



Producer GAP Certification Inquiry Form

The purpose of this form is to help us better understand your needs as you explore the GAP certification process. Since each marketplace has different food safety requirements and expectations, including whether or not produce needs to be GAP-certified, it is crucial to talk with your buyers. Not only is it important to discuss certification requirements, but also to ask about which audits are acceptable (see “Accessing Markets” section on the Producer part of the Virginia Fresh Produce Food Safety website, <http://www.hort.vt.edu/producesafety/index.html>, for more information; additionally there is a wealth of information about on-farm food safety and the GAP certification process to explore).

Once we review the information provided below, the Fresh Produce Food Safety Team will contact you to discuss any follow-up steps. Please allow 2 weeks. **The information you provide will only be used internally to determine how we can best assist you, and will not be shared externally in any way.**

Thank you!

Amber Vallotton, Extension Specialist, Department of Horticulture, Virginia Tech
Virginia Cooperative Extension Fresh Produce Food Safety Team Coordinator

Return to: avallott@vt.edu

Name

Farm Address (please include the physical location of where your production areas are located along with county/state names)

Email

Preferred Phone Number

1. What are your primary markets where you sell your products (CSA, farmers market, school, restaurant, retail, wholesale, other)?



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2. Have you spoken with your buyer(s) as to their food safety requirements?
 - a. Have they specifically indicated that you must have GAP certification for them to purchase your products?
 - b. If you do not need to be certified, are there other requirements, such as training or documentation that they do require? Please list.
3. If they have said you are required to have GAP certification, did they say which audit they are willing to accept (i.e. USDA GAP, USDA Harmonized GAP, other type of audit like Global GAP)?
4. If you are required to have an audit, must the audit be in place before they will purchase any products (in other words, are they willing to purchase your products *if you are in the process* of working towards an audit)?
 - a. If so, what is the timeline by which you must have the audit?
5. List all the crops you are growing and plan to certify?