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August/September 2021 Newsletter

Dear WRCEFS Community,

Below you will find information related to upcoming webinars, the add-on peer review process and a newly reviewed resource, job opportunities, and updates from our national partners and alliances.



Upcoming Webinar Series:

FSMA 101 for Organic Food Processors

The CCOF Foundation and partners are launching their first FSMA 101 for Organic Food Processors webinar series this fall. Although some content will be state specific (California and Washington) or specific to organic processors, the majority of the content is applicable to all food processors.

For more details and to register for these webinars, please visit the [FSMA 101 for Organic Food Processors](#) webpage.

Webinar Topics and Times:

- 1) FSMA 101 for Organic Food Processors
Washington- September 14, 2021 10:00-11:30 AM (PST)
California- September 15, 2021 10:00-11:30 PM (PST)

- 2) FSMA Preventive Controls Rule, Qualified Exemption
Washington- October 12, 2021 10:00-11:30 AM (PST)
California- October 13, 2021 10:00-11:30 AM (PST)

3) FSMA Preventive Controls Rule, Fully Covered Category
Washington- November 9, 2021 10:00-11:30 AM (PST)
California- November 10, 2021 10:00-11:30 AM (PST)

4) Current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMPs)
Washington- December 14, 2021 1:00-2:30 PM (PST)
California- December 15, 2021 10:00-11:30 AM (PST)

Image Credit: Pexels, picjumbo.com, 2015



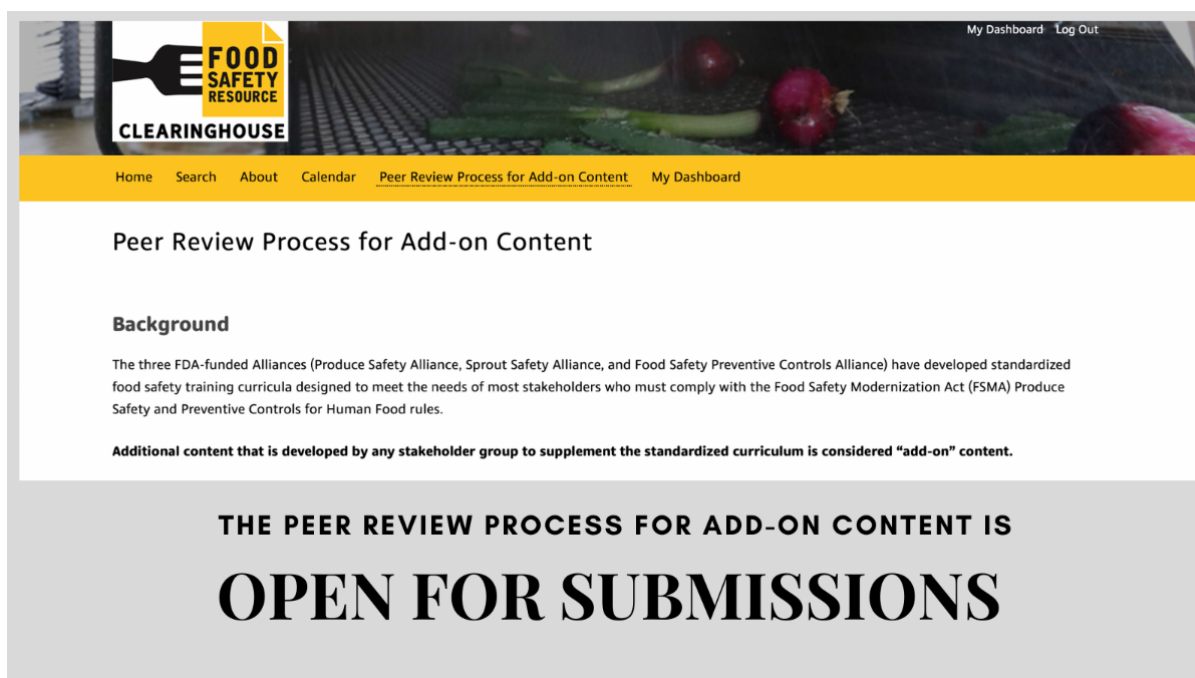
WRCEFS FSPCA PCHF and PSA Training Information

Collecting data during remote trainings can be challenging. A fillable version of the PSA and FSPCA PCHF pre-/post-tests are now available. If interested, please email Stephanie Brown at wrcefs@oregonstate.edu to obtain a copy. There are also polling

options available in Zoom for capturing this information. If you have any specific questions on Zoom polling options, please contact us at wrcefs@oregonstate.edu.

If you are capturing these data, please share with WRCEFS.

For any remote and in-person courses, (whether or not you are administering the pre/post-tests) please continue to share all cover sheets and attendance rosters with WRCEFS. On the cover sheet, please indicate if the training was delivered remotely or in-person.



