UMass Vegetable Winter School

Food Safety Planning

Lisa McKeag

UMass Extension Vegetable Program

&
the MDAR Produce Safety
Team









Agenda

- Intro to Food Safety planning
- Water: assessing risks and making a distribution map
- Standard Operating Procedures
- Other parts of a food safety plan next steps







Public health...



Regulations...



Market access...



Audit programs...





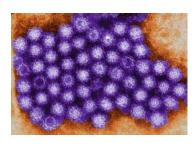




Farm Food Safety

 Foodborne illnesses result from contamination of food with fecal pathogens





Viruses



Parasites

"Keep the poop off the food"



All about risk management...







Good Agricultural Practices(GAPs)

Practices that minimize the occurrence of microbial contamination of fruits and vegetables















Farm Food Safety Plans

- The FSMA Produce Safety Rule does <u>not</u> require a written Farm Food Safety Plan
- However, writing a Farm Food Safety Plan:
- 1. Helps you get organized and effectively manage risks
- Helps with training
- 3. Identifies areas for improvement or capital investments
- 4. May be required by 3rd-party audit programs
 - → Required for Commonwealth Quality certification











Farm Food Safety Plan Parts

- Farm name and address
- Farm description
 - Commodities grown, farm size, etc.
- Name and contact information for the farm food safety manager
- Our Farm's

 Food Safety
 Manual

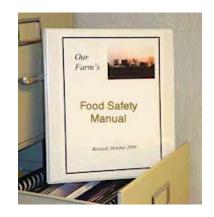
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- Risk assessment of practices and environmental conditions on your farm that impact food safety
- Practices to reduce food safety risks
- Records that document practices





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- Name and contact information for the farm food safety manager



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- Practices to reduce food safety risks
- Records that document practices



MDAR Produce Safety/mGAPs Registration Form v2.1

Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources' Produce Safety Program

| 1. Agricultural | 1. Agricultural Operation Information | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Operation Name | | | | | |
| Point of Contact First, Last Name | | | | | |
| Role | Email | | | | |
| Operation Phone | Cell Phone | | | | |
| Legal Structure: | ☐ Sole Proprietor ☐ Corporation ☐ Partnership ☐ LLC ☐ Other | | | | |
| Site Address: | | | | | |
| City, State, Zip: | | | | | |
| ☐ Mailing address san | ☐ Mailing address same as above | | | | |
| Mailing Address | | | | | |
| City, State, Zip | | | | | |
| Region | ☐ West ☐ Central West ☐ Central East ☐ Northeast ☐ Southeast | | | | |
| Have you participated in a PSA Grower training course? | | | | | |
| Has your farm had a tl | hird party audit? | | | | |
| If yes, who conducted | your third party audit? | | | | |





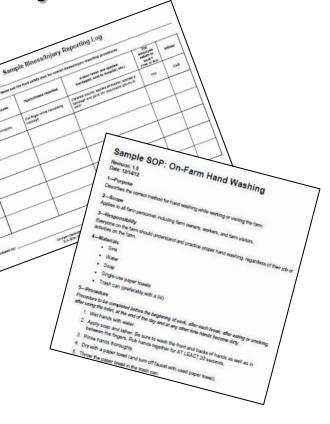




Other Items to Include In Your Farm Food Safety Plan

- Farm maps
- Farm policies
- SOPs
- Training records
- Agricultural water test results
- Emergency contact information
- Supplier and buyer information
- Traceability and recall plans
- Contact info for contracted services



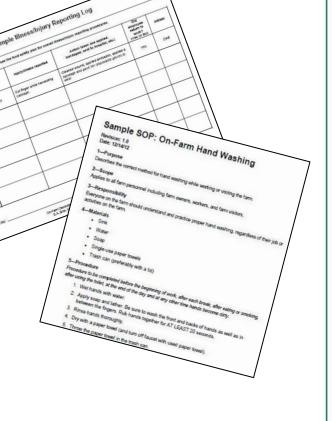




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Produce Safety/mGAPs Food Safety Plan Document List

| Policies/SOP's | Records | Supporting Documents | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| Section 1 Food Safety Plan | | | | |
| General Information | ☐ Training Records | ☐ Mapping | | |
| Recall- Traceability Policy | Corrective Actions | PSA Training Certificate | | |
| ☐ Training Policy | | ☐ Mock Recall Exercise | | |
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| Compost Handling | Compost Monitoring | | | |
| | ☐ Compost Applications | | | |
| Sanitation SOP - Utensil | Compost Utensil Sanitation | | | |
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| Animal Incursion Policy | ☐ Animal Incursions | ☐ Petting Zoo Signage | | |
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| Section 5 –Water | | | | |
| ☐ Water Change Out SOP | ☐ Water System Inspection | ☐ Water Test Results | | |
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Documents you may need to have on hand...

