

[View this email in your browser](#)



July 2021 Newsletter

Dear WRCEFS Community,

Below you will find information related to national and international events, relevant resources, a survey request, job opportunities, and updates from our national partners and alliances.

WRCEFS at IAFP

WRCEFS will be presenting 2 posters at this year's International Association for Food Protection (IAFP) Annual Meeting scheduled for July 18-21, 2021. These posters focus on training and evaluation data as well as website and social media analytics. For IAFP attendees, we invite you to check out these posters:

- 1) P3-12: A Year in Review: Western Regional Center to Enhance Food Safety Engagement with a Regional and Global Community through Web-Based Platforms - presented virtually
- 2) P3-01: Analysis of FSMA Produce Safety and Preventive Controls for Human Food Trainings in the Western Region of the United States - presented in person on Wednesday July 21st.

If you are not attending IAFP and would like to view these posters, please email Stephanie Brown (wrcefs@oregonstate.edu).

Thank you to everyone who contributed data to these posters!



Upcoming Webinars and Events

1) The University of Arkansas is hosting a virtual workshop on BSAAO's from August 2-4, 12:30 pm-4:30 pm CDT each day. The training will cover best practices of using and making biological soil amendments of animal origin (BSAAO), such as compost. Produce Growers, Cooperative Extension, Composting and other BSAAO industry members are invited. The training is free, but registration is required. Please click [here](#) to register.

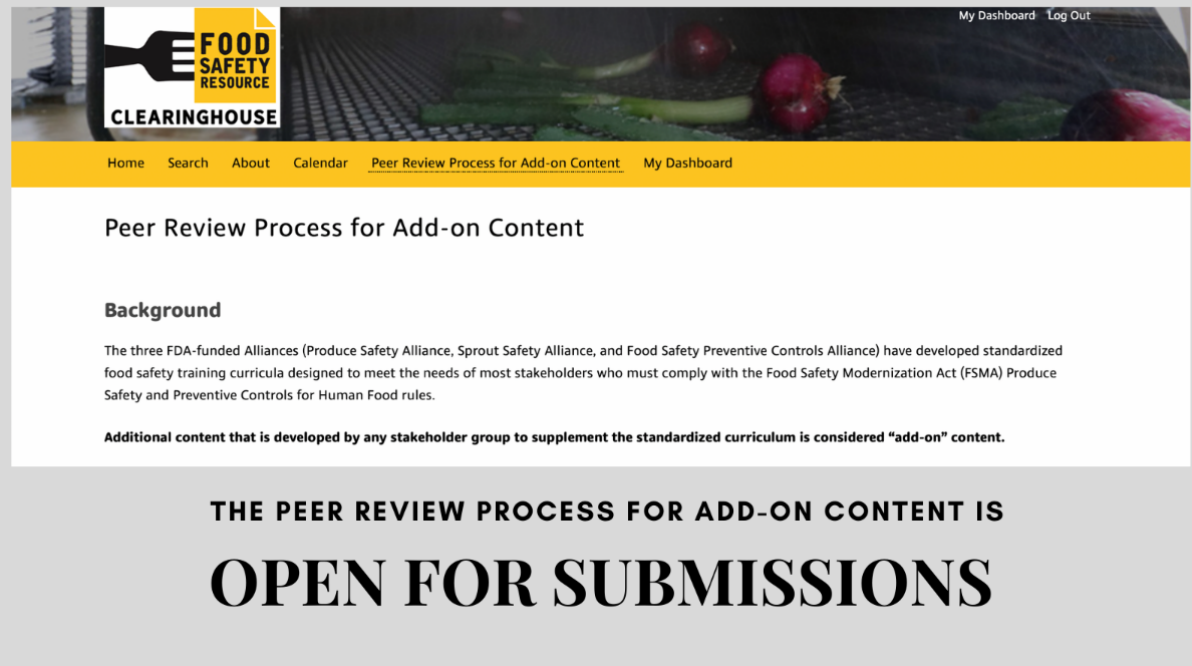
2) PSA is offering a webinar series to prepare PSA trainers for remote delivery of the PSA Grower Training Course in Spanish. This series of Spanish-language PSA Train-the-Trainer refreshers will be held every Wednesday in July and August at 2:00PM Eastern time. The schedule of modules includes:

- July 7 – Module 1: Introduction to Produce Safety

- July 14 – Module 2: Worker Health, Hygiene, and Training
- July 21 – Module 3: Soil Amendments
- July 28 – Module 4: Wildlife, Domesticated Animals, and Land Use
- August 4 – Module 5-1: Agricultural Water – Production Water
- August 11 – Module 5-2: Agricultural Water – Postharvest Water
- August 18 – Module 6: Postharvest handling and Sanitation
- August 25 – Module 7: How to Develop a Farm Food Safety Plan

To register, please click [here](#).

