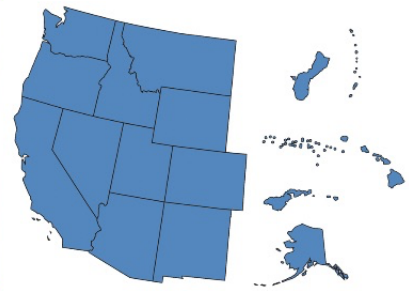


[View this email in your browser](#)

# WRRC



## Western Regional Center to Enhance Food Safety

August 2023 Newsletter

Dear WRCEFS Community,

Below you will find information related to previous and upcoming meetings, national updates and educational events, and ongoing WRCEFS initiatives.

 **Food Safety  
Outreach Program**

### National Project Directors' Meeting

## Project Directors Meeting Recap

The National Food Safety Outreach Program project directors' meeting was held in Tampa, Florida on May 31-June 1, 2023. Meeting presentations (in PDF form), meeting program, and FSOP project abstracts can be reviewed at the meeting website (see button below).

[Meeting Website](#)



## FSPCA Annual Conference

The 2023 FSPCA Annual Conference will be held in person at the Chicago Marriott Southwest at Burr Ridge, IL on October 17-18, 2023.

Registration, informational packet, and agenda can be found at the link below.

**Early registration closes on September 1, 2023** and general admission registration closes October 10, 2023. Discounted rates are available for government employees and full time students.

[Register for the FSPCA Annual Conference](#)



## PSA Updates

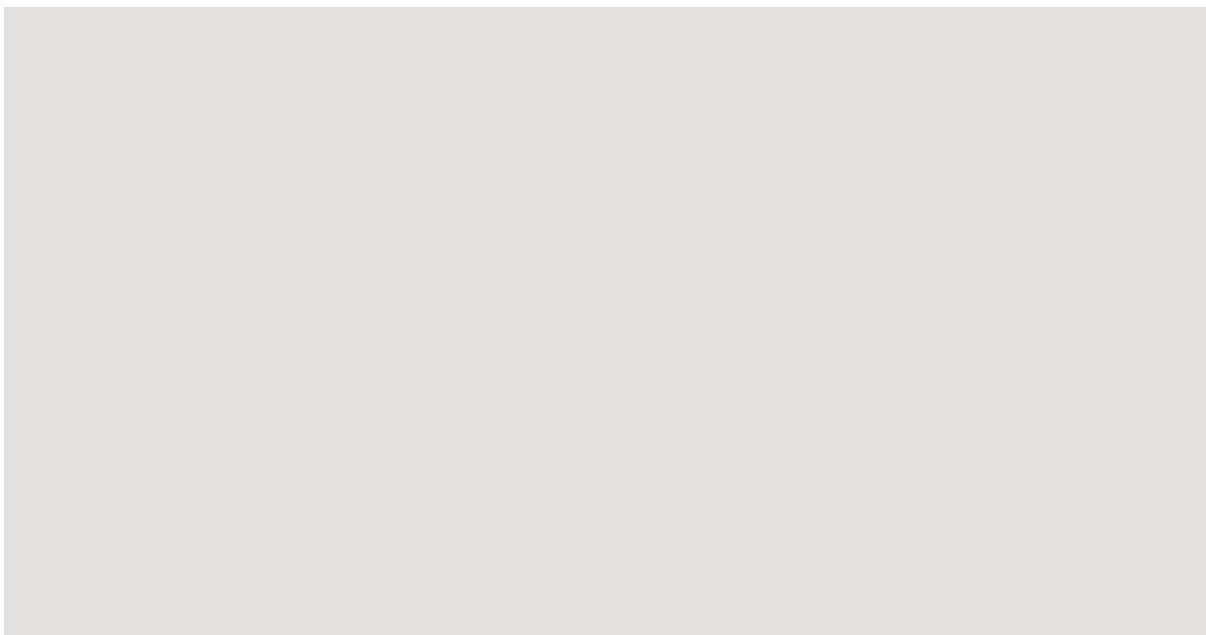
1) **New-** The PSA team has released several new resources including a

fruit and vegetable food safety training video for field employees and a factsheet on agricultural water system inspection differences from the proposed agricultural water assessment. The videos can be viewed on the [PSA YouTube channel](#), and the factsheet can be viewed on the [general resource page on the PSA website](#).

2) **New-** Spanish Online Grower Training Pilot: The PSA team will be hosting the first Spanish language online PSA Grower Training in August 2023. The Online PSA Grower Training Course is the same curriculum as the in-person PSA Grower Training Course, but offered in an online, asynchronous, 3-week session through eCornell. The pilot Spanish-language online course includes self-check quizzes and six required discussions that can be completed at the participants' own pace. The online course is expected to take 15-30 hours total for successful completion. If you are interested in participating in the pilot course, please reach out to [Yulie Meneses](#).