- CQP farm registry form
- CQP checklist to help with risk assessments
- Farm maps with fields outlined
- SOPS
- Records you may already be keeping, including for other purposes (e.g., organic certification)
- Packinghouse floor plan showing product flow. Can be hand drawn and simple.
- List of contracted services you have. May include:
 - pest control
 - portable toilet rental/servicing
 - trucking/transportation
 - and any recordkeeping documents they supply







Farm Food Safety Plan writing resources

- UMass: https://ag.umass.edu/resources/food-safety/for-farmers/farm-food-safety-plans-traceability
- PSA: https://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/resources/farm-food-safety-plan-writing-resources/
- NECAFS Clearinghouse: http://www.uvm.edu/extension/necafs/clearinghouse/

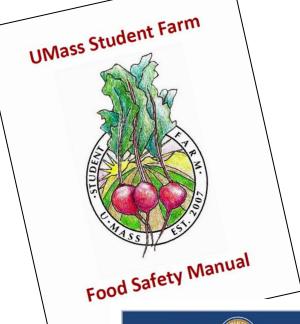






Example food safety plan

UMass Student Farm



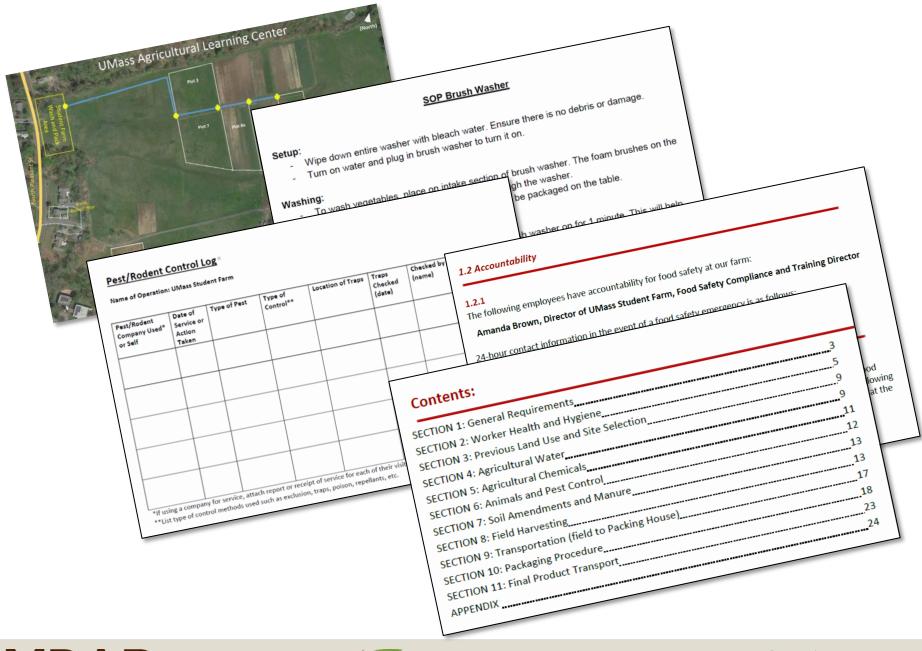














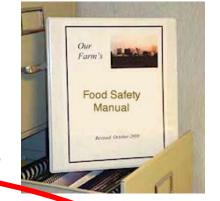






Farm Food Safety Plan Parts

- Farm name and address
- Farm description
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- Name and contact information for the farm food safety manager
- Risk assessment of practices and environmental conditions on your farm that impact food safety
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Steps Towards Produce Safety

- Assess Produce Safety Risks
- Implement Practices
 - Monitor Practices
 - Use Corrective Actions
 - Keep Records







Assessing Risks



Assess your farm and practices

- Location of farm, fields, and adjacent land activities that may represent risks to the crops you grow
- Fecal contamination risk from domesticated or wild animals
- Use of water and manure in crop production
- Worker training programs and hygiene facilities
- Practices used to grow, harvest, pack, or hold produce and the tools and equipment
- Typical and atypical (e.g., flooding) situations



2.4 Agricultural Water Risk Assessment

Our water system risk assessment is documented in our description of our water system and our water management plan as described below. We consider historical water testing results, the characteristics of the crop, the stage of the crop, and the method of application. We review it annually or whenever changes are made to the system.

Our water system description includes the chart below and information on our farm map. Water source and use is compliant with state and federal regulations. Water used for hand washing in field sanitation units is not required to meet EPA potability standards if chlorine or other acceptable agents are added to reduce the possibility of microbial contamination. Water systems used for clean water are never mixed with waste water and are designed to prevent cross-contamination.

