



Produce Safety
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Produce Safety Alliance Update



Gretchen L. Wall
Produce Safety Alliance Coordinator/
Northeast Extension Associate
NECAFS Annual Meeting
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Cornell University
Department of Food Science



Since September 2016...

2,226

Grower Trainings

92

Train-the-Trainer Courses

50,000!

GT Participants

2,842

TTT Participants

~1/3

**International
Participants**

~1/3

**International
Participants**



Northeast Training Totals - 2019

State	# PSA Grower Courses	# Participants
Connecticut	3	40
Delaware	4	102
Maine	8	155
Maryland	4	80
Massachusetts	5	129
New Hampshire	2	19
New Jersey	5	109
New York	16	370
Pennsylvania	15	424
Rhode Island	1	26
Vermont	1	17
West Virginia	5	69
Total	69	1,540



International Outreach





PSA – Produce International Partnership & Collaboration

- Developing international trainers
 - Spanish LTA review process
- Addressing novel issues that impact both domestic and international growers
 - Lack of translations in their language
 - Low literacy
- Building collaborative networks
 - Lack of extension educators in other countries



Evaluation Data

- Two publications in the works;
one submitted, one in-progress
 - Produce Safety Alliance Train-the-Trainer Course:
Developing Trainers to Support Fruit and Vegetable Growers
 - *Submitted for review, Jan. 16, 2020*
 - Evaluation of the Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training
Course: Outcomes and Impacts for Small Farms
 - *In progress*
- PSA Lead Trainers can request summarized Remark reports by
e-mail Michele Humiston (mmc15@cornell.edu)
 - Include Course ID, date, and location of training



Evaluation Data: Train-the-Trainer

819 evaluations were reviewed from 25 PSA Train-the-Trainer Courses hosted domestically between Sept. 2016 - April 2017

95% reported the course prepared them well to teach the GT

92% agreed that the amount of teaching notes was sufficient to support trainers in delivering the curriculum

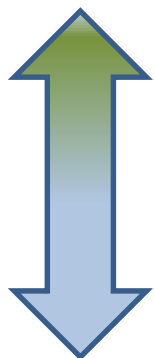
87% agreed that the curriculum was well-balanced in terms of GAPs vs. regulatory content





Trainer Self-Reported Knowledge Gains

Greatest
Knowledge
Gains



Lowest
Knowledge
Gains

- *Postharvest Water (1.60a)*
- *Postharvest Handling and Sanitation (1.62a)*
- *Production Water (1.63a)*
- *Soil Amendments (1.68a)*
- *Introduction to Produce Safety (1.71ab)*
- *Worker Health, Hygiene, and Training (1.71b)*
- *Wildlife, Domesticated Animals, and Land Use (1.76b)*
- *How to Develop a Farm Food Safety Plan (1.79b)*



Requested Trainer Resources

- PSA and Regional Centers meeting many of these priorities
- Resources to meet niche/regional requests still needed
- Inspections and OFRRs already highlighting what surveys and growers have already told us
- **There is a continual need for technical assistance to support implementation**

- ★ Teaching examples and case studies
- ★ E-mail updates and communications
- ★ Model Food Safety Plan
- ★ Template recordkeeping
- ★ Technical support
- ★ Hands on activities
- ★ Low literacy resources
- ★ Water testing & sampling resources
- ★ Online course
- ★ Worker training materials



Evaluation Data: Grower Training

15,715 evaluations from registered domestic Grower Trainings that occurred between Sept. 2016-Sept. 2018 were reviewed.

95% stated that the PSA GT was sufficient to guide them in implementing regulatory requirements, irrespective of farm size

57% of PSA GT participants had no previous GAPs or produce safety training

53% did not have a written farm food safety plan

33% had 0-5 years experience farming.
39% grow 0-10 acres of produce.



