

The Arizona LGMA began in September 2007, following an E.coli outbreak from spinach that was produced in California in 2006.

Farmers in Arizona and California, came together voluntarily, to put in place food safety programs in both states. Establishing a trusted public / private partnership. Completely funded by the leafy greens industry.

The programs are meant to create a <u>seamless system</u> to <u>monitor</u>, <u>mitigate</u>, and <u>prevent any potential sources of contamination</u>.



The program's purpose and mission are:

To ensure that all lettuce and leafy greens are safe to eat by developing, implementing, and continuously enhancing a science-based leafy greens food safety program that can serve as a model for the agriculture industry.

<u>Arizona Leafy Green Products Shipper Marketing Agreement</u> (Arizona LGMA)

- Industry solicited the Arizona Department of Agriculture's *Citrus, Fruit and Vegetable Standardization (CFV) Program*, for the State of Arizona's *first* Marketing Agreement.
- 100 % Voluntary Sign Up with Mandatory Compliance.
- 38 shippers members.

Arizona Leafy Greens Food Safety Committee

- 5 member Committee, made up of Signatory Shipper Representatives.
 - 3 members from Yuma County.
 - 2 from any other leafy greens producing area.

Technical Subcommittee

- 7 members, 3 alternates
- Best Practices (Metrics) Review
- Training & Industry Outreach

Communications Subcommittee

- 5 members, 1 alternate
- Public Relations and Public Outreach
- Crisis Management

Food Safety Committee







C.R. Waters



Vicki Scott



Tom Russell



Jennifer Skidgel-Clarke

Technical Subcommittee

Vicki Scott (Chair)
Amanda Brooks
Hank Giclas
Bob Mills
Kevin Watson
Kami Weddle
Jeremy Vanderzyl
Nye Hardey (Alternate)
Valentin Sierra (Alternate)
Kristina Nunes (Alternate)

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Arizona Leafy Greens

• Last year, Arizona LGMA members shipped over **70 million cartons or 1.7 billion pounds**, representing **97% of leafy greens** grown in Arizona.

 Approximately 90% of the Leafy Greens consumed in the United States and Canada is grown in Arizona, during the months of November through March.

• Leafy Greens make up 65 %of all Arizona-grown fresh produce commodities shipped.

• **Lettuce** (Romaine, Iceberg, Butter, and Leaf) **is Arizona's top crop**, representing **52**% of the state's total fresh produce shipped.

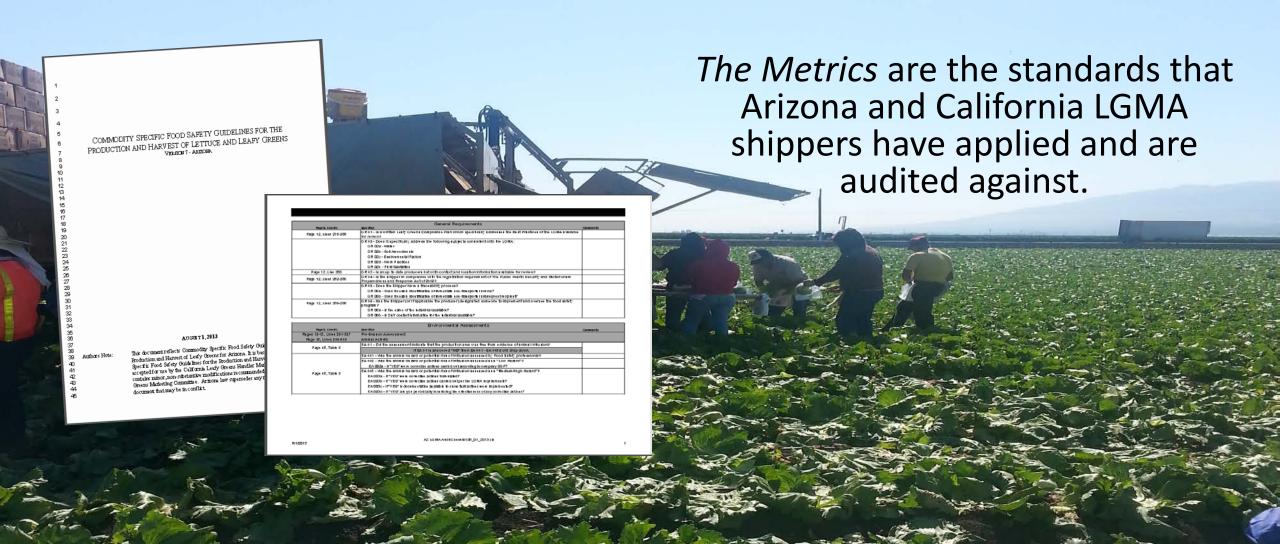
The 15 leafy greens covered are:

