

FSMA Produce Safety Rule

2020 ANNUAL GROWER QUESTIONNAIRE



This questionnaire is the annual review to determine how the federal Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule (PSR) applies to your Minnesota produce operation for the upcoming 2020 growing season. By completing this questionnaire, you will:

- Provide information to help determine your current status under the rule AND receive official confirmation from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) Produce Safety Program explaining if and how the rule applies to your operation.
- Get the latest updates, resources, and information about trainings and general on-farm produce safety in Minnesota.
- Help inform the MDA in order to better support Minnesota produce growers.

This questionnaire should be filled out once per year, per farm. If you completed our PSR questionnaire prior to November 12, 2019, please complete this 2020 version with your updated information.

By submitting this form to the Produce Safety Program, I hereby certify that the information contained in and submitted with this form is true and correct. *See warning.*

WARNING: Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 34A.05, a person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor if they knowingly make or offer a false statement on a record or report.

Please note, participation in this questionnaire is voluntary; you are not required to fill it out. There are no legal consequences for choosing not to complete the questionnaire. However, farmers who opt out will be contacted by the MDA via email, phone, or in person to identify their farm status and inspection requirements under the rule.

Privacy Notice: Your information will assist the MDA in building a produce farm inventory database as part of a cooperative agreement between the MDA and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the implementation of the PSR under the FSMA.

Your contact information and location of your farm operation is classified as private or nonpublic data under Minnesota Statutes Section 13.643 and will be accessible only to those employees at the MDA, or the MDA's contractors, who have a valid work assignment that requires access. Your private or nonpublic information may be turned over to the legislative auditor, the state auditor, to parties identified in a valid court order or to whom you give written consent. The MDA has the right to release private or nonpublic data in the event it determines there is a substantive threat to human health or safety or to the environment, or to aid in the law enforcement process. In certain circumstances, the information you provide may also be used as the basis of an inspection and/or investigation of your farm operation and/or farming practices by the MDA and may be shared with the Minnesota Office of the Attorney General.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Farm Legal Entity Name _____

Doing Business As _____

Owner Name _____

Primary Contact Name _____

Farm Address (City, State, Zip) _____

Mailing Address, *if different* (City, State, Zip) _____

Phone _____

Email _____

What is your preferred contact method? *Check one:* Mail Phone Email

FARMING ACTIVITIES

Does your farm only grow produce for personal/on-farm consumption? *Check one:* Yes No

How many acres do you have in produce production? *Check one:*

0 – 10	501 - 1000	2501 - 5000
11 - 100	1001 - 2500	> 5000
101 - 500		

What types of water do you use for produce production? *Check all that apply:*

Groundwater (example: well water)

Surface water (example: irrigation pond, stream and well water exposed to the air)

Municipal water

What food production activities intended for sale¹ (including donations and trade) happen on your farm? *Check all that apply:*

Aeroponics

Aggregating (e.g. collecting produce from more than one grower other than yourself, after harvest)

Aquaponics

Cottage food production

Foraging (e.g. mushrooms, fruits, nuts, vegetables, herbs, etc.)

If mushrooms, please identify species or common name:

Greenhouse growing

Growing in outdoor fields/beds

Harvesting

High tunnel/hoop house growing

Holding (e.g. after harvest, storing produce on your farm)

Hydroponics

Mushroom cultivating

Processing (e.g. chopping, peeling, heating, dehydrating, preserving, or freezing)

Packing (e.g. grading, culling, or weighing and placing produce in containers for sale)

Sprouts production

Washing

None of the above

Other _____

¹Minnesota Statute 34A.01 Subd. 12. Sell; sale. "Sell" and "sale" mean keeping, offering, or exposing for sale, use, transporting, transferring, negotiating, soliciting, or exchanging food; having in possession with intent to sell, use, transport, negotiate, solicit, or exchange food; storing, manufacturing, producing, processing, packing, and holding of food for sale; dispensing or giving food; or supplying or applying food in the conduct of any food operation or carrying food in aid of traffic in food whether done or permitted in person or through others.

PRODUCTS

Which of the following products do you typically grow, harvest, pack, or store on your farm and sell to a customer?

Check all that apply:

Vegetables

We do not grow, harvest, pack, or store vegetables

Asparagus

Beans, bush or pole

Beans, shell

Beets, garden (roots and/or tops)

Beets, sugar

Broccoli

Brussels sprouts

Cabbage

Cabbage, Chinese (e.g. Bok Choy, Napa, etc.)

Carrots

Cauliflower

Celery

Collards

Corn, sweet

Cucumbers

Eggplant

Endive

Fennel

Garlic

Ginger

Kale

Kohlrabi

Leeks

Lettuce, (e.g. head, loose leaf)

Mushrooms (fungus)

Mustard greens (e.g. arugula, mizuna, etc.)

Okra

Onions

Parsnips

Peas (e.g. snap, snow sweet)

Peppers (e.g. bell, sweet, hot)

Potatoes

Pumpkins

Radishes

Rhubarb

Rutabagas

Scallions

Shallots

Spinach

Sprouts (e.g. mung bean, alfalfa, etc.)

