



4-H Education: On-Farm-Food-Safety

This fall BC 4-H Leaders and 4-H club members will receive new resources to improve On-Farm-Food-Safety. Food safety begins on the farm and education is the first important step in reducing food safety risks at all levels of the food chain. The new user friendly On-Farm-Food-Safety resources for beef, dairy, sheep, and swine club members will prepare them to think "food safe" on the farm.

The resources include an intro sheet to On-Farm-Food-Safety that introduces members and their families to the development of food safety programs in the agriculture industry and the importance of them to everyone in the food chain as well as the consumers. The second part is an info sheet "Understanding the Food Safety Risks on the Farm" for 4-H members, written in an easy to understand checklist that outlines the basic food safety precautions when working with food producing animals on the farm. The third part of the resource package is a 4-H Leader's Guide to On-Farm-Food-Safety with comprehensive information that helps Leaders explain how on farm food safety programs help the commodity and the farm provide safe food. This Leader's guide also has club activity sheets designed to help 4-H members learn the lessons. BC 4-H Leaders will have the opportunity to learn about these resources first hand when they are launched at the Provincial 4-H Leaders Conference October 24 - 26, 2008 in Kelowna. The resources have also been shared with other provincial 4-H offices across Canada to promote food safety programs across the country.



Stephannie Wall - BC 4-H Ambassador

Thanks to the *BC Verified Beef program* and beef industry for leading the way in this important initiative and to Annette Moore, BC-VBP Program Coordinator and Quality First in Agriculture Inc. for providing the technical expertise to make these resources pertinent to young people. The resources were made possible through contributions from the BC Verified Beef Program and a government grant under the Agriculture Policy Framework: A Federal-Provincial-Territorial initiative.

For more information on the resources please contact the BC 4-H Office at mail@bc4h.bc.ca