- Arugula
- Baby Leaf Lettuce
- Butter Lettuce
- Cabbage
- Chard
- Endive
- Escarole
- Green Leaf Lettuce

- Iceberg Lettuce
- Kale
- Red Leaf Lettuce
- Radicchio
- Romaine Lettuce
- Spinach
- Spring Mix



The Commodity Specific Food Safety Guidelines for the Production and Harvest of Lettuce and Leafy Greens are known as "Metrics".



In 1998, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued the "Guide to Minimize Microbial Food Safety Hazards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables."

The Metrics were based on practices known as

Good Agriculture Practices (GAPs) or Best Practices.



Metrics Document

Metrics changes and updates

Industry experts and food safety professionals help to review and maintain the most *current* science-based standards

- Glossary
- Acronyms and Abbreviations.
- Appendix Documents to be used to provide guidance on specific Food Safety practices.

Best Practices include:

- Requires for each company to specify Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
- Requires **Documentation** to verify practices and procedures.
- Decision Trees and Tables help the companies comply and mitigate problems.

Best Practices



Version 9 zona Commodity Specific Guidelines for Production and Harvest of Lettuce and Leafy Greens (Metrics)

TRACKED CHANGES

Effective: August 25, 2015



Version 7-Arizona Lineamientos Especificos de Inocuidad Alimentaria para la Produccion y Cosecha de Lechuga y Verduras de Hojas Verdes

Effective: August 2013



Appendix A: Sanitary Survey



Appendix B: Technical Basis Document -Tracked changes

Arizona Audit Checklist

Tracked Changes

Effective: August 2015

Arizona

Unannounced

Audit Checklist

Effective: August 2013

Effective: August 25, 2015



Appendix C: Crop Sampling Protocol



Appendix D: Kinetics of Microbial Inactivatior for Alternative Food Processing Technologies



Appendix E: Environmental Health Standards for Composting Operations (California Code of Regulations)



Appendix T: Training Guidance and Resources



Appendix Z: AZ LGMA Resource Agency Contacts



ASSESSING PRE-HARUEST WATER QUALITY

SAMPLING & WATER TEST METHODS

SOURCES

Municipal, well, reclaimed water, reservoir, canal or other surface water

SAMPLING FREQUENCY

- If there is no well exemption sample water source if > 60 days have passed since last tested
- When in use, sample each water system at least once every 35 days
- Collect samples at least 18 hours apart to calculate geometric mean

& TEST METHODS

- Analyze samples for generic E. coli
- Collect sample as close to point of use as practical
- Use sampling method prescribed in Table 1
- Use FDA BAM method or other EPA approved or AOAC accredited method to analyze
- Calculate rolling geometric mean using the 5 most recent samples

INTENDED WATER USE



Water contacts edible portion e.g. overhead sprinkler irrigation, pesticide/fungicide applications



ACCEPTABLE WATER TEST RESULTS

Single Sample ≤ 235 MPN / 100ml

AND

Geometric Mean is ≤ 126 MPN / 100 ml



UNACCEPTABLE WATER TEST RESULTS

Single Sample >235 MPN / 100 ml

OR

Geometric Mean is >126 MPN / 100 ml



NON-FOLIAR

Water does not contact the edible portion e.g. furrow or drip irrigation, dust abatement



ACCEPTABLE WATER TEST RESULTS

Single Sample ≤ 576 MPN / 100 ml

AND

Geometric Mean is ≤ 126 MPN / 100 ml



UNACCEPTABLE WATER TEST RESULTS

Single Sample > 576 MPN / 100 ml

OR

Geometric Mean is > 126 MPN / 100 ml

ARE TEST RESULTS ACCEPTABLE?