WATER SOURCES AND USES

| Use\Source | Municipal | Private Well | Surface water |
|---|-----------|--------------|---------------|
| Drinking | | Ø | Not permitted |
| Hand Washing | | Ø | |
| Cleaning food contact surfaces | | Ø | |
| Washing produce | | Ø | |
| Irrigation: □ None □ Overhead sprinkler ☑ Drip □ Furrow □ Flood | | | Ø |
| Fertilizer application | | Ø | |
| Pesticide / Fungicide application | | Ø | |

From Penn State
sample Farm
Plan
https://extension
.psu.edu/sampleharmonizedfood-safety-plan







UMass Student Farm

RISK ASSESSMENT – Agricultural Water

| Inspection Date | Water Source | Risks identified? | Corrective and/or preventative actions if necessary | Identified by: Initials | Date Corrective action completed | Completed by: Initials |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---|----------------------------|---|------------------------|
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |







| Ingredients | | | Risk Assessment | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| or Process | | Hazard | | | |
| Step | Hazard Type | Justification | Likelihood | Severity | Control Measure |
| | | contaminated | | | Maintain containers in good |
| Field Packing | Chemical | containers | L | М | condition |
| | | | | | |
| | | poor | | | Watch container placement in field |
| | | conditioned | | | pack activity to ensure that you are |
| | Physical | containers | М | L | not cross contaminating |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | Use harvest containers for their |
| | | | | | intended use only - re-use of |
| | | contaminated | | | containers should be montiored to |
| | Biological | containers | L/M | Н | prevent cross contamination |

From Earthbound foods sample risk assessment guide

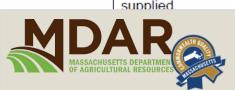








| | Pre-Harvest Risk | Inspect | | |
|------------|---|---------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Assessment | | Yes* | Correction Actions if Necessary | Yes (after correction made) |
| | * A check mark in the Yes column means that e a threat to the safety of the harvested crop. All | | e items below is under control and therefore does n t be checked Yes before harvesting can begin. | ot represent |
| | Harvesters and Handlers | | | |
| | Workers have been trained on personal hygiene and practices that can contribute to contamination | | | |
| | Workers have been checked for compliance with hygiene policies. | | | |
| | Field and Perimeter | | | |
| | There are no farm animals or wildlife present in the field. | | | |
| | There are no signs of animal droppings or other recent animal activity in the field | | | |
| | There are no signs of recent flooding from nearby creeks, streams, and rivers or overflowing manure storage tanks and septic systems. | | | |
| | Hand Washing and Toilet Facilities | | | |
| | Toilet facilities are available, accessible, and adequate in number. | | | |
| | Toilet facilities are clean and equipped with hand washing stations. | | | |
| | Hand washing stations are adequately | | | |









Search Mass.gov

SEARCH

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WORKING ♥

LEARNING V

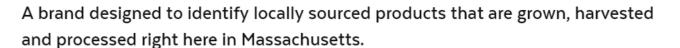
VISITING & EXPLORING ♥

YOUR GOVERNMEN

OFFERED BY

Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources

Commonwealth Quality Program



Commonwealth Quality, a brand designed by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, serves to identify locally sourced products that are grown, harvested and processed right here in Massachusetts using practices that are safe, sustainable and don't harm the environment. Commonwealth Quality-certified growers, producers, harvesters and processors not only meet stringent federal, state and local regulatory requirements, but also employ best management practices and production standards that ensure consumers receive the safest, most wholesome products available.



CONTACT

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CQP and FSMA

- MDAR is lead regulatory authority in MA for FSMA Produce Safety Rule
- Integrate CQP audit checklist with FSMA Produce Safety Rule
- Produce Inspections = Outbound support
- CQP audits for Market Access = Inbound support
- Farm registry







What is CQP?



- Voluntary 3rd-party audit program
- Designed to educate, assist in change management
- On-farm technical support
- Support dialogue and transparency between buyer and producer
- Provide Grant assistance (AFSIP, AEEP, ACRES)











Produce Safety/mGAPs Food Safety Plan Document List

MDAR team:

- Feedback about food safety plans
- Templates, sample
 SOPs forthcoming
- Plan for distributing documents, templates
- Expectations around inspections and audits

