

Your “Get Ready” Checklist for Produce Safety Compliance

What is FSMA’s Produce Safety Rule?

FSMA’s Produce Safety Rule is the science based regulation focused on the produce industry from the FDA and will go into effect on January 26, 2018. The sprout safety provisions were the first to go into effect in January of 2017.

Two Types of Farms Defined in the Produce Rule:

- 1. A Primary Production Farm:** ■ An operation under one management in one general area, but not necessarily contiguous, location ■ Devoted to the growing of crops, the harvesting of crops, the raising of animals, or any combination of these activities (the definition has been expanded to include operations that just grow crops and operations that just harvest crops)
- 2. A Secondary Production Farm:** ■ An operation not located on a primary production farm that is devoted to harvesting, packing, and/or holding RACs. ■ The primary production farm(s) that grow, harvest, and/or raise the majority of those RACs must own or jointly own a majority interest in the secondary activities farm. ■ The definition also allows certain, limited additional manufacturing/processing, packing, and holding (Same as those for a primary production farm)

Your “Get Ready” Checklist

- Am I a Farm?**
- Am I Importing Produce?** Do you have your Foreign Supplier Verification Programs?
- Grower Training through Produce Safety Alliance:** [Cornell CALS Website](#)
- Training for Food Workers Handling Produce**
- Requirements in the Produce Safety Rule**
 - Worker Health and Hygiene
 - Biological Soil Amendments of Animal Origins
 - Domesticated and Wild Animals
 - Agricultural Water
 - Specific Requirements for Sprouts
 - Growing, Harvesting, Packing and Holding Activities
 - Equipment, Tools, Buildings and Sanitation
- Records:** Accessible in 24 hours and maintained for 2 years
- Communication with Supply Chain.**