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October 2021 Newsletter

Dear WRCEFS Community,
Below you will find information related to new FSOP grantees, upcoming webinars and course offerings, the add-on peer review process, funding opportunities, job opportunities, and updates from our national partners and alliances.



FY 2021 FSOP Grantees Announced

The USDA NIFA just announced their FY 2021 Food Safety Outreach Program (FSOP) grantees. We are excited to announce that WRCEFS was awarded an FSOP grant and will continue to serve the Western region over the next three years!

Others Western region grantees/grant collaborators include:

- S. Wages- Engaging Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Grower Educational Needs for Safe Fruit and Vegetable Production in HI & CA.
- D. Ryu- Collaborative Food Safety Education and Training for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Farmers in the Pacific Northwest.
- C. Dominguez- Growing the Culture, Collaboration, and Capacity

of Farmer to Farmer Food Safety Trainings.

- N. Flores- ITIPS: Interactive Tools to Improve the Practice of Food Safety.
- L. Reyes- Increasing Accessibility of Food Safety Resources for Farmers and Small Food Processors in Northwest New Mexico.
- K. McSwain- Diversified Farm FSMA Training Initiative. (CAFF)

To learn more about the newly awarded projects, please visit:

<https://nifa.usda.gov/press-release/nifa-invests-10-million-food-safety-outreach-training-and-education>.



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:

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)

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)

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

Produce GAPs Harmonized Standard Auditor Training

The United Fresh Produce Association is hosting a virtual produce GAPs Harmonized Standard auditor training on October 18th-21st. This course utilizes the official training materials developed by the Produce GAPs Harmonization Initiative Calibration Committee, designed to standardize food safety auditors' use and expectations of the combined, Pre- and Post-harvest Harmonized Standards. This training is sponsored by the National Farmers Union.

While specifically targeted towards auditors who offer audits/certifications to the Harmonized Standard, this training is open to all audit organization members, growers, and other interested parties using the harmonized standards.

To learn more about this course and/or register, please click [here](#), visit the [United Fresh website](#), or contact Katie McGowan (202)-303-3402.

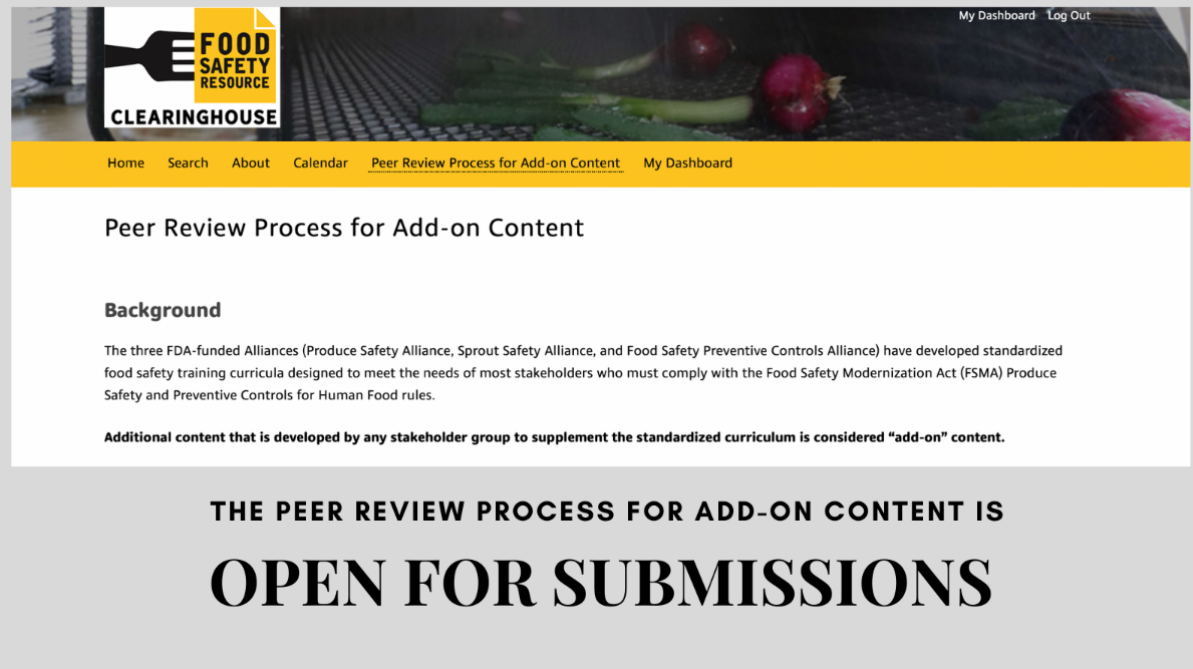


WRCEFS FSPCA PCHF and PSA Training Information

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 a navigation menu with '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'.

