



Nevada Department
of Agriculture

Nevada Department of Agriculture **E-News**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nevada Small Farm Conference Highlights Food Safety

SPARKS- The Nevada Department of Agriculture is pleased to introduce the “Farmers Assistance Program” at the 2013 Nevada Small Farm Conference. The Department was awarded USDA funding to provide cost-share assistance through a voluntary program which helps producers reduce food safety risks through the use of Good Agriculture Practices and Good Handling Practices. The conference will be held February 21-23, at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, NV.

Seth Urbanowitz, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, will discuss the importance of a food safety program on farms as a way to reduce risks and increase market access. Urbanowitz will provide an overview of Good Agriculture Practices and Good Handling Practices and the Food Safety Modernization Act and what it means for the small producer.

“We are excited about the new program” Katie Jameson NDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program Manager said. “This is a proactive approach in order to assist growers in strengthening the specialty crop industry.”

Ashley Jeppson, NDA Farm to School Grant Coordinator will also highlight Farm to School outreach efforts to increase food safety practices in school gardens and how producers can be involved in endeavors to include locally grown foods in Nevada Schools.

For conference details and registration information, visit WNC’s website, www.wnc.edu/sci, or contact Louhela at 775-351-2551 or ann.louhela@wnc.edu.

For details about the “Farmers Assistance Program” Contact Katie Jameson at (775) 353-3639 or kjameson@agri.nv.gov