Update on Produce Safety Activities

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on detail from USDA, AMS
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Agenda / Topics

• Food Safety Modernization Act of 2011
• Engagement of Federal & State agencies
• Produce Safety Alliance
• Memorandum of Understanding between FDA & AMS relative to produce
Why is the FSMA law needed?

- **Globalization**
  - 15 percent of U.S. food supply is imported
- **Food supply more high-tech & complex**
  - More foods in the marketplace
  - New hazards in foods not previously seen
- **Shifting demographics**
  - Growing population (about 30%) of individuals are especially “at risk” for foodborne illness
Main Themes of the Legislation

- Prevention
- Enhanced Partnerships
- Inspections, Compliance, & Response
- Import Safety
Implementation: FDA is prepared

- Experience in preventive controls
- Implementation process in place
- Much work already underway

But, many challenges

- Enormous workload
- Tight deadlines
- Changes won’t appear overnight
- Resources
Priorities

• **Prevention**
  – Mandatory preventive controls for facilities (FR 18 months)
  – Produce safety standards (FR 24 months + comment period)
  – Intentional contamination (FR 18 months)

• **Inspection, Compliance, & Response**
  – Administrative detention (IFR 120 days)
  – Recall (Upon enactment)
  – Suspension of registration (180 days)

• **Imports**
  – Foreign supplier verification program (Guidance & FR 1 year)
  – Accredited third-party certification program (FR 2 years)
  – Mandatory certification for high risk foods (Upon enactment)
For more information on FSMA

- [www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)
- [www.foodsafety.gov](http://www.foodsafety.gov)
Produce Safety Regulation

Research

Education & Outreach

Enforcement
FDA Engagement with State Partners

• Planning for Workshop mid-March with State Partners
• Regulation Development Process
• Compliance & Enforcement Activities
  – Current Activities State & Federal
  – Input & Feedback on Implementation Strategy
  – Education, Outreach & Training
Produce Safety Alliance

• Executive Committee
• Developing website March launch
• “Call for Participation” on Working Groups for curriculum development
  – Working Groups to flesh-out curriculum for each topic
• Populate Steering Committee
• Educational Conference
  – June 29-30
• Beta Test materials/methods
Memorandum of Understanding

Between FDA & AMS
“Concerning Information Sharing & Other Activities Related to the Auditing, Inspection, & Grading of Food Products”

Subtitle: Collaboration, Cooperation & Engagement Relative to Produce

MOU 225-72-2009
June 1975
Awaiting Signatures
~ March 2011
Farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil & you’re a thousand miles from the corn field.

Dwight D. Eisenhower