

# Increasing Accessibility of Food Safety Resources to Tribal Growers in Arizona to Advance Resilience of Native Nations

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## USDA-NIFA, Food Safety Outreach Program

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and many more.....



United States Department of Agriculture

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

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USDA-NIFA, Food Safety Outreach Program. 2022-70020-37573

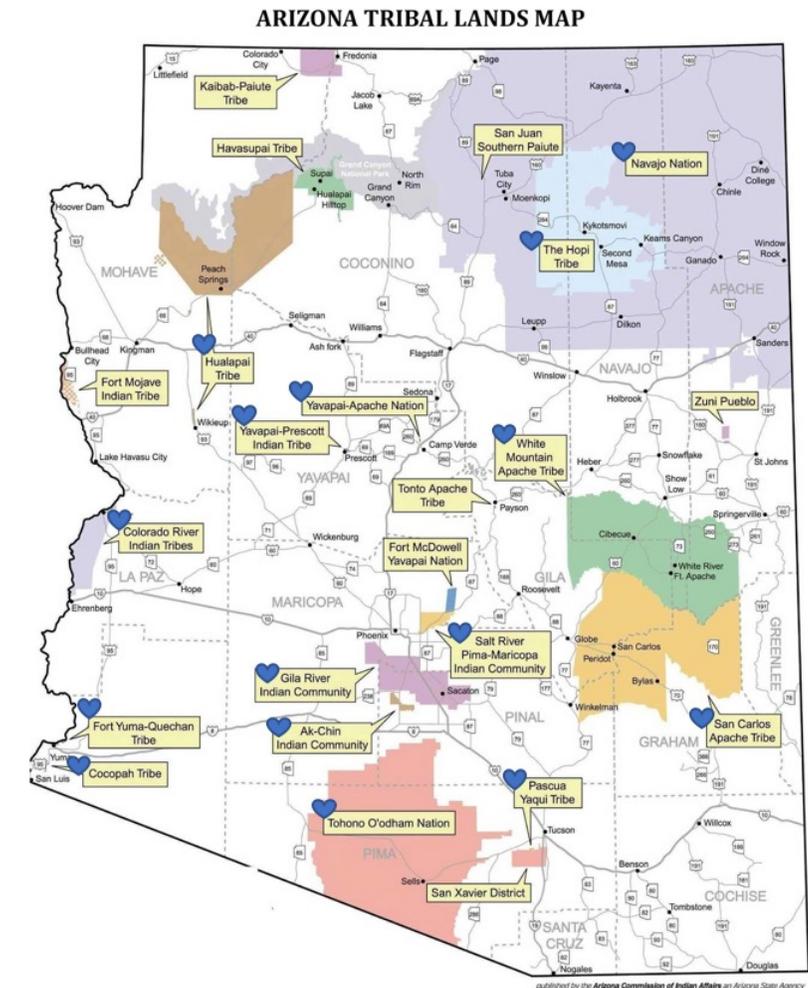


## Problem Statement / Issue Definition:

- Arizona is the only U.S. state in which more than half of all farmers and ranchers are Native Americans. Nearly 21 million farm acres (80% of all farmland) in Arizona are tended to by producers on the state's 22 Native American tribes and nations.
- While quality curricula are available, there is an urgent need for more culturally sensitive and appropriate training on the topic of food safety.
- Though there is a national Produce Safety Rule tribal curriculum in development, local culturally appropriate food safety education and outreach efforts, including hands-on training opportunities and face-to-face trainings, are still necessary for growers on tribal lands in Arizona.

## Extension Engagement with Tribes:

- We have cultivated effective partnerships with many tribes in Arizona (see ❤️ on the right image).



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## Approach / Methods:

### Objectives:

- Identify specific food safety training priorities within tribal communities
- Build the capacity of tribal growers and other stakeholders in Arizona to address food safety training priorities
- Develop and implement culturally appropriate integrated food safety education and outreach programs to tribal communities in Arizona
- Advance food safety resilience of Native Nations

### Methods:

- Connecting food safety with integrated pest management (IPM)
- Using targeted IPM content to engage tribal participants



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## Results / Outcomes:

### Results/Outputs:

- Documented tribal food safety and public health priorities
- 7 in-person workshops, 129 tribal participants
- One 2-day virtual training for tribal communities, 82 participants
- 9 conference papers and presentations
- One in-person tribal PSA Grower Training, 14 participants
- One upcoming tribal PSA Grower Training in June 2023
- 2 videos and 3 Extension publications
- In the process of hiring tribal interns



### Outcomes:

- Improved engagement with underserved stakeholder audiences challenged by food safety issues.
- Expanded on existing relationships to deliver integrated food safety education to tribal communities.
- Improved awareness and knowledge of food safety practices to protect public health and reduce food-borne illnesses.
- Cultivated positive attitude toward adopting food safety practices.



North Central Region  
Center for FSMA Training, Extension  
and Technical Assistance



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