Comparison of Produce Safety Rule and Good Agriculture Practices (GAP)

The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) of 2011 created the Produce Safety Rule to reduce microbial contamination in produce that causes of foodborne illness.

Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) are voluntary audits verifying safe practices to minimize risks of microbial hazards on the farm.

### Produce Safety Rule

**Food & Drug Administration – FDA**
- Mandatory regulations
- Regulations issued by Food & Drug Administration
- Inspection of farms by regulatory body (by state departments of agriculture and/or FDA)
- No cost for inspection
- Does not require Farm Food Safety plan
- Does not require recall and traceability program

### Good Agriculture Practices Program – GAP

**United States Department of Agriculture – USDA**
- Voluntary program that farmers choose to participate in
- Guidance document
- Audits of farms are done by paid auditors and need to be renewed annually
- Farmers pay for audits
- Requires Farm Food Safety plan
- Requires recall and traceability program

---

**For more information, including training opportunities for Produce Safety and GAP, contact:**

**Southern University Agricultural Land-Grant Campus**

Dr. Fatemeh Malekian, Professor  225-771-0251  fatemeh_malekian@suagcenter.com
Emily King, Produce Safety Program Coordinator  225-771-2367  emily_king@suagcenter.com
Chelsea Triche, Research & Training Coordinator  504-875-7417  chelsea_triche@suagcenter.com

*Funding for this publication was made possible, in part, by the Food and Drug Administration through PAR-16-137. The views expressed in written materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does any mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organization imply endorsement by the United States Government.*