

Produce Safety Rule Food Safety Modernization Act



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What is the Produce Safety Rule?

- ▶ Section of the **FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT** that outlines federal regulatory standards for the safe production, harvesting, and handling of Fruits & Vegetables

Contents of the Rule:

- ▶ Worker Health & Hygiene
- ▶ Soil Amendments of Biological Origin
- ▶ Post-Harvest Handling & Sanitation
- ▶ Production Agricultural Water
- ▶ Post-Harvest Agricultural Water
- ▶ Domesticated & Wild Animals
- ▶ Record Keeping

Complete Exemptions

- ▶ Farms with average annual total **PRODUCE** sales of less than \$25,000** are exempt from the requirements Produce Safety Rule.

** Adjusted for Inflation

Qualified Exemptions:

- ▶ Growers may be eligible for an exemption based on sales to a qualified end-user.
 - ▶ Sales to qualified end-users include:
 - ▶ Sales directly to consumers.
 - ▶ Sales directly to restaurants.
 - ▶ Sales directly to retail food establishments.
 - ▶ To qualify for this exemption, growers must have an annual FOOD sales total of less than \$500,000 during the previous three year period.
- AND**
- ▶ During the previous three year period, the average annual food sales to qualified end-users exceeds the average annual sales to ALL OTHER BUYERS.

Exempt Produce

- ▶ Produce that is deemed rarely consumed raw.
- ▶ Produce receives commercial processing that adequately reduces the presence of microorganisms of public health significance.
- ▶ Produce that is grown for personal or on-farm consumption.

Grower Compliance Dates

- ▶ Average annual produce sales of more than \$25,000 but less than \$250,000: January 27th, 2020.
- ▶ Average annual produce sales of more than \$250,000 but less than \$500,000: January 28th, 2019.
- ▶ Average annual produce sales of more than \$500,000: January 26th, 2018.



GAP vs. FSMA

- ▶ GAP is a voluntary audit that is typically required by your buyer
- ▶ FSMA is a federal law that you must comply with if your produce is considered "covered". Not optional.

The Produce Safety Team is here to help!

- ▶ The State Department of Agriculture will handle all aspects of the implementation and management of the rule. Including:
 - ▶ Inspections
 - ▶ On Farm Readiness Reviews
 - ▶ Training Activities
 - ▶ Clemson Extension will be aiding with training



Contact Us!

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