| Policies/SOP's | Records | Supporting Documents |
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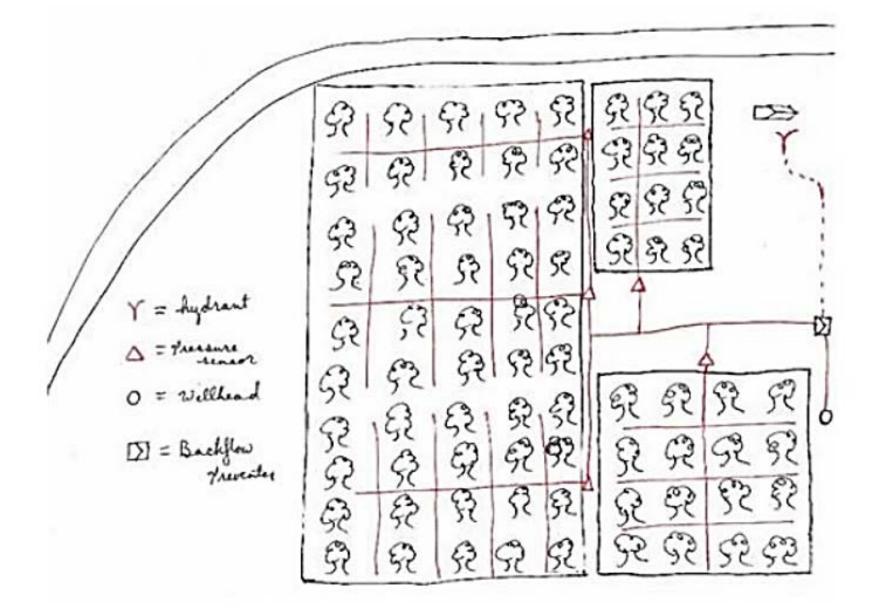
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KEY