The screenshot shows the Food Safety Resource Clearinghouse website. The header includes the logo and navigation links: Home, Search, About, Calendar, Peer Review Process for Add-on Content, and My Dashboard. The main content area is titled "Peer Review Process for Add-on Content" and includes a "Background" section. The background section text reads: "The three FDA-funded Alliances (Produce Safety Alliance, Sprout Safety Alliance, and Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance) have developed standardized food safety training curricula designed to meet the needs of most stakeholders who must comply with the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety and Preventive Controls for Human Food rules. Additional content that is developed by any stakeholder group to supplement the standardized curriculum is considered 'add-on' content." Below this, a large grey banner contains the text: "THE PEER REVIEW PROCESS FOR ADD-ON CONTENT IS OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS".

Add-on Peer Review Process- Now Open

The Western Regional Center to Enhance Food Safety in collaboration with the Northeast Center to Advance Food Safety (NECAFS) has been working on a peer review process for add-on content that will be facilitated through the Clearinghouse.

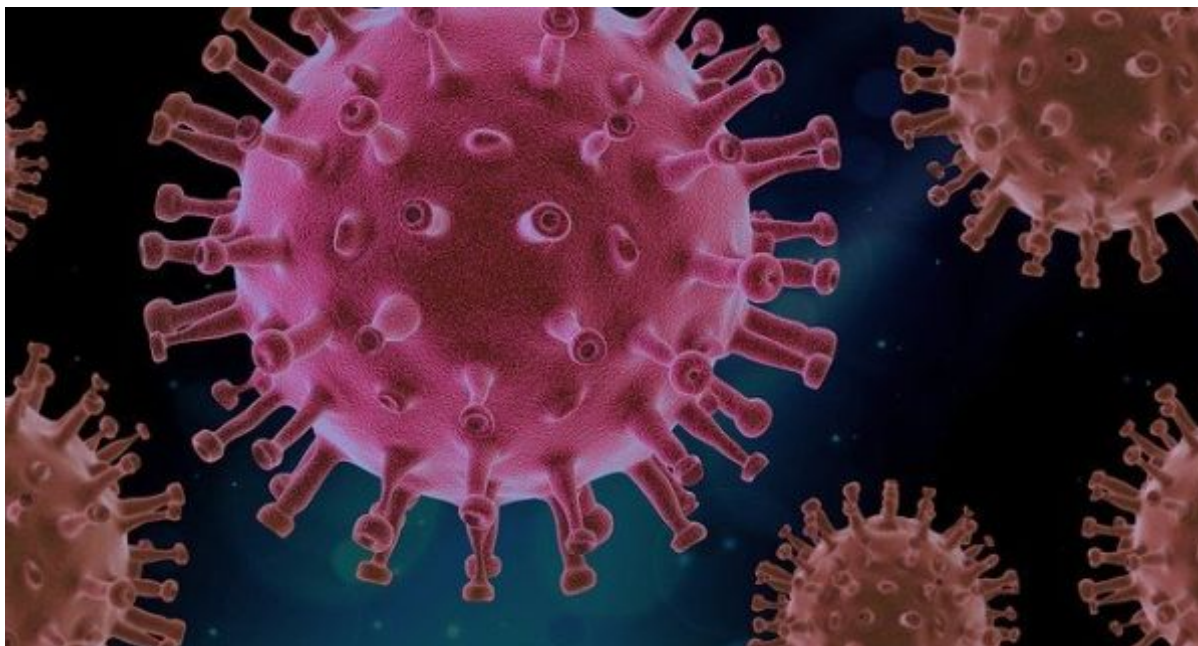
Add-ons are material(s) in addition to standardized curricula that are developed and delivered pre-course, during a course, or post-course as a standalone.

We are excited to announce that the peer review system is **open and accepting submissions**. *At this time, only resources in English are being accepted for peer review.* Additional detailed instructions and guidance on the peer review process are available on the [Clearinghouse website](#) and [WRCEFS website](#).

	<h2>The Peer Review Process for Add-on Content</h2>
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New Peer Reviewed Add-on Content

Since the launch of the peer review process in April, several add-ons have been accepted and noted on the [Clearinghouse](#) as being peer reviewed. The newest peer reviewed resource is the [Farm Innovation Activity Resources](#).



COVID-19 Resources

1) WRCEFS COVID-19 Webpage

The OSU team has created a page on the WRCEFS website dedicated to COVID-19 and food safety resources. We currently have many fact sheets, social media images, and links to other federal and state-specific websites and resources for viewing.

If you have made any fact sheets, documents, or websites related to food safety and COVID-19 and want these shared within the Western region, please email us at wrcefs@oregonstate.edu.

2) Updated Guidance from FAO

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations recently released updated guidance to highlight additional measures that food businesses and the authorities regulating the sector can take to protect workers from person-to-person spread of COVID-19. To view the guidance, please click [here](#).



Training and Resource Updates

1) The PSA team has modified their policy on remote delivery for PSA courses during the Coronavirus outbreak. Below are resources and documents needed to successfully deliver PSA content during this time.

