terminology>)
- Technical Assistance Network (TAN)
 - Answer questions about FSMA
 - Since 2017, about 300 questions
 - Most about coverage/qualified exemptions
- What is the Regulator TAN?
 - Resources available to FDA investigators and state inspectors. It is an appointment system and phone-based to obtain timely technical assistance. Discuss questions during appointment period. The FDA will take notes on the questions asked and will NOT include farm info (name, address, operator, etc.)
- Building institutional knowledge of the unique growing conditions, practices and compliance challenges
- Domestic on-farm readiness reviews
 - ONs offering On-Farm readiness reviews in certain states
 - Demonstration OFRR conducted in Puerto Rico and Kentucky, and well-received by industry.
- International on-farm readiness reviews
 - Why is the FDA doing this? FSMA section 305- expectation of international assistance
 - Limitations of OFRR- staff, funding, language barriers
 - Conduct a limited # of foreign university personnel in Latin America to offer OFRRs to farmers in their countries
 - Focusing on Latin America due to the high import of produce from these countries.
- Collaborating with stakeholders to prevent, detect and respond to foodborne outbreaks.

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Ken Peterson- USDA Harmonized Gap Program

- Late 2015 USDA and FDA formed a working group to review the on farm audit plans and PSR to identify similarities and differences. Gap harmonized standards was developed
- Early 2017 updated standard was published
- Jan 2018- launched updated harmonized gap audit plan
- FDA provided the USDA with a formal letter of acknowledgment in June 2018
- An audit will NEVER replace an FDA inspection but is a tool for growers to meet those requirements
- First government agency in the world to achieve technical equivalency
- “one stop shopping” for producers
- continuing to adopt harmonized gap standard- the FDA will be providing financial assistance for 16 states (mainly NE)

Jodi Williams - USDA NIFA Food Safety Outreach Program

- NIFA working in partner with FDA to help implement FSMA through trainings
- FSOP program outcomes- **Please report findings to your regional center**
 - New education, training materials, resources, delivery mechanisms, commodities or common FS issues, target audiences, best practices, # of education and training sessions, # of participants, etc.
- 2018- reestablished regional centers
 - University of Florida lead regional center to coordinate across US
 - 60 active multistate project
- 2019 Request For Applications- mid way through approval process. Gov’t shutdown did slow it down, but not a lot. Expect a similar 2018 timeline, maybe earlier. This will not effect proposal application due dates.
- Current project director are NOT eligible to apply. You must get a PD who has not yet been awarded
- Matching will only be waived for projects within the first year

Discussion Panel

- Q: Regarding FSOP grant for 2019- if a PD is already awarded, can we apply for any different FSOP grants?
- A: As an already awarded PD from any time 2015-current, then you are unable to apply as a PD for any other FSOP grant
- Q: Is there a plan for collecting answers in regulator TAN to be summarized?
- A: yes, but there are challenges because a question can only apply to a specific circumstance, not a broad scope. That information is eventually

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made available, but the response is owned by the person who asked the question.

- Q: modified curriculum, is it possible to take the exact modified curriculum and split it up over multiple days or a month for example? Or does it have to be in 1 day?
- A: there is nothing in the rule or plan that prevents that. PSA curriculum was designed so as long as they receive all modules, it doesn't matter how long it takes to complete. It may even be better for learning outcomes to deliver the information over a period of time. If this is the case, be sure you can effectively keep track of everyone who is in the room to ensure each participant receives each module.
- Q: One of the major flaws of these trainings is a one time deal and the participants may have trouble retaining this information. Is there any way that we can develop an ongoing and continuous training?
- A: That may be a challenge, but we would have to consult the people in charge of guidance.
- Q: webinar for educators reviewing inspections it was recorded but we couldn't find it anywhere online
- A: we will get that information across and send the recording out ASAP. The recording is still being reviewed by the office of compliance.