Check valve

Sand filters

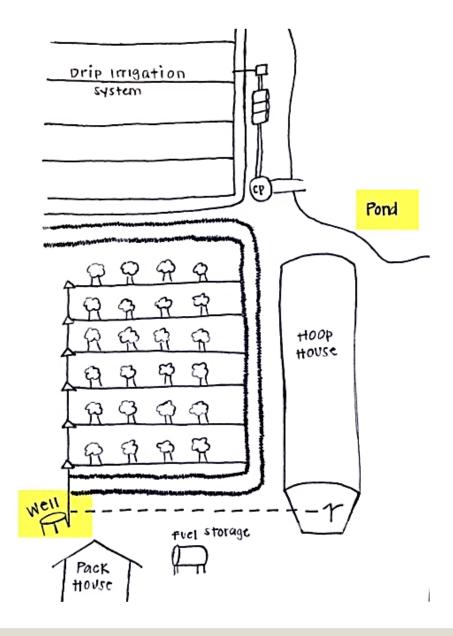
Pressure sensors **\(\Delta\)**

Frost free hydrant γ

Hydrant ___ cross connection

Road

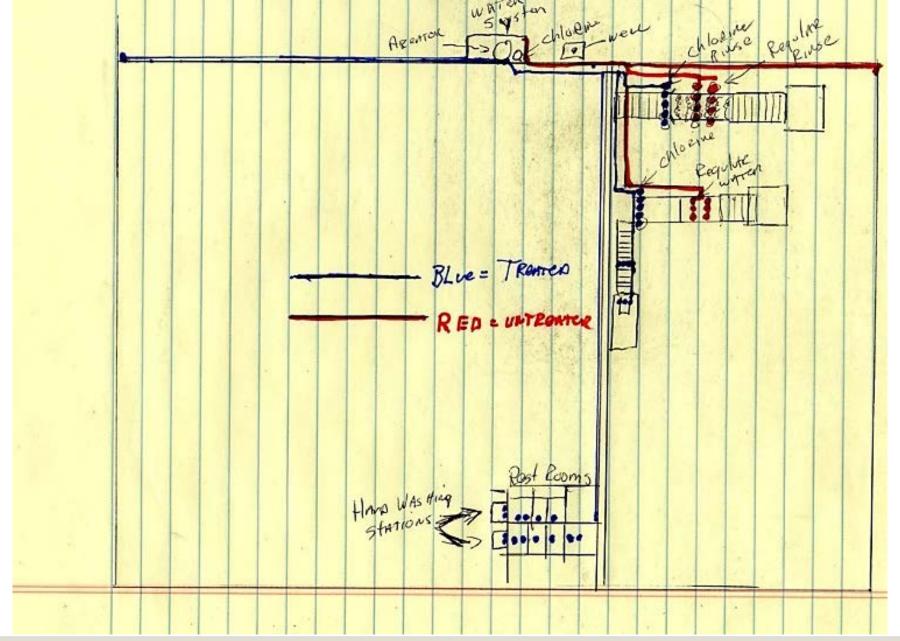
Centrifugal pump







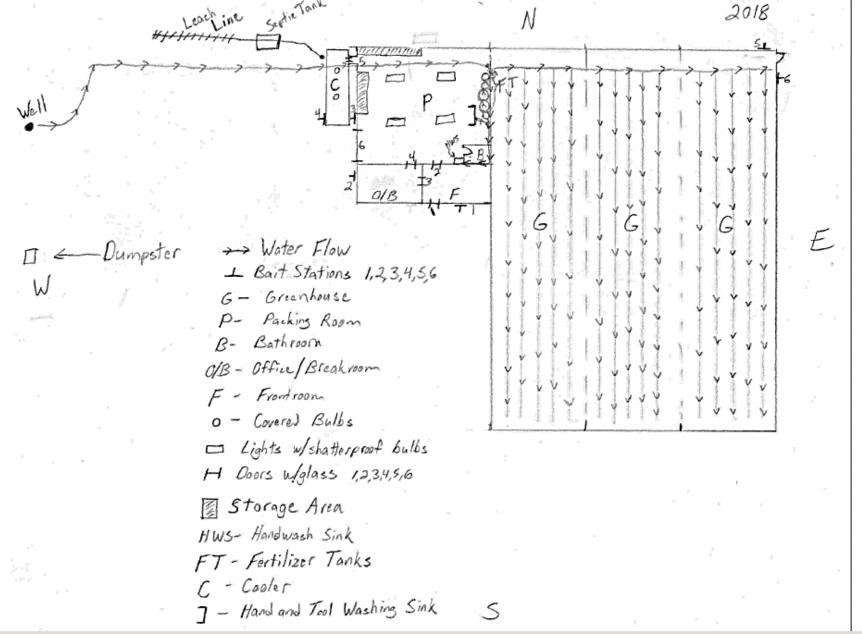




















LEGEND

- = Field Well 90-110 ft depth
- = Spray Mix Well 40 ft depth
- = Water Distribution
- •••• = Field Boundary*
- = Row Covers Shed

NOTES

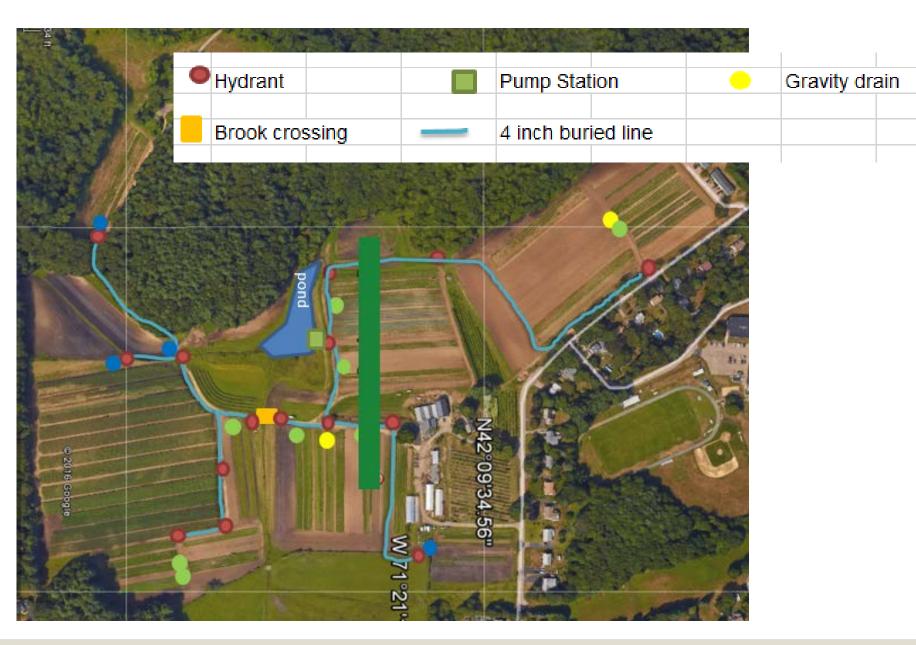
Seepage Irrigation
Well3/F1F enclosed
20 ft perimeter canals*

