

*A Comprehensive Training for Farmers and Agriculture Professionals in:*

# ***Best Practices for Field Harvesting and Post-Harvest Handling of Vegetables for Quality and Food Safety***

**8:30 AM – 5:00 PM**  
**Friday, May 4<sup>TH</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 2018**  
**City Roots Farm - Columbia, SC**

This purpose of this training is to guide participants in developing skills that are key to success in the marketplace, including in harvesting, washing, cooling and packing methods for different types of vegetables that yield a high quality product and minimize food safety risks. Based on feedback from our previous Wholesale Success trainings, in addition to critical information on best harvest- and post-harvest handling practices to meet market standards, participants will gain first-hand experience in the field and processing shed with harvesting and processing various types of vegetables.

## **AGENDA**

### **Friday, May 4: Meet at City Roots Farm, Columbia, SC**

- 8:15 AM Registration (City Roots)
- 8:30 Welcome and introduction to the workshop and instructor Atina Diffley
- 8:45 Influence of preharvest factors on postharvest quality
- 9:15 Harvesting (when to harvest, tools, containers, methods, preventing damage)
- 9:50 Break
- 10:00 Post-harvest (cooling, curing, cleaning and drying, washing, tools)
- 11:00 Sorting, packing, storage and transportation
- 11:45 Overview of City Roots operation including post-harvest procedures and infrastructure (Eric McClam)
- 12:15 Lunch
- 1:00 Travel to the other City Roots vegetable production farm (about 10 min drive)
- 1:30 Observe and participate in harvesting a variety of different vegetable crops that will be boxed and transported back to City Roots for processing. Drive back to City Roots.
- 3:00 Arrive back at City Roots. Tour of farm and processing facility. Participate in processing different vegetables that were harvested at the other farm.
- 5-5:30 Adjourn

### **Saturday, May 5: Meet at City Roots** (Optional morning session for Extension agents and other agricultural professionals)

- 9-11 AM Atina Diffley will discuss her experiences teaching the Wholesale Success material along with strategies for effective engagement with different audiences. Plenty of time will be available for Q&A and discussion.

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