



Facilitating On-Farm Food Safety Risk Management Practices to Implement FSMA and GFSI Requirements

This project, developed by the LSU AgCenter, addressed on-farm issues to help Louisiana producers comply to rules and requirements regarding food safety. The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), and Good Handling Practices (GHPs) were implemented to ensure that American farmers maintained adequate processes and recordkeeping systems to operate their farms to produce safe and healthy products.

Many Louisiana farmers have seen the agriculture industry change drastically during the last decade. The new food safety regulations required producers to market and sell their products by verifying that certain standard operating procedures were carried

out from production through product delivery. The initial launch of these new food regulatory standards created uncertainty and confusion for a number of farmers, leaving several in the state uncertain about their farms future.

In order to address this concern, the LSU AgCenter put this program together in 2015 to certify Louisiana farmers and ensure that consumers buy from a credible and safe farm. Five GAPs/GHPs workshops, one FSMA workshop, and one Food Safety Risk Management workshop were hosted in Louisiana with 132 participants, representing producers, processors, and extension agents. These workshops covered the topics of water quality and management, manure management, harvesting and storage, worker health and hygiene, recordkeeping systems, and insurance requirements.

As a result of this project, many producers reported recognizing the advantages of being certified in food safety. The producers indicated that their farms improved their operations because of the training.

The Southern Extension Risk Manage Education Center ([SRMEC](#)) seeks to empower the strengths and skills of farmers and ranchers across the Southern region to more effectively manage risks of operating in the diverse agricultural sector. To learn more about this SRMEC funded project visit this link: [Food Safety Risk Management Practices for Louisiana Farmers](#)

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“Now that my farm is certified more and more doors are opened to us.”

-Natalie Jones -- Faust Farms, Amite, LA

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Empowering Producers to Manage Risks



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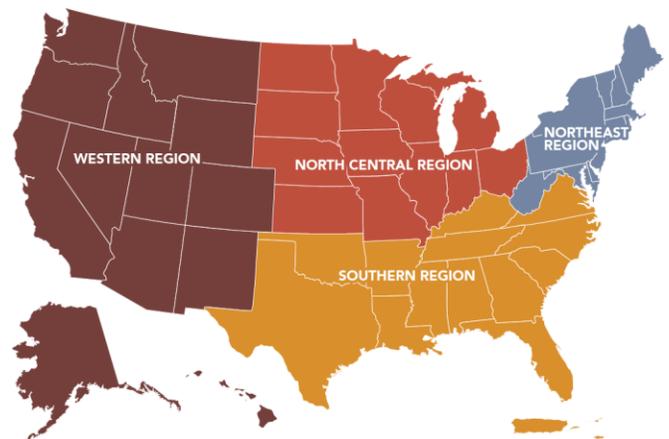
National Institute
of Food and
Agriculture

“Educating America’s farmers and ranchers to manage the unique risks of producing food for the world’s table.”

Extension Risk Management Education (ERME) is delivered through four regional centers that provide grant funding and leadership within their regions.

Projects are producer-focused, results-based and encourage public-private partnerships. Funded projects must identify targeted results that will help producers manage risk and then describe how the project will measure those results.

Extension Risk Management Education has funded innovative programs that have generated tangible results for producers in every state. ERME is committed to funding results, providing transparent accountability, and encouraging collaboration. View the accomplishments of all funded projects on our website.
<http://ExtensionRME.org>



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