



Farm Food Safety Program for Lettuce and Leafy Greens

Membership Information

LGMA members have made an unprecedented commitment to protecting public health by establishing a culture of food safety on the farm.

1 Do you qualify?

You must be a handler of leafy greens in the state of California.

A handler, or shipper, is defined for our purposes as any person who handles, processes, ships or distributes leafy green products [iceberg lettuce, romaine lettuce, red leaf lettuce, butter lettuce, baby leaf lettuce (i.e. immature lettuce or leafy greens), escarole, endive, spring mix, spinach, cabbage, kale, arugula or chard] for market whether as owner, agent, employee, broker or otherwise.

3 FAQs

How long does it take to get certified?

The certification process realistically takes one to three months. In order to be certified you must complete an audit and provide any corrective actions. The audit must take place while you are harvesting product. Prior to the audit you must discuss your food safety plan with our Technical Director.

What is the cost?

The LGMA does not have a cost per audit; members pay a monthly assessment fee that is approximately \$0.0115 per 24 count carton handled.

2 What LGMA Members do:

Food Safety Practices

LGMA members are always looking for potential risk areas on their farms. Areas of focus include land history, adjacent land use, water quality, worker hygiene, fertilizer use and equipment sanitation.

Verification Audits

LGMA members are subject to regular and random audits to verify implementation of the food safety practices. Each member has about four audits each year; this can vary depending on your growing season and the size of your operation. Audits have a paperwork and field portion, and take anywhere from 4 - 8 hours.

Corrective Actions

LGMA members are required to provide corrective action on any audit citations. Flagrant violations, the most severe level of citation, can result in decertification from the program and public disclosure. Mexico, Canada, and some produce buyers only accept California leafy greens from certified LGMA members.

Links:

LGMA Food Safety Practices
Full Audit Checklist | Unannounced Audit Checklist

www.lgma.ca.gov





2015/2016 SIGN-UP FORM Sign-up deadline 04.01.15 or 10.01.15

1. Read the California Leafy Green Products Handler Marketing Agreement, which can be found at <http://lgma.ca.gov/about-us>

2. Review the definition stated below to verify your eligibility to sign up as a Leafy Green Products handler:

Handler means any person who handles, processes, ships or distributes leafy green products [iceberg lettuce, romaine lettuce, red leaf lettuce, butter lettuce, baby leaf lettuce (i.e. immature lettuce or leafy greens), escarole, endive, spring mix, spinach, cabbage, kale, arugula or chard] for market whether as owner, agent, employee, broker or otherwise.

3. Review the LGMA accepted Good Agricultural Practices on the LGMA website: <http://lgma.ca.gov/food-safety-practices>

If you join the LGMA you will be audited by California Department of Food and Agriculture inspectors to verify compliance with the LGMA-accepted Good Agricultural Practices.

4. If you wish to participate in the California Leafy Green Products Marketing Agreement you must:

- Check the box in the Sign-up section, below, and report the number of cartons of leafy green products your firm handled during the last year. Volume information provided will remain confidential.
- Complete the Certification section.

5. Those interested in participating in this agreement should return this completed sign-up form to the California Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement, via mail, fax or e-mail at:

California Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement
1521 "I" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
P 916.441.1240
F 916.446.1063
info@lgma.ca.gov

SIGN-UP SECTION

Signatories of the LGMA are subject to assessments (currently \$0.0115 per carton) on all California grown leafy greens handled by the company and are subject to regular and random inspection to ensure compliance with the LGMA Accepted Good Agricultural Practices. Check the box below to become a participant in the California LGMA and report total cartons of leafy greens handled on the following line:

I HEREBY AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CALIFORNIA LEAFY GREEN PRODUCTS HANDLER MARKETING AGREEMENT

Total cartons of leafy green products handled April 1, 2014 - March 31, 2015 _____

CERTIFICATION SECTION

Business Entity Legal Name _____

Contact Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Phone / Fax _____

e-mail _____