New- PSA has extended its temporary remote delivery policy for the PSA Grower Training and PSA Train-the-Trainer courses to **March 30, 2022** due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

- [Temporary policy](#)
 - [Electronic Course Registration Form](#)
 - [PSA Remote Delivery FAQ](#)
 - PSA Educators' Call about remote delivery in [English](#) and slides in [Spanish](#)
 - [Zoom Webinar Etiquette and Practices page](#)
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2) **New- Requirements to Becoming a PSA Trainer:**

Effective **October 1, 2021**, all individuals interested in enrolling in a PSA Train-the-Trainer course must have attended at least one registered PSA Grower Training course. Successfully completing an [in-person, online, or remote PSA Grower Training Course](#) meets this requirement. During the PSA TTT, Trainers-of-Trainers (ToTs) emphasize how to teach the PSA GT Course curriculum, effectively engage participants, and navigate training challenges to ensure a high-quality training, so there is an expectation that attendees already know the curriculum content. Participants that have not attended a PSA GT Course prior to the PSA TTT Course will not be eligible for a certificate of completion and will not be PSA Trainers.

3) Remote and in-person grower trainings are being offered throughout the Western region. To see a complete listing, please visit the PSA or WRCEFS websites.

4) The online PSA grower training course is open. This three-week course can be completed at-your-own-pace and is expected to take 15-30 hours total for successful completion. To learn more about costs and key differences in the online course compared to the in-person/remote delivery courses or register for an upcoming course, please visit the PSA website.



FDA Updates

The FDA has provided numerous updates over the past few weeks. A list of these updates along with links to view reports, guidance documents, or other relevant information can be viewed on the [WRCEFS website](#) under the FDA updates page. The newest updates include:

1. FDA to Hold Retail Food Protection Seminar
2. FDA's Second TechTalk Podcast Focuses on Whole Genome Sequencing
3. The Food Safety Partnership Between the U.S. and Mexico Reports Progress at First Annual Meeting
4. Microbiological Surveillance Sampling: FY21 Collection and Testing of Lettuce Grown in Salinas Valley, CA
5. New Era of Smarter Food Safety Summit on E-Commerce: Ensuring the Safety of Foods Ordered Online and Delivered Directly to Consumers

6. FDA Announces FY2022 User Fee Rates for the Voluntary Qualified Importer Program and the Accredited Third-Party Certification Program
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Job Opportunities

1) Environmental Scientist- CDFA

The California Department of Food and Agriculture's Produce Safety Program has a new position announcement for an Environmental Scientist in Monterey County.

For the complete position description and to apply, please use this link: <https://www.calcareers.ca.gov/CalHrPublic/Jobs/JobPosting.aspx?JobControlId=264038>

2) Northwest Regional Extension Associate- PSA

The Produce Safety Alliance (PSA), based in the Department of Food Science at Cornell University, is a collaborative project with the USDA and the FDA to provide educational outreach assistance to fresh produce growers and packers, including grower cooperatives, to increase their understanding of the critical role they play in public health by implementing food safety practices on the farm and in packinghouses.

As a key member of the PSA team, the Northwest (NW) Regional Extension Associate (REA) will be responsible for planning, organizing, instructing, and evaluating PSA training programs for produce growers, extension educators, and regulatory personnel in their region. Due to extensive national and international collaboration established by the PSA, it is anticipated the NW REA will interact with a diverse population of individuals and groups with specific emphasis in the Northwest including, but not limited to, State Departments of

Agriculture personnel, commodity groups, Land-Grant University personnel, and the Western Regional Center to Enhance Food Safety (WRCEFS) collaborators. The NW REA will facilitate and provide leadership for in-person meetings as applicable, conference calls and webinars, and be directly involved in training other individuals to use the developed PSA curriculum; provide continual feedback to PSA leadership through preparation of regional impact reports, training evaluations, and outreach activities; and participate in weekly PSA team calls. Must be willing to travel regionally and nationally a significant amount of time (~50%) pending COVID-19 control, including non-traditional and weekend work hours. This position will be located in the Northwest U.S. with exact location being flexible within the northwest part of the 15 states and territories of the Western Region.

To learn more about the position and/or apply, please visit: <https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/jobs/18731>.

Members



FACES OF WRCEFS

Faces of WRCEFS

On the Faces of WRCEFS section of the WRCEFS website, you can find staff spotlights, featuring our leadership team and partners. The goal of Faces of WRCEFS is to highlight the diverse expertise of our regional leaders by showcasing their stories and work related to the Food Safety Modernization Act.

WRCEFS Communication

Website

Website content is constantly being added so please continue to check back with us to find new resources, training opportunities, and more!

Social Media

Follow us on Social Media! We have WRCEFS accounts on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)! We will be posting updates, regional spotlights, and upcoming training opportunities on a weekly basis. We will also be sharing this information on the WRCEFS website. If you have anything that should be shared with the WRCEFS community, please contact Stephanie Brown (wrcefs@oregonstate.edu).

Stay safe!



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wrcefs@oregonstate.edu

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