nt





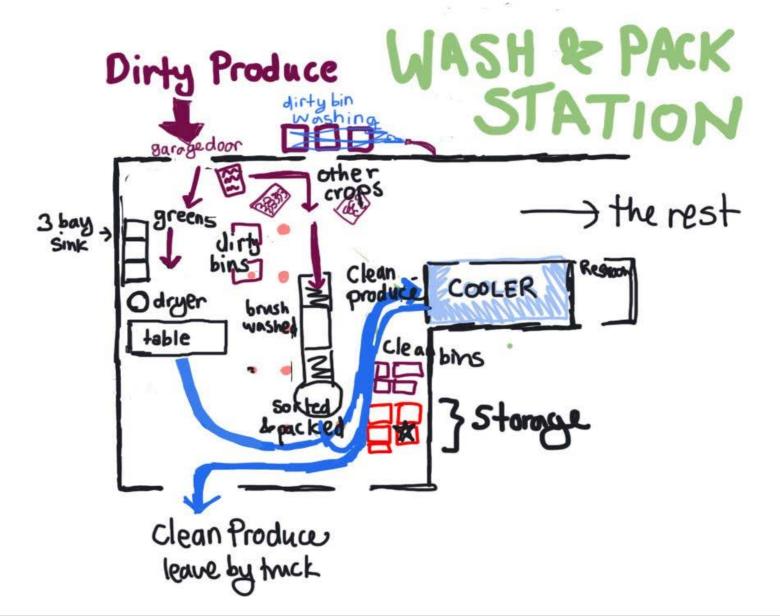








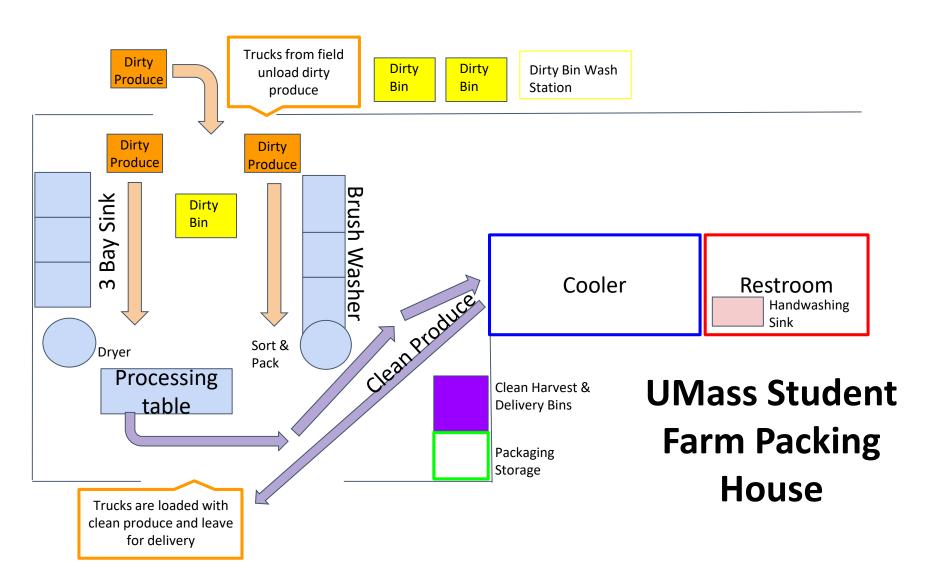


















Tools for creating maps

- Pen and paper
- Google Maps
- Mass GIS:
 http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/map ol/ oliver.php
- PowerPoint







Water System Inspections

 Both FSMA's Produce Rule and CQP require annual water system inspection

| ame and ad | dress of farm: | | | | |
|------------|----------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|----------|
| | | See farm policy for | specific water distribution system inspection | procedures. | |
| Date | Time | Water Source and/or Distribution System | Observations | Corrective Actions Taken | Initials |
| 4/22/16 | 7:00 AM | Well 1, north field | Well casing in good shape, backflow prevention device in place, no broken pipes | None | EAB |
| 4/22/16 | 9:00 AM | Pond, south field | Significant geese presence | Introduced swan decoys. Will monitor | EAB |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

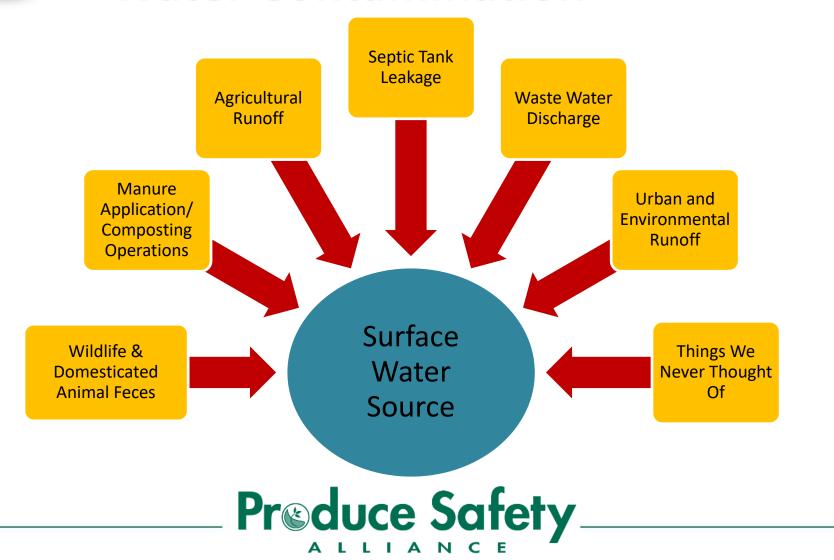








Potential Sources of Surface Water Contamination





Preventing Contamination of Surface Water Sources

- Assess nearby land use and upstream water activities to identify risks
 - Work with neighbors and local watershed groups to understand and minimize identified risks
- Assess and address runoff risks
 - Develop diversion ditches, berms or containments to minimize environmental runoff, runoff from manure and compost piles, or runoff from livestock feeding areas
- Monitor and control animal access to irrigation water sources where practical (e.g., irrigation reservoirs)





