Final Inspectional Documentation

The Produce Safety Rule (PSR) is a regulation promulgated to ensure a safe supply of produce to all stakeholders. It uses a preventive system-based approach that encompasses the areas of personnel qualifications and training, health, hygiene and sanitation, agriculture water, soil amendments, domesticated and wild animals and equipment, tools and buildings. In order to assure consistency while conducting and documenting inspections of farms subject to the FSMA Produce Safety Rule (PSR), it is recommended that the documents used during inspection close-out are uniform in format and content. By standardizing final document content, data gathered can be compared and analyzed for trends. This should assure greater comparability of data and provide more uniform information when prioritizing firms for future inspections.

Charge: States, NASDA, and FDA will work together to establish criteria and format for the documentation that will be utilized to close out Produce Safety inspections. This workgroup is charged with examining the data gathered and reports needed to close out Produce Safety regulatory inspections. These documents are to be developed/defined with the goal of fostering the greatest degree of consistency possible for national policies, practices, processes, and systems for closing out inspections.

Additional points that may be considered under this workgroup are:

1. Recommend the elements of a “final” report and the format for the close-out report, e.g., use of the standardized report form, consistent parts of a finalized inspection.
2. Assess possible technology and methods that may be utilized for the storage of information gathering during the inspection.
3. Make recommendations on the aggregation methodology of data for uploading to FDA.
4. Consider recommendations for consistency in IT programs.