



## **Train-the-Trainer Course**

### **Who Should Attend**

Those interested in becoming PSA Certified Trainers or PSA Certified Lead Trainers and using the PSA standardized curriculum to train fresh produce growers to meet the regulatory requirements as proposed in the FDA's Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule.

### **Expected Qualifications Prior to Attending**

Individuals who participate in this course are expected to have a basic understanding of 1) microbiology as it relates to produce safety and the pathogens most often associated with produce outbreaks, 2) how fruits and vegetables are grown, harvested, packed, and transported, and 3) a basic understanding of the FSMA Produce Safety Rule. Experience in training adult learners and/or extension experience in food safety or produce production will be necessary to become a successful PSA Certified Trainer.

### **What to expect at the PSA Train-the-Trainer Course**

This two-day course will provide a foundation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) information, new FSMA Produce Safety Rule standards, and a review of the seven module PSA Grower Training curriculum. During the training, principles of adult education, how to incorporate the PSA curriculum into other extension trainings, developing working partnerships, expectations for trainer certification, and how to register a PSA Grower Training Course with the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) will also be covered.

### **What does successfully completing the PSA Train-the-Trainer (TTT) Course mean for me?**

Upon successful completion of the full, two-day PSA TTT, you will be a PSA Certified Trainer. Completing this training allows you deliver curriculum modules as a trainer in a PSA Grower Training, under the direction of a PSA Certified Lead Trainer. Every PSA Grower Training must have at least one PSA Certified Lead Trainer present. Anyone presenting at a PSA Grower Training must be, at minimum, a PSA Certified Trainer.

### **How do I become a PSA Certified Lead Trainer?**

PSA Certified Lead Trainers must attend the two-day PSA Train-the-Trainer Course and successfully complete an interview to demonstrate their competency in three specific areas: 1) Knowledge of microbiology as it relates to produce safety 2) Knowledge of fruit and vegetable production, harvesting, packing, and transportation, and 3) Knowledge of the FSMA Produce Safety Rule. Information about how to prepare for and complete this process will be included during the PSA TTT Course.

## **Costs to Attend**

Total costs to attend a PSA TTT Course will vary. Set costs include PSA educational materials for trainers (\$75) and growers (\$50). Certification through AFDO upon successful completion of the training will be \$50 for PSA Certified Trainers (i.e. anyone who attends the PSA Train-the-Trainer Course). Those that want to become a PSA Certified Lead Trainer will incur an additional cost to cover the additional PSA Certified Lead Trainer certificate (\$25) and interview process\*. Our ultimate goal is to keep costs low so that training and certification remain available to all who are interested. All other training costs (such as venue and meals) will vary depending on location and availability of funding.

*\*These costs are still being determined and are subject to change.*

## **Opportunities to Attend PSA Train-the-Trainer Courses**

The PSA plans to officially launch the TTT Course in June and will host several Train-the-Trainer Courses around the country between June 2015 and November 2015. Edits to the curriculum materials may be made once the final FSMA Produce Safety Rule is published in the Federal Register in October 2015. Anyone trained before the Produce Safety Rule is final will receive supplemental information that covers the changes made to the curriculum to assure the information they have is current.

For more information about scheduled Train-the-Trainer Courses, please visit the PSA website at <http://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu> or the AFDO website at <http://www.afdo.org/producesafetyalliance>.

## **For additional questions, please contact:**

Ms. Gretchen Wall, M.S.  
Produce Safety Alliance Coordinator  
[glw53@cornell.edu](mailto:glw53@cornell.edu), 607-255-6806

Dr. Elizabeth A. Bihn, Ph.D.  
Produce Safety Alliance Director  
[eab38@cornell.edu](mailto:eab38@cornell.edu), 315-787-2625