No further action necessary and water from this source may be used for any crop production.

NOTE:

If test results are higher than normal or indicate an upward trend, investigate to determine if remedial action should be taken



CONDUCT REMEDIAL ACTIONS

- Stop any crop production
- Examine the water source and distribution system
- Assess if there is a contamination source that can be resolved
- Conduct a sanitary survey (Appendix A) of water source and distribution system

RETEST

- Complete survey and/or taking remedial actions and retest at same sampling point
- Continue testing for the next five days at closest point of use
- If any test exceeds 235 MPN/100ml, repeat the sanitary survey and/or remedial actions
- Do not use system until the water meets acceptance criteria

CROP TESTING

- If water exceeding the acceptance criteria has been used for irrigation, sample and test crop for E. coli O157:H7 and Salmonella (Appendix C) prior to harvest
- If any test results are positive, do NOT harvest the crop for human consumption

ASSESSING POST-HARUEST WATER QUALITY

SAMPLING & WATER TEST METHODS

SOURCES

Municipal, well, reclaimed water, reservoir, canal or other surface water

SAMPLING FREQUENCY

- If there is no well exemption sample water source if > 60 days have passed since last tested
- When in use, sample each water system at least once every 35 days
- Collect samples at least 18 hours apart to calculate geometric mean

& TEST METHODS

- Analyze samples for generic E. coli
- Collect sample as close to point of use as practical
- Use sampling method prescribed in Table 1
- Use FDA BAM method or other EPA approved or AOAC accredited method to analyze
- Calculate rolling geometric mean using the 5 most recent samples

INTENDED WATER USE



Direct water contact with product e.g. re-hydration, core in-field



Generic E. coli negative or below DL/100 ml

OR

ORP \geq 650 mV and a pH range of 6.5-7.5

OR

Free chlorine > 1 ppm and pH range of 6.5-7.5

OR

Other approved treatments per product EPA label for human pathogen reduction in water



WATER TEST RESULTS

Positive result for generic E. coli



NOTE:

Water directly
contacting harvested
crop shall meet
microbial standards
in US EPA's National
Drinking Water
Regulations and/or
contain sufficient
concentration of an
approved disinfectant
to prevent cross
contamination

ARE TEST RESULTS ACCEPTABLE?



No further action necessary and water from this source may be used for any crop production.



CONDUCT REMEDIAL ACTIONS

- Stop post-harvest use until water quality meets acceptance criteria
- Examine water source and distribution system
- Assess if there is a contamination source that can be resolved
- Conduct a sanitary survey (Appendix A) of water source and distribution system

RETEST

- After completing survey and/or taking remedial actions, retest at same sampling point.
- Continue testing for the next five days at closest point of use
- If any of the tests exceed 2 MPN/100ml, repeat the sanitary survey and/or remedial actions.
- Do not use system until the water meets the acceptance criteria

PRODUCT TESTING:

- Water exceeding the acceptance criteria is not appropriate microbial quality for post-harvest use
- Sample and test product for E. coli O157:H7 and Salmonella (Appendix C)

5 Year Comparison of Violations by Deviation Level

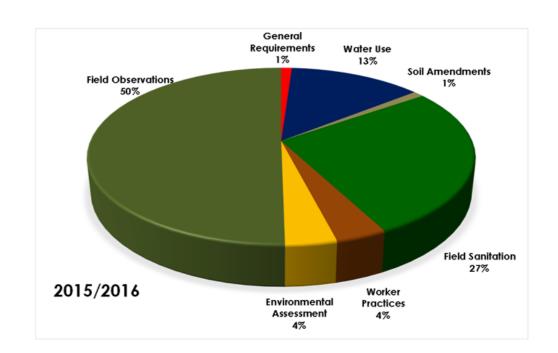
Violation Levels	2011/2012	2011/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
Flagrant	0	0	0	0	0
Major Deviations	5	5	1	0	2
Minor Deviations	318	91	115	111	94
Minor Infractions	158	112	104	100	95
Total	481	208	220	211	191

