Produce Safety Educator’s Call #29
February 5, 2018
Instructions

- All participants are muted.
- There will be time for questions and answers throughout the meeting.
  - We may not get around to all comments/questions, BUT you may leave additional comments in the comment box to be compiled after the session.
- This session will be recorded and notes will be shared via the listserv and on our website after the call.
Agenda

- Updates on USDA Harmonized & Harmonized Plus Audits
  - Jennifer Dougherty
    Audit Programs Coordinator, USDA AMS

- PSA Updates
2018 Updates to the USDA Harmonized GAP Audit

Produce Safety Alliance Educators Call

Jennifer Dougherty
USDA Harmonized GAP Audits

- 2011: 50
- 2012: 150
- 2013: 400
- 2014: 700
- 2015: 1100
- 2016: 1300
- 2017: 1500

Number of Audits

Fiscal Year

USDA Harmonized GAP Audits

AMS Specialty Crops Inspection Division
Audit Services
Branch
2018 Harmonized GAP Audit Offerings

• Two Audits
  1. Harmonized GAP
  2. Harmonized GAP Plus+

• Both based on Harmonization Initiative's standards
• Similar layouts and acceptance criteria
• Unique to Harmonized GAP Plus+ Audit
  – USDA submitting to Global Food Safety Initiative for technical equivalence in 2018
  – More requirements than Harmonized GAP
2018 Harmonized GAP Audit Materials

- **New**
  - USDA Harmonized GAP Plus+ Audit
  - Reference materials

- **Revised**
  - USDA Harmonized GAP Standard and Checklist
USDA Harmonized GAP Standard

- Reorganized to combine Field Operations and Harvest and Post-Harvest Operations Standards
- Posted on USDA website
- Effective date: May 1, 2018
USDA Harmonized GAP Standard

- Four scopes
  1. General Questions (G) – *required for all audits*
  2. Field Operations and Harvesting (F)
  3. Post-Harvest (P)
  4. Logo Use (L) – *only for auditees who apply for and are using the USDA GAP& GHP Logo*
USDA Harmonized GAP Standard

- Mandatory Requirements and Documentation Required are designated in columns in the standard

### General Questions (G)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Req. #</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>DOC</th>
<th>MAN</th>
<th>Procedure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G-1.1</td>
<td><strong>A food safety policy shall be in place.</strong></td>
<td>WP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A written policy shall outline a commitment to food safety, in general terms, how it is implemented and how it is communicated to employees, and be signed by Senior Management.
USDA Harmonized GAP Checklist

- Revised checklist to be released in February 2018
- Follows USDA Harmonized Standard format
- Modified acceptance criteria
- Effective date May 1, 2018

Coming Soon
USDA Harmonized GAP Plus+ Audit

- **New service offering**
- Submitting for GFSI Technical Equivalence in 2018
- Similar to USDA Harmonized GAP Audit, with **additional requirements** to align with GFSI benchmarking criteria
- Target implementation date: May 1, 2018
USDA Harmonized GAP Plus+ Audit

• Additional Requirements
  – General Questions Requirements
    • Organizational Structure
    • Food safety plan review
    • More detailed supplier requirements
    • Storage of records
    • Product identification and labeling
    • Corrective action and food safety incident management
    • Food defense
    • Food fraud
USDA Harmonized GAP Plus+ Audit

• Additional Requirements (continued)
  – Field Operations and Harvesting Requirements
    • Risk assessment of each production area prior to harvest
    • Additional agricultural chemical/plant protection products requirements
    • Maintenance and calibration of equipment and instruments that impact food safety
    • Product release procedure
USDA Harmonized GAP Plus+ Audit

- Additional Requirements (*continued*)
  - Post-Harvest Operations Requirements
    - Risk assessment of the packinghouse
    - HACCP plan (only if CCPs were identified in risk assessment)
    - Metal Detection Equipment (if utilized)
USDA Harmonized GAP Plus+ Audit

• Additional Requirements
  – Many already in previous Global Markets Addendum
  – Indicated with a letter designation after the requirement number

For example:

```
G-1.2.a  The food safety plan outlines an organizational structure for at least those staff whose activities affect food safety.   WP
```
USDA Reference Materials

- Equivalency Matrix and Summary of Changes
  - Correlation of original and new requirement numbers
  - Summary of changes
  - Alignment with FSMA Produce Safety Rule
- Harmonized Guidance Manual
  - Examples of interpretation
  - References
Thank you!

Your Questions Please?

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Questions & Discussion
Water Summit

- **Covington, KY Registration Closed**
  - Registration filled in 11 minutes, now working through waiting list for seats that become available
  - Feb 27-28, 2018
  - Covington, KY

- **Remote Site Participation**
  - Remote sites evolving – check website for more info
  - [https://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/water-summit#remote](https://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/water-summit#remote)
  - Zoom room link to be posted on website 1 week prior to meeting
Next Meeting

- **Tentative**: Monday Mar. 26, 2018, 2 PM EST
- Meeting info to be sent out via the listserv closer to the time of the call
- Submit other topics for discussion to Gretchen *(glw53@cornell.edu)*
The PSA Website
http://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/

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• Or Follow us on Twitter!

Join the listserv

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