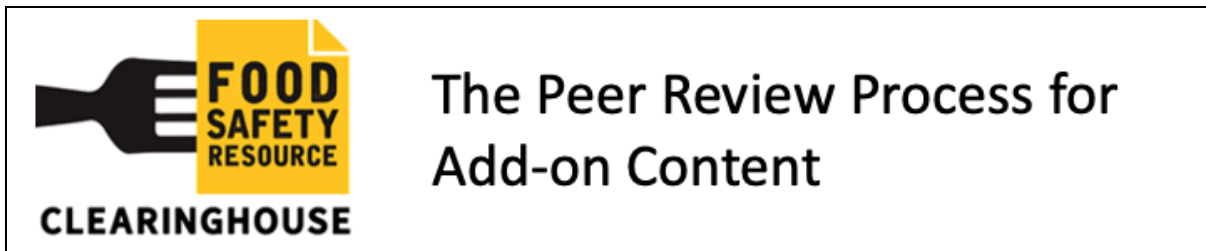
Add-on Peer Review Process- Now Open

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](#).



New Peer Reviewed Add-on Content

Since the launch of the peer review process in April 2021, several add-ons have been accepted and noted on the [FSR Clearinghouse](#) as being peer reviewed.

The newest peer reviewed resource is the "[Are you covered under the Produce Safety Rule?](#)" exercise. This add-on was created by Cristy Dice (Colorado Produce Safety Collaborative).

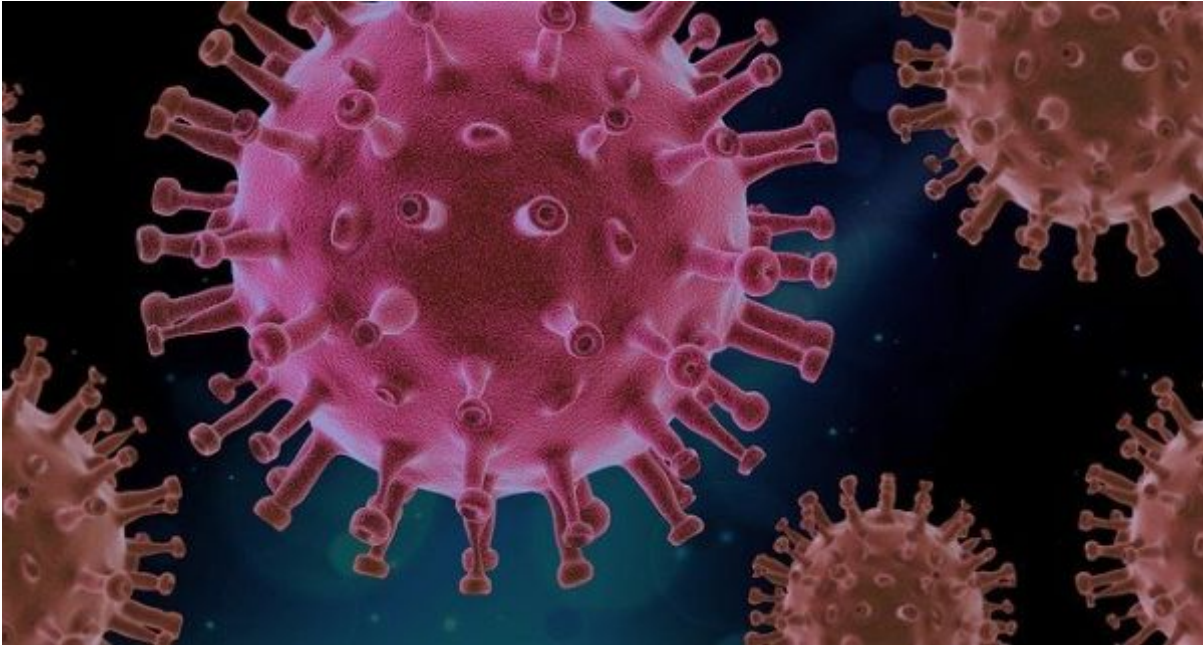


Funding Opportunities

The Center for Produce Safety announced its annual call for preliminary research proposals. Pre-proposals and required documents should be received by CPS at the following email address: proposals@centerforproducesafety.org no later than 12:00 (noon; PST) on Wednesday, November 10, 2021.

