



COLORADO
Department of Agriculture



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

FSMA Produce Safety Rule - What Can Growers Expect?

Resources and Education

Questions about the Produce Safety Rule – If you have questions about whether you are covered under the rule or interpretation of the rule, please contact:

Cristy Dice – Phone: 303-869-9282 Email: cristy.dice@state.co.us

Website – CSU Extension and CDA have partnered to create a website for growers that has the resources needed to comply with the Produce Safety Rule. www.coproductsafety.org

PSA Grower Trainings – This class is sponsored by the [Produce Safety Alliance](#) and is an opportunity for growers to learn about the Produce Safety Rule and the importance of food safety planning. This is a one day, in-person class that is required under the Produce Safety Rule and must be attended by one person from each farm.

Farm Inventory

What? FDA requires that states create an inventory of all the produce farms that are in the state. CDA has begun to create a list from public sources and is working to verify the information with farmers.

Who? CDA is creating and maintaining the inventory.

When? Farmers can expect to receive emails and/or phone calls from CDA over the next year to verify their farm data.

How? CDA is reaching out to growers via email and/or phone to identify and verify their farm information. Farmers are encouraged to voluntarily contact CDA to verify their farm information as well. One of the main benefits to being a part of the inventory is for CDA to have contact information to provide growers with updates/information about the Produce Safety Rule and to connect growers with the resources available to them to help them comply with the rule.

To be added to the farm inventory using our easy online form, click [HERE](#) or visit www.coproductsafety.org and click the "Farm Inventory Questionnaire" green box at the bottom of the page.

On-Farm Readiness Reviews (OFRR)

What? This is a service CDA is providing to growers where we will do a non-regulatory, pre-inspectional visit to the farm to review on farm practices and the requirements for compliance with the Produce Safety Rule and the on-farm inspection. This is an educational opportunity for growers to ask questions about compliance and gain feedback and ideas on how to comply with the rule.

Who? This will be a joint effort between CDA and CSU Extension. We expect to have the produce safety rule manager, a member of CSU Extension, and potentially one of the inspectors on each of the OFRR visits.

When? We hope to begin the OFRRs in early 2018.

How? Ideally a representative from the farm will have attended a PSA Grower Training prior to the OFRR, but this may not be required. If you would like to participate in an OFRR, please contact:

Cristy Dice - Phone: 303-869-9282 Email: cristy.dice@state.co.us

On-Farm Inspections

What? As part of the Produce Safety Rule, a farm will be subject to inspection. An inspection is different from an audit in that FSMA is a federal law and compliance with the rule is mandatory for farms covered by the rule. An audit is a voluntary program requested by buyers and include best practices for reducing food safety hazards on farms.

Who? The Colorado Department of Agriculture will be performing the Produce Safety Rule on-farm inspections. The Inspection and Consumer Services division of the Department of Agriculture has FDA-commissioned inspectors who will be performing the inspections.

When? On-farm inspections will begin in the growing season of 2019, based on the following criteria:

FDA Business Categorization	FDA Compliance Date for Covered Produce	On-Farm Inspections	Water Compliance Dates*
All Other Businesses Over \$500,000	January 26, 2018	Growing Season 2019	January 26, 2022
Small Businesses \$250,000 - \$500,000	January 28, 2019	Growing Season 2020	January 28, 2023
Very Small Businesses \$25,000 - \$250,000	January 27, 2020	Growing Season 2021	January 27, 2024

*proposed dates

The frequency of on farm inspections has not been determined.

How? The inspections will be scheduled based on a risk assessment determined by the FDA. Most inspections will be scheduled ahead of time when the producer is available.