3) The National Farmers Union and Local Food Safety Collaborative are holding another Stories From the Field webinar on **Thursday, July 29th, from 2:00 – 2:50 pm Central time**. The voluntary Community Accreditation for Produce Safety (CAPS) program, based out of Vermont, helps farmers adopt best practices for produce safety, gives them the space to learn from and share farm based solutions with each other, and recognizes them for doing so. To register, please click [here](#).



The screenshot shows the website interface for the Food Safety Resource Clearinghouse. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 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 states: "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 text, a large banner reads: "THE PEER REVIEW PROCESS FOR ADD-ON CONTENT IS OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS".

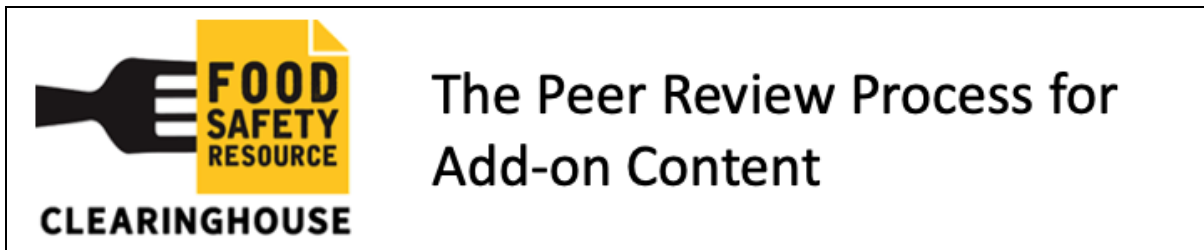
Add-on Peer Review Process- Now Open

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](#).



