

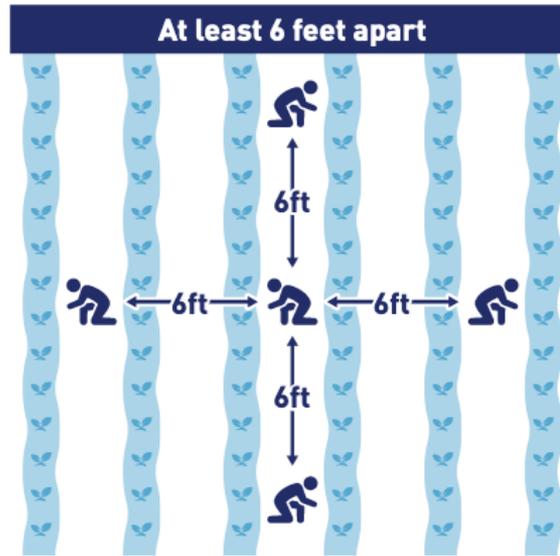
Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Questions for PYO Muscadine Operations

- What we know about Covid-19 transmission...
 - Respiratory virus >> not foodborne
- Covid-19 on food, surfaces, containers
- Control of COVID-19 at PYO Operations:
 - Importance of mask-wearing
 - Importance of hand-washing/hand sanitizers
 - Distancing/safety/training for your customers
- Safety for your workers, pickers (including family)
- What if staff/workers test positive? Experience at other farms?
- NC Covid-19 regulations/requirements

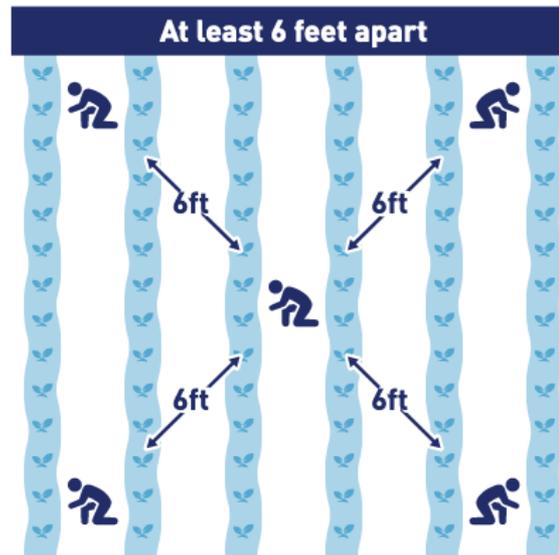
Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Control of COVID-19 at PYO operations:

- monitor fellow employees/patrons for symptoms - sick individuals should stay at home
- practice "social distancing" when possible and practical - stay at least 6 feet away from others
- wear face coverings, when possible – especially if "social distancing" is not possible or practical
- if not wearing a face covering, cough or sneeze into elbow or with a disposable tissue – the tissue should be discarded immediately in a suitable waste container
- wash hands frequently following appropriate hand washing procedures - for at least 20 seconds with soap and water
- use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol content as appropriate - alcohol based hand sanitizers are effective against this respiratory virus
- high touch areas should be wiped down with sanitizing wipes at least daily - include door knobs, stair railings, touch pads, computer workstations, etc.
- continue routine cleaning/sanitation UNLESS there is a confirmed COVID-19 positive - for a COVID-19 positive, surfaces should be disinfected with a product from the EPA "*List N*"

A. Good



B. Good



COVID-19 Resources



HANDLING COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR U-PICK FARMS

COVID-19 is not a foodborne illness. It is extremely unlikely that someone will catch it through eating. The virus is most likely to cause illness through respiratory transmission, not eating. The routes to be concerned about include being in very close proximity to many people or coming in contact with high touch surfaces.

BEST PRACTICES

- Employees should use gloves when handling money, or considering using cards to limit transfer of cash. If money is handled, hands should be washed or hand sanitizer should be used afterward.
- Postpone any large events or gatherings to avoid large numbers of people in close proximity.
- Cloth face coverings should be worn by employees while working.
- Limit the number of people at the farm at one time or space people out to prevent groups of ten or more.
 - Provide ground markers to help customers maintain six feet of physical distance.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

- Farms should provide handwashing stations and/or hand sanitizer to all guests and request that they wash their hands before entering the field and upon exiting.
 - Employees should hand-sanitize after every transaction, and should wear gloves.
- Disinfect surfaces on a regular basis, including: reusable bins and buckets, railings, doorknobs, tables, etc.
 - Use non-porous plastic tables that can be easily disinfected whenever possible.
- CDC advises using compounds on the list of EPA recommended disinfectants, which can be found at: [go.ncsu.edu/epacovid-19](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov) (Note: this list is based on current data, but compounds have not been validated for inactivation of the virus causing COVID-19)
 - Bleach may be used to disinfect surfaces, but the concentration is higher for COVID-19 than for everyday sanitation: 5 tablespoons bleach per gallon of water

