

# UNITED FRESH FOOD SAFETY & TRACEABILITY ACTIVITY NOTE SEPTEMBER 2015



United Fresh  
New Zealand Incorporated

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## Food Safety, Food Security & Your Business Planning

United Fresh partnered with Horticulture New Zealand to present a 90 minute breakout session on Food Safety, Food Security and You Business Planning at the HortNZ 2015 Conference this year. The presentation introduced a mind map that had attempted to capture all salient points that a business needed to consider in order to introduce and manage an effective Food Safety Strategy and the presenters worked through several examples to demonstrate the scope and breadth of the issues involved. The examples discussed included the concept of external traceability and the need to show leadership through accepting the need for culture change and initiating paradigm shifts.

The United Fresh Team also presented an assessment of global trends in the area of Food Safety Systems and discussed Food Security issues as they relate to New Zealand.

The presentation is available for download from the United Fresh website. So don't forget to check out

<http://www.unitedfresh.co.nz/services/food-safety-traceability>.

## Food Law Update

MPI will be launching an online tool to help people understand the Food Act 2014, which comes into affect on 1st March 2016.

As you will be aware, food safety regulations are undergoing a big change! MPI has been developing the online tool to help businesses find out how the new rules apply to them. For any questions you may have about the upcoming changes, this tool will be a great place to start and promises to be a quick and easy way to find out how the new Food Act 2014 will apply to your business.

The launch of the 'Where do I fit?' tool, is planned for Thursday 17th

September. Once the tool is launched we will send all members the link.

## Fresh Produce Safety Conference, Sydney August 2015

United Fresh attended this conference run by PMA Australia & New Zealand's Fresh Produce Safety Centre, hosted at the University of Sydney. Whilst the majority of topics discussed had a distinct and to be expected Australian flavour, we were impressed with the work the Centre had done to produce a revised set of Guidelines for Fresh Produce Safety. Well done! These are most certainly relevant to New Zealand as well and can be downloaded at <http://freshproducesafety-anz.com/guidelines/>.

## Strawberry Traceability Pilot 2016

This project focuses on the external traceability challenges arising in the domestic fresh market strawberry supply chain, as the fruit passes from grower to retailer. United Fresh is working with GS1 New Zealand in this pilot project.



The pilot involves a limited number of growers and wholesalers, with one of the key objectives being to gain a better understanding of the traceability complexities when using a common global identification standard throughout the chain. The pilot is just that – a pilot – and **not** an extensive trial aimed at achieving immediate change. Rather, the expectation is that we learn **how** any change that might be needed to comply with the Food Act 2014 in future, can be implemented in seasons to come. The pilot findings will be published and made available via the United Fresh website in early 2016.

For more information on this project please contact Anne-Marie via [amarts@agrichain-centre.com](mailto:amarts@agrichain-centre.com)