

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

FOOD SAFETY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE STRUCTURE AND PURPOSE

Background

Western Growers (WG) has been a leader in addressing produce safety challenges over the years. In Early 2021, WG Science formed a Food Safety Advisory Council consisting of representatives (volunteers) from WG's member companies from California, Arizona, Colorado, and New Mexico. The overall purpose of this Subcommittee is to advise and provide feedback on issues impacting the safety of fresh produce, including when new food safety regulations or industry issues arise. This Subcommittee is kept abreast of WG's key food safety efforts and initiatives. It also provides feedback to WG's science staff and the Science Committee, which reports to the WG's Board of Directors

FSAS Criteria

- The FSAS includes 12 WG member companies; based on the composition of WG membership, we strive to keep at least:
 - 5 entities from California
 - 3 entities from Arizona
 - 1 entity from Colorado
 - 1 entity from New Mexico
- FSAS members must have a food safety leadership role in the WG member company, primarily growing, harvesting, packing, processing, and shipping (or one or a combination of activities) fresh produce in one of the four listed states.
- Western Growers is a growers' centric organization; 50% of the group must include growers.
- The FSAS may include one or two entities that are not directly growing or handling fresh produce, such as technology providers.
- FSAS members are asked to remain in their role for at least 2 years.

FSAS Charge

FSAS members must attend 3 to 4 online meetings per year (1 to 2 hours long). FSAS members can remain on this Subcommittee for more than two years if they have been active participants and are interested in continuing to serve in this Subcommittee. Should a Subcommittee vacancy occur, WG will open the position to others.

FSAS members advise and provide feedback on issues impacting the safety of fresh produce to the WG's science staff and the Science Committee and can guide priorities regarding the development of new food safety resources for Western Growers members.

For questions regarding this Subcommittee, contact Sonia Salas (AVP, Science) at ssalas@wga.com.