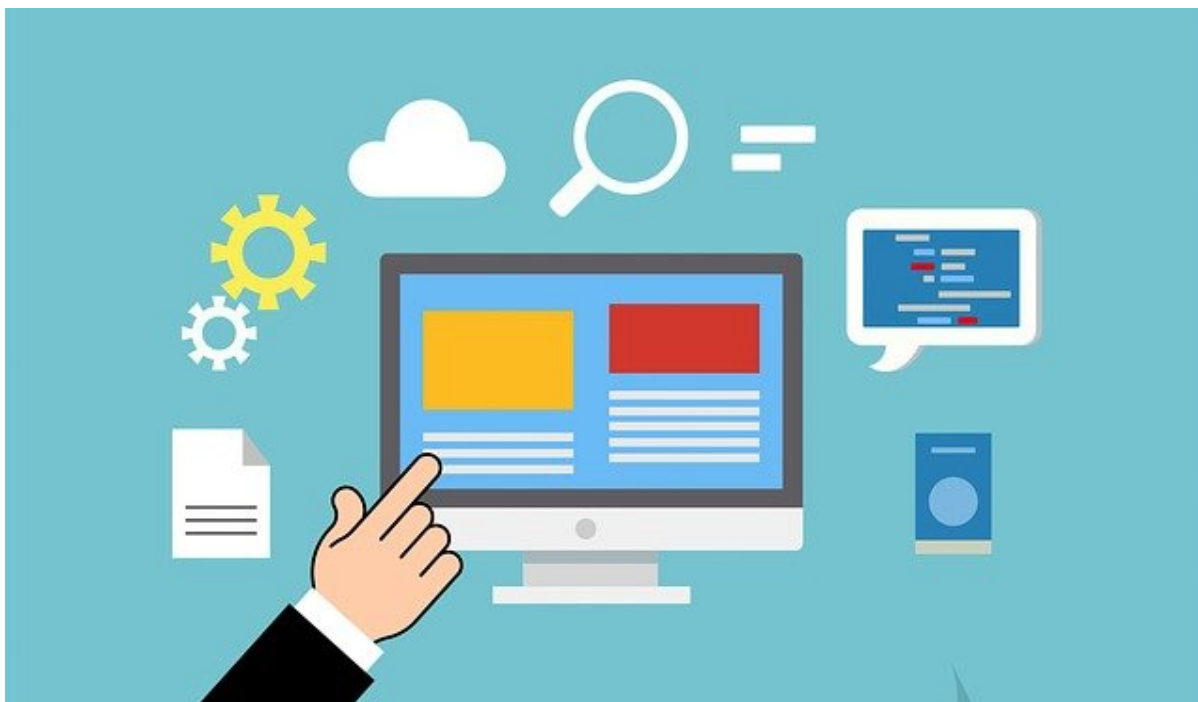
New Peer Reviewed Resources

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. A list of these new peer reviewed resources include:

- 1) Add-on exercise for PSA grower training Module 1 v1.2 - Introduction to Produce Safety & Exemptions and Exclusions
- 2) Add-on exercise for PSA grower training Module 4 v1.2 - Wildlife and Domesticated Animals and Land Use
- 3) Power Washing Aerosolization, Considerations for Produce Safety
- 4) Wildlife Damage Flash Cards: An engaging way to help train your workers

5) Farm Vehicle Operation for Produce Safety

6) Handling Turbidity in Postharvest Wash Water



Resources and Webinars

1) The California Department of Food and Agriculture in collaboration with the California Farm Bureau Federation and Monterey County Farm Bureau recently hosted a series of webinars about best food safety practices for agricultural neighbors. Topics included reservoirs of *E. coli* O157:H7 and other STEC as well as on and off-farm factors affecting STEC movement and survival. Webinar recordings and interim report for the California Agricultural Neighbors group can be viewed [here](#).

2) The University of California- Davis recently hosted two different e-learning series on biological soil amendments of animal origin and production agricultural water. YouTube recordings of these series are available for viewing at the [California Farm Food Safety E-learning](#)

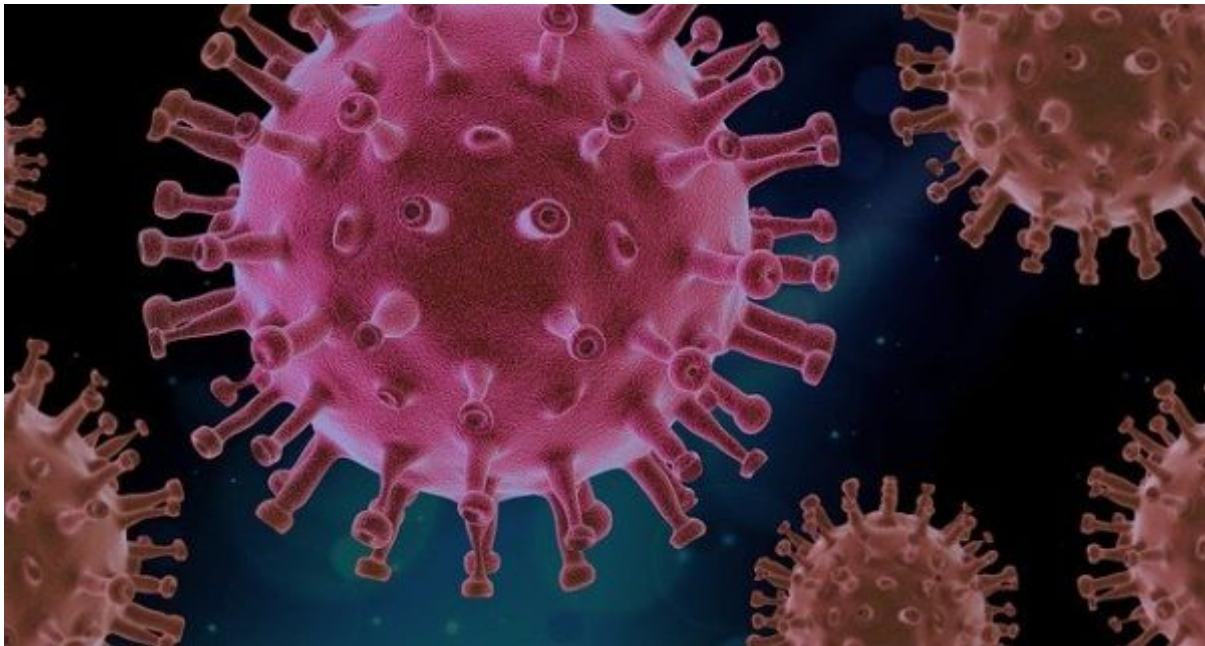
[Series](#) webpage.