- A flagrant violation occurs when the shipper knows or should have known the product was grown, packed, shipped, processed, or handled in violation of the best practices and the violation significantly increased the risk of delivering unsafe product into commerce. A single flagrant violation leads to a loss of the privilege to use the LGMA service mark.
- A major deviation is a violation of the best practices that may inhibit the maintenance of food safety, but that does not necessarily result in an unsafe product.
- A *minor deviation* is a violation of the best practices that the signatory *can correct within five business days and that does not necessarily increase the risk of a food borne illness.*
- A minor infraction is a violation of the best practices that is corrected before the inspector leaves the premises and that does not necessarily increase the risk of a food borne illness.

5 Year Comparison of Violations by Metrics Category



Metrics Categories	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
General Requirements	23	8	6	1	2
Environmental Assessment	37	5	6	3	7
Water Use	42	36	25	21	25
Soil Amendments	16	4	2	1	2
Worker Practices	71	12	15	19	7
Field Sanitation	205	20	54	47	52
Field Observations	87	123	112	119	96
Total	481	208	220	211	191





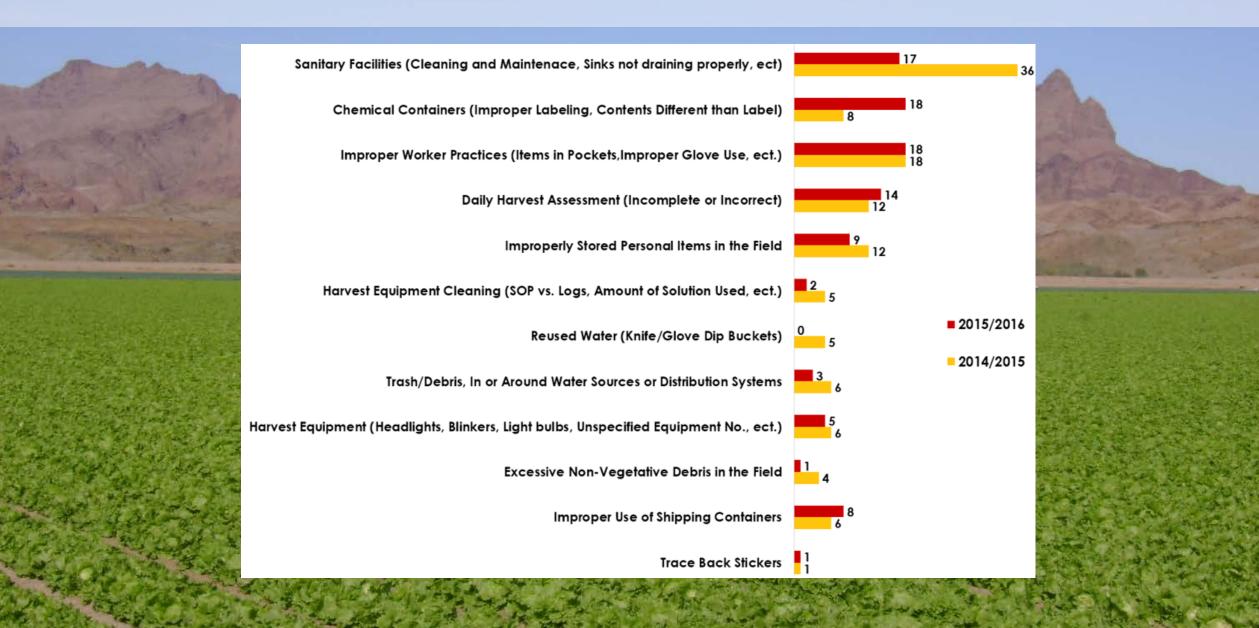
Water Use Violations

	Gener	al Requ	uireme	ents	n wex	Pre-Harvest Foliar and Non-Foliar Water Applications					Non-Foliar Water Post Harvest Direct Produce Contact or Food Contact Surfaces																			
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5 Year Comparison of Field Observation Violations

