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Function: National Expert in Food Outbreak Investigations, Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA), US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), USA;

Session: Good Agricultural Practice in a Global Perspective: How to Move an Entire Supply Chain Towards Safety and Sustainability

TOUR Stop: Atlanta/USA, 17-18 October 2011

Profile

CSO Zambrana began her career with the US FDA as an ORA field investigator in San Francisco District Office. In 2006, she transferred to Atlanta District Office and continued her technical career development in the food safety arena; with emphasis on fresh produce safety. She has conducted numerous in-depth outbreak investigations, domestic and international, including serving as team leader representing the US FDA in various multi-agency, multi-disciplinary teams in response to a variety of produce-related food borne illness outbreaks of significant impact; both national and international.

In 2008, CSO Zambrana was selected as National Expert (NE) in Food Outbreak Investigations; the first ORA NE in this area of expertise. In this role, CSO Zambrana provides inspectional and technical assistance to FDA field offices nationwide; involved in developing and/or evaluating agency policy and procedures for conduct of these types of investigation/inspection; is actively involved in the design, implementation, and presentation of training and career development programs for field investigations staff and related personnel; and provides technical advice and counsel to both ORA and Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) leadership in the needs for developing and improving programs, training and policy within her area of expertise.

CSO Zambrana also collaborates with other state and federal organizations through interagency agreements and informal working relationships; works closely with other offices within the US FDA including CFSAN; Office of Crisis Management (OCM); and the newly formed Coordinated Outbreak Response and Evaluation (CORE) Network within the FDA; created to manage not just outbreak response, but surveillance and post-response activities related to incidents involving multiple illnesses linked to FDA-regulated human and animal food.

CSO Zambrana contributions to the US FDA mission to protect public health have been recognized through numerous awards and publications. She is the recipient of the 2008 Patrick J. Pouzar FDA Investigator of the Year award.

CSO Zambrana is based in the US FDA Southeast Region/Atlanta District Office; holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry; and continues her professional development in global food safety.