

Produce Safety Handbook for Buyers Now Available for the North Central States!

An online handbook for produce buyers that clarifies the complex landscape of food safety regulations and standards across states is now available in the US Northeast and North Central Regions.

The Produce Safety Handbook for Buyers:

- summarizes the produce safety landscape, and
- helps buyer navigate each state's produce safety audit and inspection information.

To do this, the site provides:

- an interactive regional map that drills down to the state level,
- farm production statistics by state,
- glossary of terms with common audit and inspection language,
- state inspection and audit information in simple charts and tables, and
- regional content in a side-by-side display.

Direct link: <https://buyers.necafs.org>

To learn more:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/agrifood_safety/Produce-Safety-Resources/



Produce Safety Handbook for Buyers

“Intuitive, easy to navigate and digest,” according to a fresh produce buyer on the project’s advisory council.

“I love this site! It is super functional and comprehensive,” said another buyer who provided user feedback on the website.

Acknowledgements

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This work was identified as a need by the buyer’s workgroup at the 2019 NECAFS Annual Conference and Meeting. The original version of this site was developed by The Northeast Center for the Advancement of Food Safety in consultation with an advisory group in the North East. This site was expanded in 2023 by Michigan State University Extension in consultation with NECAFS and an advisory group from the North Central states. The site debuted at a regional buyer’s summit on December 6th 2023 as a part of the Great Lakes Fruit and Vegetable Growers EXPO.

Special thanks to the advisory group of buyers from the Northeast and North Central regions who provided their time and insights to guide the development of this site. They supported the work with extensive review of the handbook and gave valuable feedback. If you would like to provide feedback for future revisions to this site or provide contact information in order to receive notification about a potential buyers meeting in the North Central region, [please fill out this brief survey.](#)