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INTERNATIONAL
FOOD PROTECTION
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IFPTI Fellowship Cohort V: Research Presentation

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***First National Survey of State-Level Wild
Mushroom Safety Training for
Retail Establishments***

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- Current farm harvest-to-fork trends
 - Increased volume as well as increased diversity
 - Changes bring about increased risks



Image source: <http://lizerbramlaw.com/>

- Changes in Michigan
 - Wild mushroom hunting, e.g., Morels at \$50/ounce or more
 - 19 more species recognized as legal for sale
 - Other species being hunted and used on an individual basis
- Consequences of these changes
 - Increased emergency room visits (~360/year)
 - Increased hospitalizations
 - Deaths and disabilities



Image source: <https://wildfoodism.com>

- Michigan training for the public is extensive
 - Hands-on and written examination
 - Most participants are mushroom brokers and market managers
- Developed by:
 - Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD)
 - Midwest American Mycological Information (MAMI)
 - Michigan Farmers Market Association (MIFMA)
 - All-day workshops from MAMI with exams and identification
 - Institute for Sustainable Living, Art & Natural Design (ISLAND)

Challenges

- Michigan has operated without an understanding of current training practices in the U.S.
- Lack of a national perspective lessens our ability to most efficiently direct our regulatory resources regarding the growing risks from wild mushroom use.

At present, there is no overview of training available to States that addresses the Food Code requirements for regulatory officials and retail food managers regarding wild mushrooms.

1. What training is available to regulatory officials?
2. What are the barriers and challenges to training?
3. What are the resources available for developing training?

- National survey
 - 9 questions
 - Multiple choice items
- National survey data collection
 - Phone survey
- Focus group
 - Midwest American Mycological Information (MAMI)
- Focus group data collection
 - Informal interviews

- Selected by the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) regions
- Departments of Ag or Health
- Academic centers
- Individual experts
- AFDO committee

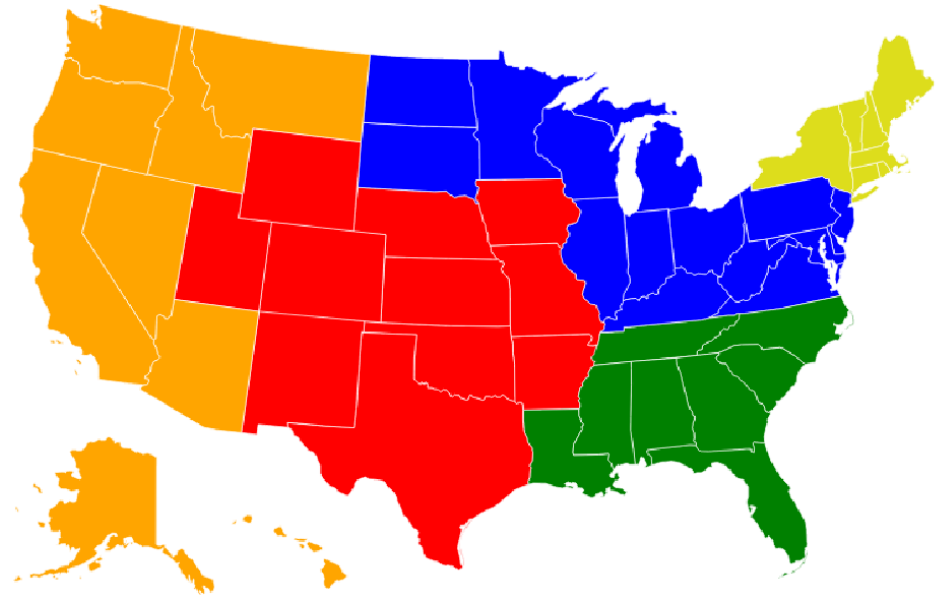


Image source: www.afdo.org

Completed National Survey

- 56.8% initial response

Responses:

- Most wild mushroom knowledge was described as none or basic
- More than half perceived it as an emerging food safety issue
- Only two States have responded to foodborne illness (FBI) incidents
- Lack of standardization, especially with FDA 2009 vs. 2013

- Training is extremely limited.
- Methods of reporting foodborne illness are limited.
- Resources are available, but not widely known.
- The 2013 FDA Food Code change allowed States to institute zero tolerance for wild foraged mushrooms.

1. States should support AFDO's effort for a national guidance document.
2. States should look to other states such as Michigan, who has pioneered a wild mushroom broker program.
3. States should look to neighboring states of similar climate and geography to pool resources for training.

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Questions?

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Image source: <http://www.fizzyenergy.org/>



Image source:
<http://www.moonlightsdelights.com/goldenchanterelles.html>



Image source:
<http://tywkiwdbi.blogspot.com/2010/08/mushrooms.html>



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<http://www.paulnoll.com/Oregon/Wildflower/plant-Mushroom-Lobster.html>



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