Inspect Agricultural Water Sources and Water Distribution Systems

 Water can be contaminated at the source, or it can become contaminated in the distribution system



- Mapping all water distribution systems is recommended
- Water sources and distribution systems must be inspected at least annually
- Must keep water sources free of debris, trash, domesticated animals, and other hazards





Water Systems Inspections



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94tqcqnKQo0







WATER SYSTEM MAPPING

Identify key components

| Water system key | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|--|--|--|
| Component | Color/symbol | | | |
| Surface water | | | | |
| Well | | | | |
| Municipal hydrant | | | | |
| Irrigation lines | | | | |
| Headers | | | | |
| Pumps | | | | |
| Septic tanks | | | | |
| Backflow devices | | | | |
| | | | | |

For each field this season, indicate:

- Crops
- Drip vs. overhead
- Flow of water
- Flow of product

WHAT ARE THE RISKS TO THE SYSTEM?

Think about...

- Animals hedgerows, migration paths, domestic animals
- Distribution system where are mains?
 Pumps? Where do you store your irrigation pipes? What type of irrigation system? Drip or overhead (that year)?
- Product flow
- Workers bathrooms, handwashing, where are porta potties sited?
- Terrain, buildings structures, fields,
 livestock; sloping, erosion, compost areas?

Looking at your map, describe the risks on your farm.

What would you do to mitigate those risks?







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- Water: assessing risks and making a distribution map
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Standard Operating Procedures

- Outline how to complete a task
- Help save time, train workers, and be consistent
- Should start with either doing a task yourself, or watching somebody else do it
- Useful where there is high worker turnover and a frequent need for retraining
- If a task needs to be done more than twice whether twice a week or twice a year – you should have an SOP for it







Characteristics of good SOPs

- Easily accessible e.g., posted at eye level
- Able to be followed by anyone with basic knowledge
- Written using short, direct sentences and simple words wherever possible. Bulleted or numbered lists are usually good
- Use diagrams and pictures wherever appropriate
- Separate general information from instructions
- Don't micromanage. Leave out unessential details







Tasks that may warrant a written SOP

- Leafy greens washing, drying and packing
- Tote washing and sanitizing
- Monitoring and changing sanitizers in wash water
- Moving animals
- Water sampling
- Mixing and applying pesticides
- Monitoring irrigation equipment
- Any task that you want done efficiently and consistently...







Standard Operating Procedure

From MDAR CQP document list

Wash Water Change Out

Purpose: Visual identification of when rinse water container is to be emptied.

Scope: Ensure rinse water is acceptable quality when rinsing product.

Responsibility: Trained personnel.

Materials: Potable water, rinse container identified for this purpose only.

XYZ Detergent, XYZ Sanitizer

Procedure:

1. Fill container ¾ full with potable water.

- Dunk/rinse covered crops first.
- 3. Every 15 minutes the water will be emptied and refilled with fresh water.
- 4. Change outs will be documented on Water Change Out Log
- When switching to non-covered crops the container will be emptied, cleaned and sanitized prior to refilling.
- 6. At end of process container will be emptied, cleaned, sanitized and hung on wall to dry.

Record: Water Change Out Log







Farm Name Address Nowhere, MA 00000

Water Change - Out Log

| Date | Start Time | Change Out Time | Cleaned/S | anitized | Notes/Corrective Actions | Performed By |
|--------|------------|---------------------------------|-----------|----------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| 3/1/19 | 9 15am | 930an | Yes | (No) | Beets | dP |
| μ // | 945am | 10:00 _a M 1035 aM | Yes | No | switch to radish radish - Stopped | ES |
| 11 / | MADAM | 1035 am | Yes | No) | radish-stopac | ES |
| | | | Yes | No | // | |
| | | | Yes | No | | |
| | | | Yes | No | | |
| | | | Yes | No | | |
| | | | Yes | No | | |
| | | | Yes | No | | |
| | | | Yes | No | | |







SOP Cleaning Coolers

- 1. As needed clean coolers
- 2. Remove all pallets and produce from cooler
- 3. Sweep floor clean and then mop with bleach water.
- 4. Ensure floor is dry before produce is brought back in. Employees may use their best judgment to air dry or dry with paper towels.
- 5. Bring pallets back into cooler and then place produce once again on them.







Sample SOP: Hand Washing

Revision: 2.0 Date: 07/16/14

1—Purpose

Describes the correct method for hand washing while working or visiting the farm.

2—Scope

Applies to all farm personnel including farm owners, and workers, and farm visitors.

3—Responsibility

Everyone on the farm should understand and practice proper hand washing, regardless of their job or activities on the farm.

