

Oregon State Board of Agriculture: Resolution Detail

Title

Oregon Department of Agriculture's role in the Food Safety Modernization Act produce rule implementation

Background

Whereas, the new Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) produce safety rule will have tremendous impacts to Oregon agriculture.

Whereas, Oregon's produce industry has not been previously regulated with respect to food safety.

Whereas, these new rules will require, produce farms to have produce safety measures in place and may be inspected for compliance with the rule.

Whereas, ODA has the opportunity to participate in implementation of the FSMA produce safety rule in several ways.

Whereas, ODA has applied for cooperative agreement funding to support the following implementation activities:

- Capacity building
- Outreach
- Education
- Technical assistance
- Developing an inventory of covered farms (this is a required part of the cooperative agreement)

Whereas, if ODA chooses to participate in on-farm produce safety inspections and develop a produce safety regulatory program in future years, ODA would need either (1) statutory authority to conduct the inspections; or (2) to conduct inspections under FDA authority as commissioned officials.

Whereas, ODA has received a variety of feedback from stakeholders about the department's role in inspections. Many stakeholders prefer for ODA to gain the authority to do produce safety inspections in Oregon, while others prefer to leave this responsibility to the FDA. Those in support of ODA-led inspections have indicated they believe ODA understands agriculture and has a good track record of successfully regulating Oregon farms in other areas.

Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture:

- 1) Supports ODA's participation in produce safety rule implementation only if federal resources are available to support this work.
- 2) Recommends that ODA focus on capacity building, outreach, education, and technical assistance to help prepare Oregon's produce industry for FSMA.
- 3) Recommends that ODA develop the farm inventory required as part of the cooperative agreement using voluntary approaches.
- 4) Recommends that ODA consider applying for inspection funds if and when more information is available.

Summary

Supports ODA's involvement in FSMA produce safety rule implementation as long as federal resources are available to fully cover the cost of the department's work. Recommends initial focus on outreach and education and recommends that ODA wait until more information is

Resolution Number

317

Resolution Date

6/8/16

Subject

Food safety

Committee

Marketing and food safety

Moved by

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Seconded by

Tyson Raymond

Action

Approved

Status

- Active
- Inactive
- Revise

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available. Recommends a voluntary approach to developing an inventory of covered farms.

Notes