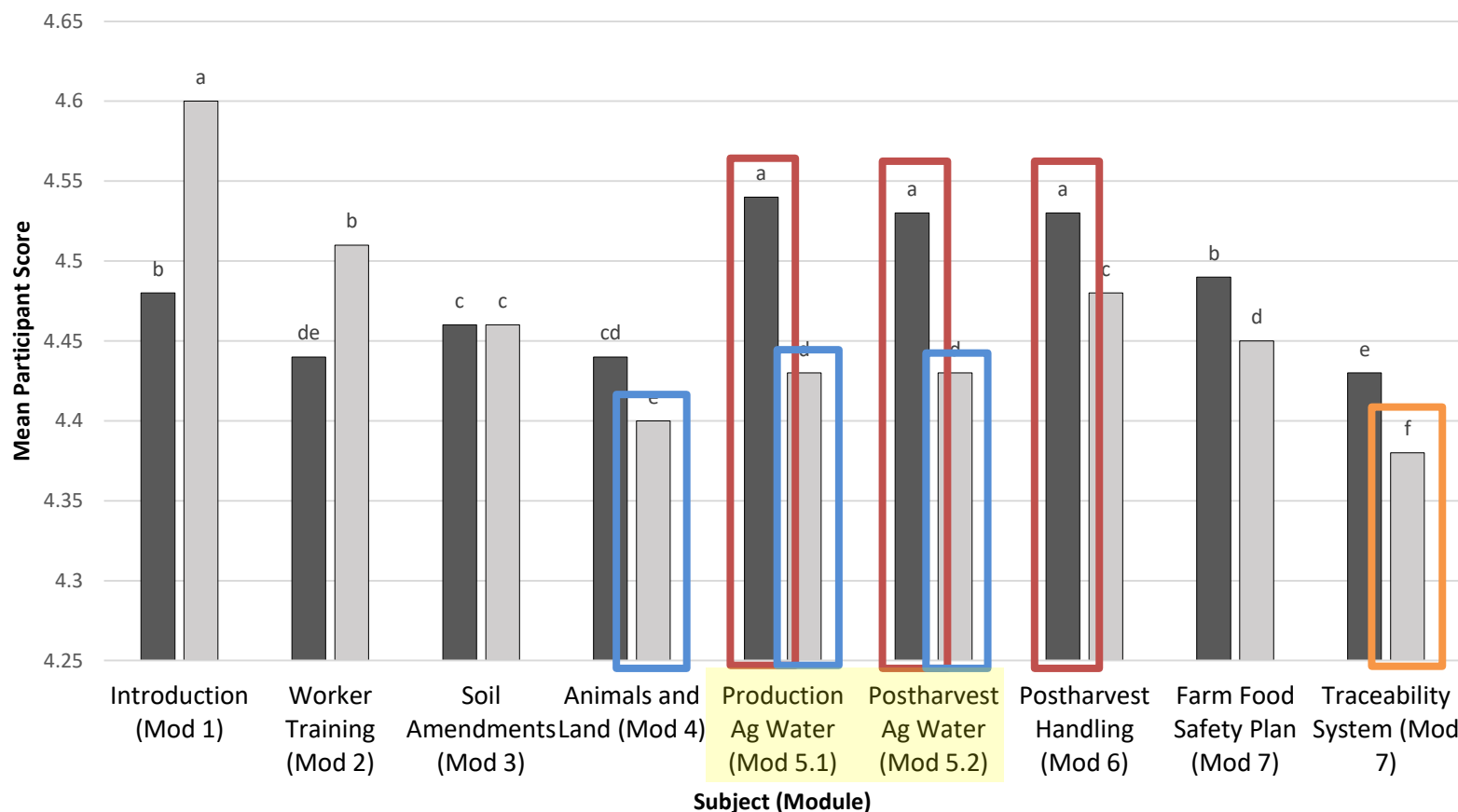


Is my farm subject to the PSR?