Squash, summer (e.g. Patty Pan or yellow)

Squash, winter

Sweet potatoes

Swiss chard

Tomatillos

Tomatoes

Turmeric

Turnips (roots and/or tops)

Watercress

Zucchini

Other (please specify):

Fruits

We do not grow, harvest, pack, or store fruits

Apples

Apricots

Aronia berries

Blackberries

Blueberries

Cherries, sour

Cherries, sweet

Chokecherries

Cranberries

Currants

Elderberries

Gooseberries

Grapes

Ground cherries

Juneberries

(Saskatoons, Serviceberries)

Kiwifruits

Mulberries

Melon, cantaloupe

Melon, honeydew

Melon, other

Nectarines

Peaches

Pears

Plums

Raspberries

Strawberries

Watermelons

Other (please specify):

Nuts & Herbs

We do not grow, harvest, pack, or store herbs or nuts

Basil

Chestnuts

Chives

Cilantro

Dill

Hazelnuts

Hops

Lavender

Lemongrass

Lovage

Marjoram

Medicinal herbs

Mint

Oregano

Parsley

Rosemary

Sage

Savory

Thyme

Walnuts

Other (please specify):

DETERMINING YOUR ELIGIBILITY FOR AN EXEMPTION OR EXCLUSION

Is the produce you grow used for commercial processing (cooking or preserving, such as pickling or fermenting, in a manufacturing facility)? *Check one:*

Yes, all of it No, none of it Some of it

Where or to whom do you sell your produce? *Check all that apply:*

Qualified End-Users: (Direct consumer)

- On-farm(s)
- Farm stand(s) off my farm
- Farmers market(s)
- U-pick (customers come to my farm to pick produce themselves)
- CSA customers
- Internet sales to customers (consumers)
- School(s) that do not re-distribute produce to other schools
- Directly to grocery stores, restaurants², or institutions in the same state or the same Indian reservation as the farm that produced the food; OR not more than 275 miles from such farm

Not Qualified End-Users: (Not the end consumer of the product)

- Wholesale warehouse
- Food broker(s)
- Food hub(s)
- Distributor(s)
- Food processor(s)/manufacturer(s)
- Schools or school districts with a central kitchen that re-distributes produce to other schools
- Directly to grocery stores, restaurants², or institutions NOT in the same state or the same Indian reservation as the farm that produced the food; OR MORE than 275 miles from such farm
- Other (*please specify*): _____

What was the estimated annual average of your total produce³ sales from 2017-2019? *Check one:*

Under \$27,528 \$27,529 to \$250,000 \$250,001 to \$550,551 More than \$550,551

What was the estimated annual average of your total food (including animal and human) sales from 2017-2019? *Check one:*

Under \$550,551 \$550,551 or more

Were more than 50% of your total food⁴ sales from 2017-2019 sold directly to qualified end-users?

Yes No Don't know Other (*please specify*): _____

²**Definition of a “restaurant”:** a facility that prepares and sells food directly to consumers for immediate consumption. This includes cafeterias, catering facilities, and nursing home/child care facility kitchens. (Per CFR 21 1.227)

³**Definition of “produce”:** any fruit or vegetable, including berries, mushrooms, sprouts, peanuts, tree nuts, and herbs. Produce does not include food grains that are primarily grown and processed for use as meal, flour, baked goods, cereals and oils. (Per FDA Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 21 112.3)

⁴**Definition of “food”:** ALL food or drink for human and animal consumption sold by your business. This includes produce AND: grain, hay, pies, chocolate, juices, seeds and beans used to grow sprouts, etc. (Per section 201(f) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.)

Information & Training

Have you or someone on your farm attended a Produce Safety Rule grower training?

No

Yes, in Minnesota

Yes, outside of Minnesota

Name of attendee: _____

In your experience, is the Produce Safety Program providing the level of customer service that you want and need?

Yes

No

Comments:

Does the Produce Safety Program provide you the information that meets your needs about produce safety practices and the FSMA regulatory requirements on produce safety?

Yes

No

Comments:

How could we improve the Produce Safety Program?

What produce safety education resources have you used or are aware of? *Check all that apply.*

On-farm readiness reviews

Produce Safety Program fact sheets and literature from a conference or event

Produce Safety Program e-newsletter

University of MN Extension resources (website, handouts, etc.)

Contact Us

Thank you very much for taking the time to respond. We will follow-up with an official letter identifying what, if any, requirements of the PSR apply to your farm operation.

If you have any questions about upcoming grower trainings, On-farm readiness reviews or the implementation of the PSR, please reach out to the Produce Safety Program:

Phone: 651-539-3648

Email: ProduceSafety.MDA@state.mn.us

Mail: Produce Safety Program
c/o Minnesota Department of Agriculture
625 Robert Street North
Saint Paul, MN, 55155-2538

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this information is available in alternative forms of communication upon request by calling 651-201-6000. TTY users can call the Minnesota Relay Service at 711. The MDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

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