



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 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:

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