3) In May 2023, the PSA amended its policy for PSA Grower Training delivery, **allowing remote delivery to become a permanent option**. For more information on remote delivery of courses, please review the [remote grower training delivery policy page](#).

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# PRODUCE SAFETY WEBINAR SERIES

## Special 2-Part Kick Off



# ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS



Join Dr. Jennifer McEntire, of Food Safety Strategy, for a crash course in RCA with an emphasis on practical applications for industry. Of course she's bringing friends!

SEPT 7

"WHAT & WHY"

3:30 to 5:00PM ET

Dr. Mark Moorman  
FDA



Natalie Dyenson  
IFPA



Afreen Malik  
Western Growers



Dr. Don Schaffner  
Rutgers University



OCT 5

"HOW"

3:30 to 5:00PM ET

Felice Arboisiere  
Dole



Greg Komar  
CA LGMA



Vivien McCurdy  
Indiana Dept of Health



Dr. Laura Strawn  
Virginia Tech



REGISTER TO ATTEND 

This work is supported by the Specialty Crops Research Initiative 2020-51181-321-57 from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this presentation are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

## CONTACT Webinar Series Returns!

Join the CONTACT team for their newest webinar, "Root Cause

Analysis (Part 1: What & Why; Part 2: How/Real World Applications)”, on September 7th at 12:30 PM PT. CONTACT friend, Dr. Jennifer McEntire is back to co-host this webinar, and has enlisted some outstanding individuals to guide the audience through a crash course in root cause analysis (RCA) with an emphasis on practical application for industry. In Part 1 (September 7), speakers will focus on the what and why, giving attendees a refresher on RCA as they dive deeper into the topic. Part 2 (October 5) will cover how you perform RCA, with real world examples from the produce industry.

Each webinar (September 7 and October 5) will feature 4 speakers over the first hour, with the last 30 minutes of each webinar reserved for a live only Q&A where audience questions will be answered. Speakers include Dr. Mark Moorman (FDA), Natalie Dyenson (International Fresh Produce Association), Afreen Malik (Western Growers), and Dr. Don Schaffner Rutgers for part 1; and Felice Arboisiere (Dole), Greg Komar (LGMA), Vivien McCurdy (IN Department of Health), and Dr. Laura Strawn (Virginia Tech) for part 2. Please join - all welcome!

This webinar is free and will be held via Zoom. Registration is required. Produce safety industry, government, and academia are encouraged to come. All are invited! To register, please click the button below.

[Register here!](#)



## New FDA Resources

FDA has recently released several new resources focused on the Food Traceability rule.

- The new [FAQs](#) address questions to help clarify how the rule applies to specific situations.
- [Food Traceability Exemptions Interactive Flow Chart](#)
- [Small Entity Compliance Guide](#)

*Image credit: Pixels, Tiger Lily, 2020*

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## IFPA Membership Opportunity

The International Fresh Produce Association (IFPA) is offering

complimentary membership to **individual academic researchers and university extension**. With an IFPA membership, you can access their data, directory, and analytics and access discounted registration for events and programs and all content that is currently behind their pay wall.

To get complimentary membership, please fill out their form using the button below.

[IFPA membership form](#)

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## Job Opportunities

**1) Research Associate (Level II) in Food Safety at Colorado State University-** [Job Flyer attached here](#)

**2) Research/Extension Associate (Level II) in Fresh-cut Food Safety at Colorado State University-** [Job Flyer attached here](#)

**3) Assistant Professor in Active, Intelligent, and Smart Packaging at Michigan State University-** [Job posting can be found here](#)

**4) Assistant/Associate Professor of Seafood Technology and Food Safety Specialist at the University of Maine-** [Job Flyer attached here](#)

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## WRCEFS Ongoing Initiatives

- **Food Safety Training Data-** WRCEFS is collecting information

about PSA, FSPCA, and other food safety trainings in our region.

To share data and get quarterly training reports for your state/region, please contact us at [wrcefs.data@oregonstate.edu](mailto:wrcefs.data@oregonstate.edu).

- **Report Your Food Safety Training Courses-** For FSOP grantees and others who send us training data, you can now use a Digital Cover Page via [this Qualtrics link](#) or complete the traditional cover page document and email to [wrcefs.data@oregonstate.edu](mailto:wrcefs.data@oregonstate.edu).
- **WRCEFS Website-**
  - FDA updates page- more links to FDA resources and new updates now available [here](#).
  - Faces of WRCEFS is being updated.  
Let us know if you would like to be featured by emailing [wrcefs@oregonstate.edu](mailto:wrcefs@oregonstate.edu).
- **WRCEFS Communication (social media)-** Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)! We post updates, resources, regional spotlights, and upcoming training opportunities on a regular basis. If you have anything that should be shared with the WRCEFS community, please send to [wrcefs@oregonstate.edu](mailto:wrcefs@oregonstate.edu).

## Stay food safe!



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[wrcefs@oregonstate.edu](mailto:wrcefs@oregonstate.edu)



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