3) The Center for Produce Safety has created a [Cyclospora resource page](#). This page includes a list of resources (including published work by topic), completed and ongoing research projects, experts in the area, and government and other association resources.

4) The Center for Produce Safety recently concluded their Annual Research Symposium. [Posters and final reports](#) as well as recordings of the [five-part webinar series](#) can be viewed at the links provided.

5) The Food Industry Counsel has released a new free database, [Recall Reporter](#), which provides information on more than 10,000 food recalls. It includes FDA and USDA published Class I, Class II and Class III food and beverage recalls since 2000.

Image credit: Pixabay, Mohamed Hassan, 2019



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.



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](#)

2) 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.

3) 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.

4) The next Produce Safety Educators' Call will be held on **Monday, August 16th at 2 PM ET**. This session is focused on managing food safety risks while using soil amendments.



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 and USDA Collaborate to Present Webinars on FSMA Produce Safety Rule to Produce Exporters in Latin America
2. FDA Issues Industry Guidance on Oversight of Food Products Covered by Systems Recognition Arrangements
3. FDA Releases *Cyclospora* Prevention, Response and Research Action Plan
4. FDA Releases List of Guidance Topics for Foods Program
5. Adoption of the FDA Food Code by State and Territorial Authorities Responsible of the Oversight of Foodservice and Retail Food Stores – December 31, 2020
6. FDA Releases Updated Chapters and Appendices to the Fish and Fishery Products Hazards and Controls Guidance, Fourth Edition
7. FDA Releases Investigation Findings Following Summer 2020 Outbreak Linked to Peaches



Survey Request

The Food Science and Human Nutrition Department at the University of Florida is conducting a research survey titled: Perception of Agricultural Extension Educators Regarding the Alternative Seafood Products (IRB202100478) to determine the extension community's perception of alternative seafood products. Dr. Razieh Farzad would like to invite you to participate in this study by answering a Qualtrics survey which will take no more 10 minutes.

To access the survey, please use this link: https://ufl.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2l3wKRSPvOyKCvY

Image Credit: Pixabay, Andreas Breitling, 2016



WRCEFS FSPCA and PSA Training Information

WRCEFS is interested in having anyone who delivers PSA or FSPCA

courses remotely to share their experiences with the rest of the group so we can learn from their activities. If you plan on offering remote courses and would be willing to share your experiences, please email Jovana Kovacevic at wrcefs@oregonstate.edu.

We understand collecting pre-/post-test data during remote training is challenging. A fillable version of these 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 courses, please continue to share all cover sheets and attendance rosters with WRCEFS. On the cover sheet, please indicate that the training was delivered remotely.

Job Opportunities

1) Hydrologist- FDA

There is a vacancy opportunity for a Hydrologist GS-1315-13 in the Office of Food Safety (OFS), Division of Produce Safety (DPS), Fresh Produce Branch (FPS) located in College Park, MD. The **announcement closes on July 20, 2021** or sooner if/when 100 applications are received.

Responsibilities for the position include:

- Performs analyses and evaluation of data samples and documented information gathered during inspections and investigations of fresh produce production.
- Prepares documents embodying policy and program proposals and decisions related to agricultural water issues and how they relate to the safety of fresh produce for human consumption.

- Participates in and provides guidance during the development of training for regulatory specialist and other professionals within FDA on matters related to the use of agricultural water.

To learn more about the position and/or apply, please visit: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/607215100>

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

We have added a new section to the website called the Faces of WRCEFS. Here 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!



Copyright © *OSU-FIC*, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

wrcefs@oregonstate.edu

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.

This email was sent to << Test Email Address >>
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
Western Regional Center to Enhance Food Safety · 1207 NW Naito Pkwy · Portland, OR 97209-2834 · USA