To learn more about the 2022 research priorities and find helpful resources for proposal development, please visit the CPS Grant Opportunities page at: https://www.centerforproducesafety.org/grant_opportunities.php.

Image credit: Pixabay, Nattanan Kanchanaprat, 2017



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.

New Resources/Webinars

1) The Center for Produce Safety recently hosted a second *Cyclospora* forum. Presentation topics included *Cyclospora* prevalence, detection methodologies, microbial ecology of irrigation and surface waters, genotyping, and environmental persistence. To view the recording, please visit: <https://www.centerforproducesafety.com>.

[org/webinars.php](#).

2) 3-A is hosting a free, four-part hygienic design webinar series. To view the speakers and register, please visit: <https://www.3-a.org/News-Events-Updates/Webinars>.

3) A current project supported by the USDA-Specialty Crop Research Initiative brings together researchers and extension specialists at Cornell University, Virginia Tech, and the University of Florida to provide the produce industry with computational and modeling tools that can be used to assess positive and negative impacts of different interventions and food safety strategies. The webinar recording can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0oyHZ9xw26c>.



Training and Resource Updates

1) **New- PSA Annual Trainer Update Webinar**

The PSA will be hosting their annual trainer update webinar on October 26, 2021 from 2:00-3:30 PM (EST)/ 11:00-12:30 (PST). To register, please visit the PSA trainer webpage:

<https://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/training/trainer-updates/>

2) **New- Spanish-language Produce Safety Educator's group launch.**

PSA is launching a Spanish-language Produce Safety Educator's group. Similar to the English Produce Safety Educators' Group, the Produce Safety Educators' Group in Spanish has the purpose of

keeping PSA Trainers, PSA Lead Trainers, PSA Trainers-of-Trainers and produce safety educators, specifically those who are focused on produce safety outreach and extension, up to date on the latest educational resources, training opportunities, regulatory updates, and produce industry initiatives.

Beginning Wednesday, September 22, 2021, PSA will host a webinar each month. These webinars are expected to last one hour and will be held via Zoom. The first webinar discussed the PSA, its policies, and relevant training updates.

This group is open to anyone interested in produce safety education but may be most relevant to PSA Trainers and Lead Trainers conducting trainings in Spanish as well as extension educators from the United States and Latin America.

To sign up for the listserv, click here:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/pgfGEaT/PSA>.

To learn more about the group, please visit:

<https://es.producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/recursos/grupo-de-educadores-sobre-la-inocuidad-de-los-productos-agricolas-frescos-en-espanol-notas-y-recursos-de-las-reuniones/>.

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

*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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4) **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.

5) 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.



FSPCA 5th Annual Conference and Updates

1) FSPCA 5th Annual Conference

FSPCA invites the food safety community and other stakeholders to attend the 2021 FSPCA Virtual Annual Conference October 20-21.

The Conference will include morning and afternoon sessions as well as the opportunity to join multiple virtual breakout sessions during the mid-day breaks. For complete details, please visit the [FSPCA website](#).

[2021 FSPCA Annual Conference Information Packet & Agenda | Register](#)

2) FSPCA Virtual Lead Instructor Courses

FSPCA has now “virtualized” the Human Food and the IA Vulnerability Assessment Lead Instructor Courses. For those that have completed the lead instructor application process, these Lead Instructor candidates are notified by email when courses become available for enrollment. You can also visit the FSPCA website for upcoming delivery dates and to apply to become a lead instructor.



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. Webinar to Showcase the Winners of FDA's Food Traceability Challenge.
2. FDA Selects Winners for the Low- or No-Cost Food Traceability Challenge; Plans Webinar to Showcase Solutions.
3. FSMA's Produce Safety Rule Now Available in Korean and Japanese.
4. FDA Hosts New Era of Smarter Food Safety Summit on E-Commerce.

Job Opportunities

1) State Specialist/Extension Professor of Food Safety- University of New Hampshire

The University of New Hampshire is seeking a food safety specialist to fill a full-time, benefits-eligible position as State Specialist/Extension Professor of Food Safety. This position is an 80% Extension appointment with UNH Extension and a 20% teaching appointment with the UNH College of Life Science and Agriculture in the Department of Agriculture, Nutrition, and Food Systems. This is a non-tenure track position. This position will remain open until filled. The search committee will begin reviewing applications on November 1, 2021. [Apply here.](#)

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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