



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **LEAFY GREENS MARKETING AGREEMENTS RESPONDS TO FDA'S LEAFY GREENS ACTION PLAN**

**March 5, 2020** - The leafy greens farming communities in California and Arizona welcome any action that helps prevent future foodborne illness outbreaks associated with our products. We value the support of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as detailed in its [2020 Leafy Greens Action Plan](#) released today.

At its core, the LGMA is a partnership with government. We operate with oversight from the state departments of agriculture in California and Arizona. Our strength comes from the comprehensive audits conducted by state government employees. These audits, which include over 150 required food safety checkpoints, work to ensure a culture of food safety is adopted throughout the industry.

Ultimately, LGMA is the entity charged with establishing and adapting food safety standards used in the production of leafy greens. We want these standards to be as strong as possible. Any input provided by the FDA including product testing data, research and information gathered through outbreak investigations is extremely useful as we work to improve our systems.

During the past few months, the LGMA Technical Committees have been meeting regularly to review all aspects of the existing required food safety practices enforced throughout the leafy greens industry under the LGMA. This effort will result in improved food safety practices and real change in how leafy greens are farmed.

In addition to our strong partnership with government, the LGMA is working cooperatively with other entities throughout the produce industry. Everyone is focused on how we can make leafy greens safer so that consumers are protected.

A list of ongoing actions being taken by industry is attached.

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