Field Observation Categories	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
Water Use	6	10	10	13	5
Environmental Factors	0	7	4	7	12
Worker Practices	51	55	41	56	44
Field Sanitation	30	51	57	43	35
Total	87	123	112	119	96

2 Year Comparison of Field Observation Violations



Arizona Leafy Greens Food Safety Training Kit











Orientation –Food Safety Orientation

Module 1 - Foodborne Outbreaks and Contaminates

Module 2 - Personal Hygiene & Hand washing

Module 3 – Cross Contamination

Module 4 - Environmental Risk Assessments



Public Outreach

- Arizona Leafy Greens Month
- Social media
- Ongoing media outreach
- Tradeshows and Expositions

Crisis Management

Our success is measured by the trust that







facebook.



Get to Know Your Leafy Greens



nation's vegetables for salads are grown





LIST

Leafy Greens





SAFEWAY ()

II Visit Arizona Leafy Greens on Facebook for safety tips and recipes.

Arizona Leafy Greens celebrates advent of season

November in arks beginning of Arizona-grown lettuce shipments

ores are coming together to celebrate the advent of Arizona's through March is generated from Arizona ettuce harvest throughout the month of November, marked by a

oundant lettuce industry, Governor Jan Brewer has proclaimed the month of November Arizona Leafy Greens Month. The month telebrates the kick off of Arizona's leafy greens season, with aughout the United States and Canada. The season generally imences around mid-November and goes through March.

"This is an ideal time to reflect on the fertile ground that izona offers, the increased focus on healthy eating, the tinued demand for local leafy greens, and the safe practices eens Food Safety Committee Chair Arnott Duncan.

Arizona Leafy Greens Food Safety Committee and Safeway in the United States and Canada between the months of Novemb

announced on the Arizona Leafy Greens Facebook site.

inforcing our commitment to boosting Arizona-grown products and educating our shoppers on the importance of this commodity marketing and selling of the items, and procures its lettuces from

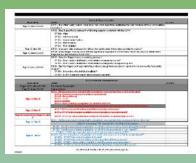
undant growth, harvest and shipments of Arizona-grown lettuce uniform safe food handling practices are employed throughout the safety of lettuces grown in Arizona from field to fork.

> of standards and practices. Shippers and prowers are subject to regular inspections by USDA certified auditors. The Arizon Leafy Greens Food Safety Committee can impose sanctions or

What's Next?

- Metric 101 Training
 - Webinars
 - Online Training







- Training Materials Available On-line
 - Purchase and Download



 Food Safety Modernization Act: Produce Rule



Arizona Department of Agriculture Implementation of the Produce Safety Rule







In January 2011, President Obama signed into law the FDA <u>Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA)</u>, the most comprehensive reform of our food safety laws in more than 70 years.

It aims to ensure the U.S. food supply is safe by shifting the focus from <u>responding</u> to contamination to <u>preventing</u> it.

First time ever mandatory government on-farm inspections conducted.

The seven major FSMA regulations are the:

- **Produce Safety Rule-** Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing, & Holding of Produce for Human Consumption
- Preventive Controls for Human Foods
- Preventive Controls for Animals
- Foreign Supplier Verification Programs
- Third Party Accreditation
- Mitigation of Intentional Adulteration



Food Safety Audits Available

Prior to FSMA, ALL Produce Food Safety Audits were voluntary.

Audit requirements are imposed by the BUYERS (Retailers and Wholesalers), and require Grower's, Harvesters and Shippers, to comply with specific Food Safety Audit Programs.

Private audits

vs audits **USDA** Government

Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) Audits

Primus GFS

Global GAP

BRC

SQF

ISO 22000 food safety management system

USDA Audits

GAP/GHP

Harmonized

Tomato Protocol

AZ/CA LGMA

Where does your farm fit in with FSMA? FDA FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT

Here is how FDA defines farm size:



LARGE FARM

Sells more than \$500,000 in produce

each year

8444

SMALL FARM

Sells **\$250,001 -\$500,000**

in produce each year

84 V

VERY SMALL FARM

Sells

\$25,000 -

\$250,000

in produce each year

*Farms who sell \$25,000 or less in produce each year are exempt from the law



PRODUCE RULE

PHASE 1 Rulemaking

JANUARY 2011

Produce Rule signed into law by President Obama as a part of the Food Safety Modernization Act JANUARY 2013

Proposed produce rule issued by FDA and open for public comments.

