

Agronomic Issues

Questions on the Issue: Food safety

For Event Use Only

Suggested but not necessarily the only answers are printed in light gray

How do the four articles provided complement each other to a prospective agronomist?

What is food safety and how will FSMA and GAP impact how farmers will produce food

How do you apply food safety in the growing process?

Understanding food safety challenges when producing food

Surviving outbreak- what do if something happens

Will the FSMA & GAP eliminate foodborne diseases? Why?

It will reduce and prevent, but it will not eliminate. There is always a risk when growing in an open environment, also diseases and pathogens will continue change and become resistant to treatments.

What are the growers/shippers legal/moral obligations and possible repercussions in producing fruits/vegetables for human consumption?

Moral/legal obligations: When under the control, the grower needs to follow GAP to prevent contamination and document growing/handling practices. The obligations include reporting any incident involving food contamination regardless of what stage it is on the food supply chain.

Possible repercussion: Big fine, lawsuits, jail, closing of your business, ruining your reputation, losing your market, consciousness of knowing you hurt people.

Where does food safety practices begin and end?

Field selection- seed production-planting-growing-harvesting-retail-consumers

From a grower/agronomist perspective, what do you think is the number one challenge regarding producing a continual safe food supply?

Whatever answer they wish to give as long as they can defend it