4-Materials

- Sink
- Water
- Soap
- Single-use paper towels
- Trash can (preferably with a lid)

5-Procedure

Procedure to be completed before the beginning of work, after each break, after eating or smoking, after using the toilet, at the end of the day, and at any other time hands become dirty.

- Wet hands with water.
- Apply soap and lather. Be sure to wash the front and backs of hands as well as in between the fingers. Rub hands together for AT LEAST 20 seconds.
- 3. Rinse hands thoroughly.
- Dry with a paper towel (and turn off faucet with used paper towel).
- Throw the paper towel in the trash can.

Sample SOP: Cleaning and Sanitizing Surfaces, Tools, and Equipment

Revision: 1.0 Date: 07/22/2014

1—Purpose

Describes how food contact surfaces, tools, and equipment are to be cleaned and sanitized.

2-Scope

Applies to farm and packinghouse personnel including farm owners and workers.

3—Responsibility

Workers are responsible for following the SOPs to properly clean and sanitize food contact surfaces. Farm owners and food safety managers are responsible for training the workers on proper technique, providing necessary resources such as tools, detergents and sanitizers, and making sure the cleaning and sanitizing steps are followed correctly.

4-Materials

- Detergent name, brand, and concentration (labeled for use on food contact surfaces) [Provide name here]
- Sanitizer name, brand, and concentration [Provide name here]
- Container(s) as needed for mixing and using detergent(s) and sanitizer(s) or for washing tools
- · Brushes, sponges, or towels for scrubbing tools and equipment
- Clean water (microbial equivalent to drinking water)

5— Procedure

- The surface should be brushed or rinsed to remove visible dirt and debris.
- Prepare the detergent [Add detergent mixing or preparation instructions here].
- Apply the prepared detergent solution and scrub the surfaces moving in the direction top to bottom for large pieces of equipment. Detergent should be mixed according to the product instructions.
- Rinse the surface with clean water until all soap suds are rinsed away moving in the direction top to bottom for large pieces of equipment.
- Prepare the sanitizer. [Add sanitizer mixing or preparation instructions here].
- Apply the prepared sanitizer solution. Allow it to sit for [Enter number of minutes according to product instructions] minutes.
- Rinse with clean water.
- Let the surface air dry.



Clean Greens: A standard operating procedure (SOP) for triple-rinsing greens



UMass Amherst Extension Vegetable Program

https://youtu.be/NTu Q kpRgM







Agenda

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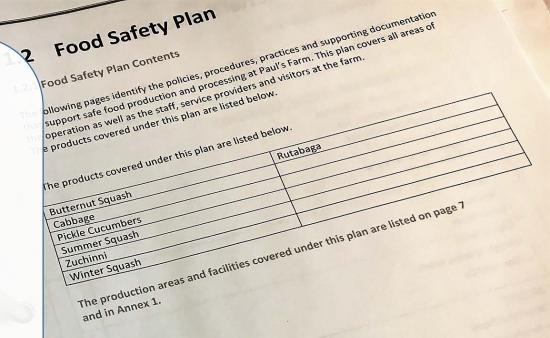
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Produce Safety/mGAPs Food Safety Plan Document List

- What are the rest of the steps you need to complete to create your food safety plan?
- What resources do you need?
- CQP sample SOPs and templates coming...

| Policies/SOP's | Records | Supporting Documents | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Section 1 Food Safety Plan | | | | | | | | |
| General Information | ☐ Training Records | ☐ Mapping | | | | | | |
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| Section 4 – Animals | | | | | | | | |
| ☐ Animal Incursion Policy | ☐ Animal Incursions | ☐ Petting Zoo Signage | | | | | | |
| ☐ Farm Animal & Pet Zoo Policy | | Pet Restriction Signage | | | | | | |
| Section 5 –Water | | | | | | | | |
| ☐ Water Change Out SOP | ☐ Water System Inspection | ☐ Water Test Results | | | | | | |
| ☐ Mix/Monitoring Sanit. SOP | ☐ Wash Water Monitoring/Changeout | ☐ Ice Test Results | | | | | | |
| ☐ Sanitation SOP – Water Tank | ☐ Sanitizer Monitoring | ☐ Municipal Water Cert. | | | | | | |
| | ☐ Sanitation Water Tanks | | | | | | | |
| Section 6 – Post Harvest Handling/Sanitation | | | | | | | | |
| ☐ Sanitation SOP's | ☐ Sanitation – Food Contact | Pest Control Service Agmt | | | | | | |
| ☐ Harvest Practices | Equipment/Surfaces | | | | | | | |
| Pest Control SOP | ☐ Sanitation – Harvest Containers | | | | | | | |
| | ☐ Sanitation – Pack Area | | | | | | | |
| | ☐ Sanitation –Cooler/Storage | | | | | | | |
| | ☐ Pest Control Monitoring Log | | | | | | | |

Items in italics are farm dependent.

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