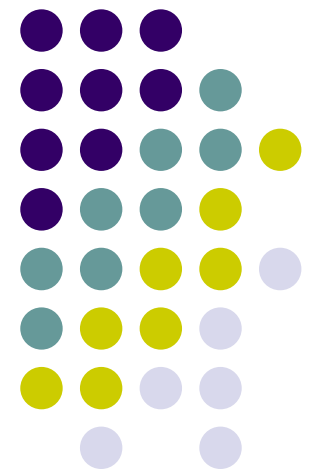


Cooperative State Research, Education & Extension Service

United States Department of Agriculture

Jan Singleton, PhD, RD
National Program Leader,
Food Science & Food Safety



The National Integrated Food Safety Initiative

The National Research Initiative

Competitive Grant Programs





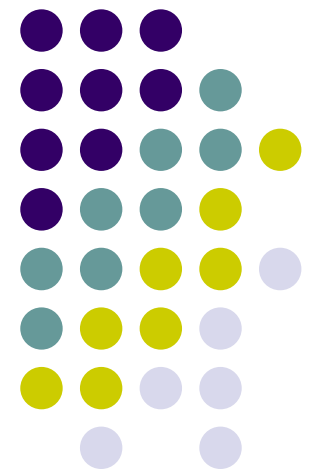
Reporting Goals

- Demonstrate the impact of our programs
- Performance-based budgeting
- Set benchmarks for short, medium, and long term goals and objectives



The National Integrated Food Safety Initiative

Impacts and Impressions

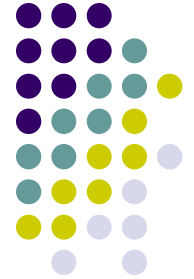




National Integrated Food Safety Initiative

- \$15 million budget
- Supports applied research
- Supports integrated research

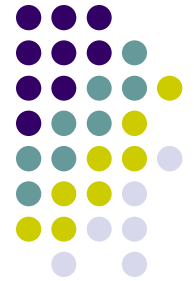




National Integrated Food Safety Initiative

- Integrated grants must include at least 2 of the following:
 - Research (applied)
 - Education (formal classroom)
 - Extension (outside of the classroom)

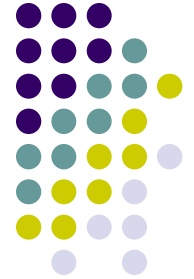




Priority Areas for Grant Funding

- Consumer Food Safety Education
- Industry Training and Certification
- Pathogen Control Measures
- Alternative Processing Technologies
- Fruit and Vegetable Safety
- HACCP
- Food Defense
- Risk Assessment
- Antibiotic Resistance





The National Integrated Food Safety Initiative

- Standard grants up to \$600,000
- Special emphasis grants up to \$2.5 million
- 25 to 30 grants awarded each year
- Annual 20 to 25 percent success rate





The Reporting Dilemma

- The focus of applied research is to promote behavioral change
- The ultimate goal of food safety research is to reduce the incidence of foodborne illness
- The \$64,000 question(s):
 - How do you measure behavioral impacts?
 - What behaviors do you measure?
 - How do you move from behavioral impacts to reduction in foodborne illness incidence?





NIFSI Reporting Statistics

- 207 grants, and \$95 M have been awarded from 2000-2006
- One third have submitted final reports
- Most have submitted descriptive or qualitative data
- Fewer than 10 percent have submitted behavioral data



How Does CSREES Collect Impact Data?



- Data are reported in the USDA database known as CRIS
 - Current Research Information System
 - Used Department-wide
 - Tracks grants funded through USDA
 - Requires annual accomplishment reports
 - Requires a final report
 - Includes primarily research data
 - Includes some education and extension data





Reported Impacts in CRIS

- Non-technical summary
- Objectives
- Approach
- Progress
- Impact
- Publications





Additional Reported Impacts

- “All educational and extension interventions must include an evaluation of the effectiveness of the intervention in accomplishing intended objectives (e.g., improving knowledge, changing behavior, attitudes, or perceptions).”

Integrated Research, Education, and Extension Competitive Grants Program – National Integrated Food Safety Initiative, Request for Applications, 2006



Has NIFSI Made a Difference?





Reported Impacts

- The following is a representative sample of the impact statements that have been submitted in CRIS





Reported Impacts

- Program started in 3 states; has expanded to include more than 52 sites in 14 states
- On-going program delivery has reached more than 400,000 residents
- A behavior change survey of 2,524 youths and adults indicated that 13-27 percent of respondents planned to change their behavior

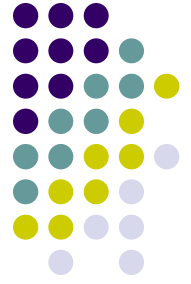




Reported Impacts

- Hand soap usage doubled from 300 gallons to 600 gallons
- 84 percent reported improved hand washing techniques, while 85 percent reported washing hands longer after a 6 month follow-up
- In school evaluations, even after 4-6 weeks, independent observations by educators and researchers found increased frequency of hand washing and thoroughness of hand washing

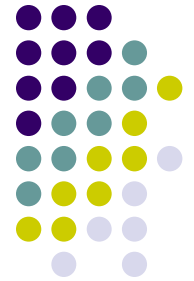




Reported Impacts

- Teachers reported greater awareness of the need for hand washing among students
- 53% of students enrolled in food service courses passed the ServSafe exam
- 72% of commercial food retailers who attended the food safety institutes at the tribal college have completed and passed the ServSafe exam
- At an estimated \$400 per employee, tribal businesses have invested approximately \$86,000 for per diem and travel for 215 participants in tribal food safety training programs





Reported Impacts

- Over 1000 copies of the bilingual DVD have been requested by those attending the training courses
- Altogether, the program has trained over 200 trainers, who have in turn trained approximately 20,000 growers in the southeast





Can Impact Reporting Be Improved?

- Reporting mechanisms within CRIS should be strengthened
 - Some standardized data across the program should be collected
 - Some actual impact indicators should be developed
 - More quantitative data should be aggregated across the program



Cooperative State Research, Education & Extension Service

