

*Green Breakout Group*

*BIG MINDS  
DEEP THOUGHTS*

# Definitions that need to be added

- GMPs
- GHPs
- HACCP

# If you could know one thing what would it be?

- Which point in the system is the riskiest
- Which practices or combination of practices reduce the greatest amount of risks
- Pathogen survival in the field in soil and produce
- Pathogen survival in compost
- Commodity specific chlorine/disinfectant levels
- Acceptable temperature ranges in dump tanks

# If you could know one thing what would it be?

- Identify water standards
  - What level of water contamination is acceptable for overhead use.
- One food safety standard that is internationally recognized and endorsed by FDA
- High risk versus low risk in growing and packing based on commodity and postharvest practices
- Are there variable postharvest practices that can change risks

# Research Needs

- In what circumstances are hand sanitizers appropriate on farms and in packinghouses
- Is it only acceptable to use potable water for overhead water applications (irrigation, topical sprays, frost protection, cooling)
- What percent of production is small grower, what percent is large producer to identify where information should be targeted for risk reduction

# What do you want out of the next guidance document?

- A commodity specific guidelines published and endorsed by the FDA
- Specificity
- Data and reasoning should be included with recommendations (adult learning need)
- Outline food safety plan development
- Improve and enlarge training section
- Create recommendations based on size/scale of the operation

# What do you want out of the next guidance document?

- Risk and science based information
- Outline specific production practices
- Education initiatives not punitive actions
- Benchmark against other standards in the industry
- Review other programs that exist (CGP, AFDO, TGAPs, LGMA, NOP) and address how the guide will fit into the food safety scheme

# What do you want out of the next guidance document?

- Group commodities by characteristics and required practices
- Prioritization of practices based on outbreak data
- Standards and test methods
- More on traceability
- More on transportation

# Overall Questions

- Who is the intended audience of the document?
- What is the overall goal of the document?
- Is this going to be applied to import growers?

## Improvements

Modular

Chronological

Broad stroke document with independent support documents (commodity specific)

# Additional Considerations

- Comprehensive review of other guidance documents to harmonize guidance.
- If intended audience is growers it must be commodity specific and written to end user (most applied).

# Top 6 things that any farm could do to improve produce safety

- Irrigation water evaluation
  - Employee training
  - Provide toilets and hand washing facilities
  - Traceability
  - Grower training in basic GAPs
  - General sanitation practices
- \* We agreed that all produce growers should be able to implement these 6 things