

Global Gap and Food Safety Audits

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*Reasons for a doing a Food Safety Audit

- Audits can help bolster the practices that growers already follow
- Show the public that food safety is important to you and your employees
- Being prepared for future requirements
- Meeting buyer and international standards

*What happens at an audit

- Paperwork review
- Harvest Crew witness
- Inspection of fertilizer and pesticide storage areas
- Visit packing house and cold storage areas if applicable



*Paperwork review

- Food safety manual with risk assessments
- Standard operating procedures
- Training records for hygiene and safety
- Pesticide and fertilizer records

*Harvest Crew Witness



- Inspect at least one crew for each type of product
- Inspect different types of crew
- Interview employees
- Monitor for employees following food safety protocols

*Inspection of Fertilizer and Pesticide Storage

- Look for non-conformances to the standard of choice
- Check for proper decontamination and ability to contain spills
- Ensure that proper equipment is available

*The Packing House (When applicable)

Check for proper quality control and ability to trace product from

field to consumer

Look for pest control practices

- Interview employees
- Watch for employees following hygiene protocols



Cold Storage



- Inspect incoming and outgoing staging areas
- Check coolers for cleanliness and pest control
- Ensure that coolers are maintained at the proper temperatures

* Certification

- Auditor conducts closing meeting to explain what is needed for certification and provides what corrective actions are needed
- Auditor does not decide if certification is granted
- Report is submitted to certification body
- Producer has a timeline to fix corrective actions depending on severity of non conformances

*First steps to preparing for an audit

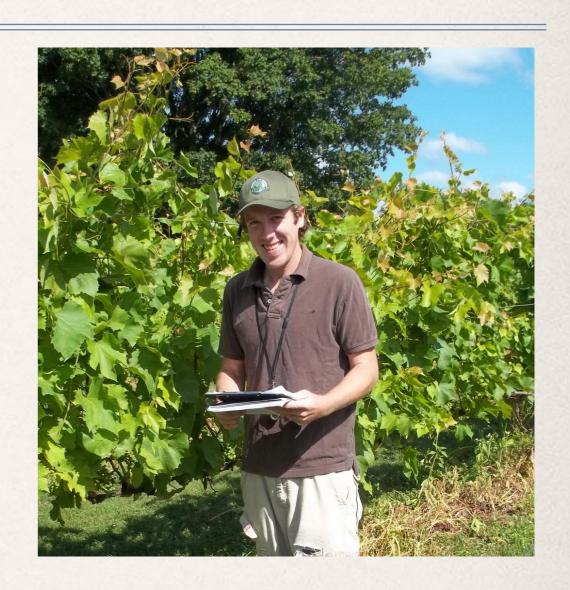
- * Commitment!
- Assign an employee to be in charge of food safety
- Contact producer or marketing group for assistance
- Consider hiring a second party to assist
- Choose a standard that fits your program

*Then...

- Preform and internal audit to the standard you have chosen
- * Take corrective actions to fix major problems you have identified
- Find a certifying body to work with, do your research
- * Schedule an audit

*What an auditor looks for

- * Commitment!
- All records present and easy to use
- Employee awareness of policies
- Cleanliness



Thank You

- First step done
- Questions?

