

NASDA Updates

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2025 AFDO Annual Educational Conference



Outcomes – 2025 National Produce Safety Consortium

➤ Participation – 200 attendees

- States; Extension; Organizations

➤ Top 5 Ranked Sessions

1. Produce Farm Inspections and Compliance Actions - State panel
2. Notice of Funding Opportunity - Breakout Group
3. State Panel on Qualified Exempt Farms
4. Northeast Region Inspection Data Review
5. Pre-harvest Ag Water Breakout



NASDA Trainings

- Post-harvest Water Training – May 14-15, 2025
 - Phase 1 - includes 6 on demand modules
 - Phase 2 - in person lectures and hands on activities; NCDA Piedmont Research Station, Salisbury NC

- On Farm Readiness Review Training - completed
 - Phase 1 virtual training- *October 2024, our 50th session!*
 - Phase 2 in person training - University of Florida, Feb 2025



NASDA Trainings

NASDA Partnering with FDA on Pre-harvest Water Training for States

➤ NASDA Learning Needs Survey

- Responses: 83% state; 11% extension; 6% other
- Roles: 36% Inspector; 30% Program Manager; 17% Educator; 16% Other



NASDA Trainings

Plans for Pre-harvest Ag Water Rule Training

- Examples of what responders are saying they need ...
 - Tools/templates to evaluate Pre-harvest Ag Water Assessments consistently across the country
 - Will GAP water risk assessment suffice?
 - How to proceed if inspector determines AGWA is not accurate?
 - More information on impact of crop characteristics and environmental conditions
 - Is drip irrigation adequate to be considered non-direct application?
 - More information on microbial die off and research in this area.
 - More information on how water has contributed to past outbreaks
 - Walk through of a water system inspection
 - Examples of using testing as part of the assessment



NASDA Trainings

- Basic Inspection and Inspection Training (AFDO)
 - Inspection course for the new inspector
 - Designed to be taught prior to FD226
 - Taught on January 14-16, 2025, in Columbus, Ohio
 - 26 attendees
 - Activities covered:
 - Regulator Skill
 - Creating a Workplan
 - Pre Inspection Activities
 - Inspection Activities
 - Post Inspection Activities
 - Investigation



NASDA Trainings

- Sampling for the Produce Inspector
 - Basic sampling techniques that will be used by a produce inspector during routine inspections and investigations
 - 6 hours virtual class teaching the theory of sampling and “Why to sample” related to Produce
 - 1.5 Days of face-to-face training hands on sampling
 - Pilot course scheduled for August in Asheville NC



NASDA Mentoring

➤ Mentoring

- NASDA administers the Produce State-to-State Mentoring program.
- The mentoring format has changed from mentoring on a specific topic to a relationship mentoring where the mentor advises the mentee on a host of topics that are programmatic in the development of the mentee's regulatory program.
- Virginia and Tennessee were the initial mentoring pairing.
- Rhode Island and Michigan are the newest mentoring pairing.



Produce Regulatory Program Standards (PRPS)

PRPS - Development

Under its previous Cooperative Agreement, NASDA facilitated the development of the Produce Regulatory Program Standards.

The proposed standards were developed as a collaborative effort between representatives of state Produce Safety Programs, the FDA, and supporting associations.

The project started in Jan. 2022, and the development phase concluded with the submission of the standards in Nov. 2023.



Produce Regulatory Program Standards (PRPS)

PRPS – Implementation

Under its current Cooperative Agreement, NASDA facilitates the implementation of the Produce Regulatory Program Standards and the activities of the PRPS Transition Board.

A PRPS Transition Board provides oversight to the implementation phase. Activities include:

- Prepare for the formation of Produce Regulatory Program Alliance
- Promotion of the PRPS to States
- Conduct the change process required of all regulatory program standards.





Thank you!

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