



FPAA Spring Policy Summit
2026

Agenda

8:00 – 10:00 am	North America Produce Food Safety Working Group Meeting – Breakfast. (Invitation Only)
10:00 – 11:00 am	Registration
11:00 – 11:15 am	Welcoming Remarks
11:15 – 12:00 pm	USMCA Roundup: A panel of experts discusses the renegotiation of the trade agreement. Invitees: Ron Lemaire, Kevin Brady, Ernesto Acevedo Fernandez (invited), moderated by FPAA.
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Keynote Luncheon: CBP Commissioner Rodney Scott (invited) – How technology is keeping cargo and commercial operations safe for national security.
1:00 – 1:15pm	Coffee Break
1:15 – 2:00 pm	Border Infrastructure – There are a lot of developments in logistics and infrastructure that may improve movement of fresh produce from Mexico. From highway linkages, to new port construction, to legislation that would call for retrofitting Southwest ports of entry with refrigerated inspection docks, learn what is new in border infrastructure. Jesus Valdez from Santa Cruz County, Josh Rubin of the Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority, Lance Jungmeyer of the FPAA

2:00 – 2:30 pm	Innovations in SPS Inspections – That’s Sanitary Phyto-Sanitary, for short: The Mexican mango industry has worked with USDA authorities to implement cutting-edge inspection techniques that involve remote cameras and sensors. Hear from regulators and mango industry experts about this important development that relies on emerging technologies. Jose Angel Crespo Chairman of EMEX (invited), Matthew Rhodes from APHIS (invited).
2:30 – 2:45 pm	Coffee Break
2:45 – 3:45 pm	USDA/AMS Listening Session – Quality inspections. Market News. To support industry functionality, fresh produce distributors rely on these services and more from USDA/AMS. USDA/AMS will describe some of their latest initiatives and take feedback from the audience. Steve Eguino from USDA/SCI and Sammy Gonzalez from USDA/Market News.
3:45 – 4:15 pm	What is a Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ)? – Starting with the anti-dumping case against Mexican strawberries, organizations from Florida and Georgia have begun calling for seasonal Tariff Rate Quotas against a wide array of produce from Mexico – watermelon, bell peppers, squash, cucumbers, blueberries, strawberries, sweet corn, avocado and more. Attend this session to find out more about TRQs and how this may affect your business. Andrew J Shepherd from University of Arizona Rogers College of Law.
4:15 – 5:15	Spring Policy Summit Happy Hour (to begin at 4:00)