Evaluation Question	Participant Response	Average Annual Produce Sales % Training Participants (N) ¹			
		Less than or equal to \$25,000	\$25,001-\$250,000	\$250,001-\$500,000	\$500,000+
Will your farm be subject to the FSMA PSR? (n=5,782)	Yes	21.8 (328)	60.0 (1045)	74.9 (551)	88.2 (1586)
	No	51.3 (773)	14.0 (243)	5.8 (43)	3.0 (54)
	Not Sure	26.9 (406)	26.0 (453)	19.3 (142)	8.8 (158)
Will your farm be eligible for a Qualified Exemption? (n=5,336)	Yes	45.3 (653)	38.1 (658)	24.2 (175)	6.7 (119)
	No	23.9 (344)	28.5 (492)	43.2 (312)	77.5 (1373)
	Not Sure	30.9 (445)	33.4 (577)	32.5 (235)	15.8 (280)
Is some or all of your farm's produce not subject to the FSMA PSR because it is rarely consumed raw? (n=5,681)	Yes	36.5 (534)	34.6 (598)	31.8 (231)	28.5 (502)
	No	42.5 (622)	47.9(828)	51.7 (376)	60.3 (1062)
	Not Sure	20.9 (306)	17.6 (304)	16.5 (120)	11.2 (198)
Is some or all of your produce not subject to the FSMA PSR because it will receive commercial processing? (n=5,685)	Yes	16.7 (245)	18.4 (319)	28.3 (207)	28.1 (494)
	No	60.4 (887)	58.8 (1017)	51.6 (378)	54.4 (954)
	Not Sure	22.9 (336)	22.8 (394)	20.0(147)	17.5 (307)



Knowledge Gains & Implementation Confidence





Requested Grower Resources

- Templates and job aides in high demand
- Videos that focus on practical implementation
- Resources that help growers accomplish dual goals – FSMA implementation and implementing 3rd party audit requirements
- Factsheets and resources for unique growing and production systems
 - Hydroponics/aquaponics, vermicomposting, rainwater capture/sustainable practices

Template SOPs

Template food safety plan

Demonstration videos

PSR vs. Audits

Recordkeeping sheets

Local service provider lists

Factsheets

Worker training resources

State specific PSR implementation info



Advanced Trainer Workshops

- PSA has collaborated with the FSMA Southern Center to develop an advanced workshop for PSA Trainers and Lead Trainers
- Two courses hosted: Dec. 2019 and Jan. 2020 in Lake Alfred, FL
- Currently revising content and working on logistics of what it takes to host the course, including development of the training cadre
- Likely to roll out in all regions through the next year
- More details coming soon



for Training, Education, Extension, Outreach, and
Technical Assistance to Enhance Produce Safety



Advanced Trainer Workshops



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Keeping the Momentum

- Share what we have learned to effectively move forward
- Build on successes to improve knowledge and training
- Provide outreach to the international and underserved communities
- Mentor PSA Trainers and develop advanced training resources
- Continue to support growers in both understanding PSR requirements and how to implement practices to reduce risks
- **Secure funding for continuation of the program; current funding gets us to June 2021**



Produce Safety Alliance Team

Northwest:

Connie Fisk, Ph.D.



Midwest:

Don Stoeckel, Ph.D.



Northeast:

Betsy Bihn, Ph.D.
Gretchen Wall, M.S.
Laura Acuña-Maldonado, Ph.D.
Michele Humiston
Rob Way



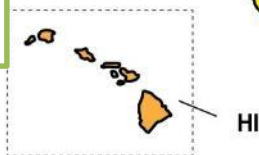
Southeast:

Tommy Saunders, M.S.



Southwest:

Donna Clements, M.S.



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The PSA Website

<http://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/>

Produce Safety Alliance

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Produce Safety Alliance

WELCOME TO THE PRODUCE SAFETY ALLIANCE WEBSITE!

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Providing fundamental, science-based, on-farm food safety knowledge to fresh fruit and vegetable farmers, packers, regulatory personnel and others interested in the safety of fresh produce.

Water Summit Meeting

The Produce Safety Alliance hosted a Water Summit on February 27-28, 2018 at the



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