

20 YEARS OF PROGRESS

BUILDING STRONGER FOOD SAFETY SYSTEMS FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

Over the past 20 years, the LGMA has fundamentally transformed the way leafy greens are grown, harvested and verified.



A UNIFIED FOOD SAFETY SYSTEM

The California LGMA established mandatory, science-based food safety standards across the industry in 2007.



SCIENCE-BASED STANDARDS

Food safety requirements evolve as new research and science emerge.



GOVERNMENT VERIFICATION

Mandatory government audits verify compliance—not self-certification.



WRITTEN FOOD SAFETY PLANS

Every operation documents procedures for preventing and managing food safety risks.



STRONGER WATER STANDARDS

Agricultural water monitoring, testing and assessment have expanded significantly.



CONTINUOUS WORKER TRAINING

Food safety education is ongoing for everyone working in the field.



FIELD HYGIENE STANDARDS

Accessible handwashing stations and restroom facilities are standard practice.



ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENTS

Fields are evaluated for surrounding risks before harvest.



WILDLIFE MONITORING

Animal intrusion is assessed and managed before harvesting begins.



EQUIPMENT SANITATION

Harvest equipment is routinely cleaned, sanitized and documented.



BETTER TRACEABILITY

Improved records allow product to be traced faster throughout the supply chain.



DOCUMENTATION & RECORDKEEPING

Food safety activities are verified through detailed records and documentation.



ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

When issues occur, investigations focus on preventing future occurrences—not simply correcting today's problem.



STANDARDS THAT NEVER STAND STILL

LGMA food safety standards have been continually improved upon over the past two decades.



DEDICATED FOOD SAFETY TEAMS

Most operations now employ specialists focused solely on food safety and compliance.



COLLABORATION ACROSS THE INDUSTRY

Growers, handlers, researchers, buyers and regulators work together to improve food safety.



RESEARCH-DRIVEN IMPROVEMENTS

Ongoing scientific research continually strengthens industry practices.



RISK-BASED DECISION MAKING

Food safety decisions are guided by science, data and risk assessment.



SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY

Food safety is a shared responsibility across the entire leafy greens supply chain.



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Food safety is never finished. Every season brings new knowledge, stronger practices and ongoing improvement.



BUILT ON RESPONSIBILITY



STRENGTHENED BY SCIENCE



DRIVEN BY CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

For nearly two decades, the California Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement has continued to strengthen food safety through science-based standards, government verification and industry-wide accountability.

The work continues because protecting consumers remains our highest priority.

www.lgma.ca.gov