Fruit and Vegetable Safety and Quality PDG


Board/Staff Present: Emilio Esteban and Dina Siedenburg.

Number of Attendees: 71.

Meeting Called to Order: 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Wednesday, June 30, 2021.

Minutes Recording Secretary: Kristin Esch.

Old Business: 2020 meeting minutes were adopted. 2021 IAFP sessions with a produce focus were organized and provided on page 2 of the meeting agenda to help members prioritize their schedules for this year’s Annual Meeting. Emilio Esteban, IAFP Secretary, presented the IAFP Executive Board Update and encouraged participation and organization of PDG activities throughout the year.

New Business: This year’s PDG meeting included a series of updates from partners working in the field of produce safety. Michael Mahovic, Chief, Fresh Produce Branch at FDA, Brenda Morris, Director of Produce Safety at AFDO discussed AFDO’s Produce Committee, Bob Ehart and Joe Reardon provided the NASDA update. Bob Brackett and Jason Wan provided an update for the Sprout Safety Alliance.

Betsy Bihn provided the update for the Produce Safety Alliance. Al Haupt provided the update for FDA’s Coordinated Outbreak Response and Evaluation (CORE) team.

Erika Estrada provided the update for the Student PDG.

Fruit and Vegetable Safety and Quality PDG activities for 2021–2022 are being planned. If you have suggestions for webinars or topics for discussion, please send them to Gretchen or Kristin. The deadline for session proposals for IAFP 2022 is October 5, 2021. We plan to host a call to brainstorm priority areas and collaborate in developing symposia, roundtables, and workshops for the 2022 program on September 15, 2021 from 2–3 p.m. ET.

Please share professional development opportunities (e.g., pertinent webinars, trainings, and resources with produce focus) via IAFP Connect, or e-mail Gretchen or Kristin to have them share with the group.

There will be a room available for our PDG to meet informally on Sunday, July 18, 2021 in room 222 from 1–3 p.m. MST. There is no agenda or programming; this is just a place for PDG members to meet up during the meeting. Unfortunately, Kristin and I are not able to attend the meeting in-person this year but hope that you will take this opportunity to meet up with fellow FVSQ members.

Resources were discussed during Michael Mahovic’s Presentation: Biological Soil Amendments of Animal Origin (BSAAO) and will be posted on the Fruit and Vegetable PDG Community Page.

Recommendations to the Executive Board: None.

Next Meeting Date: July 31–August 3, 2022, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Meeting Adjourned: 4:00 pm Eastern Time.

Chairperson: Gretchen Wall.