

The Sprout Safety Alliance

Overview and Progress

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Sprout Safety Alliance (SSA)

- **Created through a partnership grant from FDA to Institute for Food Safety and Health (IFSH)**
- **45+ participants**
 - Sprout growers, seed producers, testing companies, retail, state and federal government, academia, etc.



Sprout Safety Alliance Goals

- **Enhance knowledge and adoption of best practices for safe sprout production**
 - ▣ **Especially small sprout producers**
- **Develop a core curriculum**
 - ▣ **Aligning with the Produce Safety Rule**
- **Establish training and outreach programs**

The SSA Curriculum: Table of Contents

Chapters

- Welcome and Course Objective
- 1. Sprout Safety Hazards
- 2. Sprout Production Environment
- 3. Employee Practices
- 4. Cleaning and Sanitizing of Buildings and Equipment
- 5. Environmental Monitoring: Sanitation Verification
- 6. Environmental Monitoring: *Listeria* Control
- 7. Seed Purchasing, Receiving and Storage
- 8. Seed Treatment

- 9. Spent Irrigation Water and Sprout Testing
- 10. Additional Control Programs
- 11. Recordkeeping Procedures
- 12. Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing, and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption
- 13. Review/Additional Materials

Appendices

- 1. Regulation
- 2. Record templates
- 3. Model risk reduction program

Progress to date - curriculum development

- **All chapters are drafted and under review.**
- **Pilot training/feedback sessions**
 - ▣ **Chicago, IL, Feb 2013**
 - ▣ **Washington DC, Oct 2013**
 - ▣ **Richmond, CA, Aug 2014**
- **Training slides are being developed.**

Progress to date- Implementation

- Contact information of ~200 sprout growers from 26 states was collected.
- A survey on training format and delivery method was conducted.
- The SSA Education/Outreach Working group is being re-engaged and will work on the Implementation of the curriculum.



**Thank you for your
participation!**

Get Connected with the SSA Today!

www.iit.edu/ifsh/sprout_safety