SEPTEMBER 2014

FDA released proposed revisions to the Produce Rule - these include revisions to water quality testing provisions to account for natural variations in water sources and an adjusted approach to manure and compost used in crop production pending further research on this issue.



NOVEMBER 2015

Final Produce Rule issued by FDA.

PHASE 2 Compliance

1 DECEMBER 2017

Large Farms will be required to be in compliance* 2 DECEMBER 2018

Small Farms will be required to be in compliance* 3 DECEMBER 2019

Very small farms will be required to be in compliance*



DECEMBER 2022

The Produce Rule will be fully implemented for all farms who fall under it

*All size farms will be given an additional two years to meet water requirements

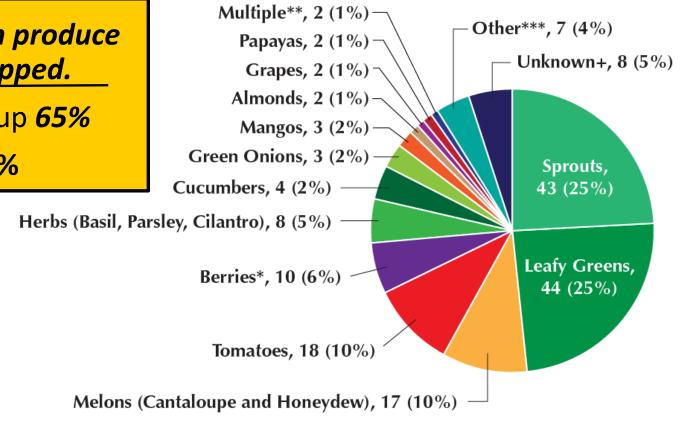


Outbreaks Associated with Produce

FDA Outbreaks Linked to Produce Contamination Likely Prior to Retail: 1996–2014

Arizona-grown fresh produce commodities shipped.

- Leafy Greens make up 65%
- Melons make up 16%







NASDA Produce Safety Rule Implementation

National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) held a PSR Implementation conference on *March 22-23, 2016*.

Attendees:

- Three ADA Staff, Teressa Lopez, Alex Wladyszewski and Stewart Jacobson.
- FDA Staff-Including the Commissioner, Mike Taylor and his successor Dr. Steven Ostroff.
- Representatives from all 50 State Departments of Agriculture.
- State Health Department Employees, no ADHS employees.
- One USDA representative, Leanne Skelton.
- Discussed the PSR Implementation Framework for the Departments of Agriculture.
- Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA # PAR-16-137) for Training/Outreach and Compliance/Regulatory Enforcement.
 - Letter of Intent due April 15, 2016. There were 48 states that submitted this Letter of Intent.
 - ADA held two public meetings, one in Yuma on April 5, 2016 and one in Phoenix on April 12, 2016
 - Application due by June 3, 2016, ADA submitted on May 31, 2016.



Competition A: Outreach/Education

- Identify covered industry- growers and contract packers to establish a Farm Inventory
- Encourage voluntary compliance, through training of covered and uncovered farms
- 3) Develop partnerships (e.g. Extension Service and Trade Associations)
- 4) Educate covered and uncovered growers and contract packers
- 5) Providing the educational messages to align with the PSR
- 6) Conduct On-Farm Pre-Assessments (mock inspections)

Competition B: Compliance /Enforcement

- 1) Encourage compliance using regulatory inspections
- 2) Compliance components
 - Initial inspections
 - Follow-up or Re-inspections of Corrective Actions
 - Enhanced regulatory inspections as needed
- Utilize tools available to ensure compliance with the PSR and the protection of public health
- 4) EDUCATE BEFORE YOU REGULATE!!



Arizona Leafy Greens Food Safety Committee

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