COMMUNICATING WITH CUSTOMERS

- **Communicate that customers should not come to the farm if they are displaying symptoms of COVID-19, or have come in contact with someone who has, and if they are displaying symptoms at the farm they will be asked to leave.**
- Cloth face coverings should be encouraged for customer use, based on local guidance.
- Communicate to customers through signs, social media or newsletters, etc.
- Communicate that employees will not work if they have symptoms or were exposed.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH

- Businesses should follow CDC and FDA guidance for screening employees who have been exposed to COVID-19.
- Pre-screen employees for symptoms or fever before starting work.
- Employees with fever and symptoms should be advised to see a doctor for evaluation and should be deferred to Human Resources for next steps.



COVID-19 AND FARM STANDS STEPS FOR FARM STAND OPERATORS

BEST PRACTICES

- Farmers and customers should not come to a farm stand if they are displaying symptoms of COVID-19, or have come in contact with someone who is sick. Anyone displaying symptoms should be asked to leave.
- Farmers displaying symptoms, or living with someone displaying symptoms, should not harvest or sell food.
- Cloth face coverings should be worn by employees while working.
- Farm stands should provide handwashing and/or hand sanitizer at entrances and register/cash box. If someone is staffing the farm stand they should use hand sanitizer after every transaction.
- Avoid taking in cartons or containers that can't be cleaned and disinfected.
- If possible, pre-portion or pre-package items in bags or cartons before they are sold.
- Eggs should be sold in single-use containers.

COMMUNICATION

- **Communicate with customers through signs or social media asking them to stay home if displaying symptoms.**
- Provide hand sanitizer at the front of the stand and near the cash box. Use signs to remind people to use sanitizer before shopping, before paying and after leaving.
- Ask customers to only touch items that they intend to purchase.
- Cloth face coverings should be encouraged for customer use, based on local guidance.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

- Use non-porous plastic tables that can be easily disinfected if possible.
- Think about touch points throughout the stand like baskets, tables, cash boxes, etc. Eliminate or disinfect as frequently as possible, at least at the end of the day.
- CDC is recommending use of disinfectants on the EPA list found at: go.ncsu.edu/epacovid-19
 - Note: this list is based on current data, but compounds have not been validated for inactivation of the virus causing COVID-19
 - Bleach may be used to disinfect surfaces, but the concentration is higher for COVID-19 than for everyday sanitation: 5 tablespoons bleach per gallon of water



Example Signage for Visitors to PYO Operations



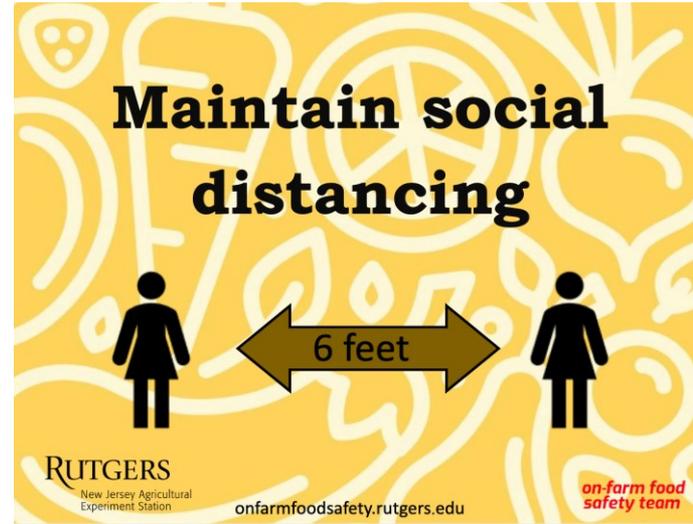
**Face coverings
required to shop
inside**

**Please ask for help if you do not have
or are unable to wear a face covering.**

RUTGERS
New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station

onfarmfoodsafety.rutgers.edu

*on-farm food
safety team*



**Maintain social
distancing**

6 feet

RUTGERS
New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station

onfarmfoodsafety.rutgers.edu

*on-farm food
safety team*



**Please follow our
U-Pick Policies**

- 👍 Wear a face covering**
- 👍 Maintain social distancing**
- 👍 Wash hands before picking**
- 👍 Wash hands before eating**
- 👍 Follow directional signage in
picking and check-out areas**
- 👍 Place ALL trash in trash cans**

RUTGERS
New Jersey Agricultural
Experiment Station

Thank you for shopping at our farm!

onfarmfoodsafety.rutgers.edu

*on-farm food
safety team*