



ASTA UPDATE

Cheryl Deem, Executive Director

ASTA Update

- ❑ Lead in Turmeric
- ❑ Pesticide Residues
- ❑ Guidance Documents
- ❑ Other ASTA Activities

Lead in Turmeric

□ Background

- ASTA notified July by New York State lab or pending recalls of turmeric for excessive lead levels
- Believed to be lead chromate – economically motivated adulteration
- Following initial recall in July there have been a number of subsequent recalls
- Questions about allowable lead levels in turmeric prompt ASTA/FDA meeting

Lead in Turmeric

Past ASTA direction:

- FDA's lead in candy guidance – 0.1 ppm
- FDA's color additive regulation – 10 ppm

FDA: well meaning but not accurate

- Candy guidance based on very small amount of ingredient containing lead (chilies)
- Color additive reg developed on 60s/70s
- Reflects available methodology at time – not robust safety assessment



Lead in Turmeric

- FDA has not historically monitored spices for lead
 - Assumption that spice consumption levels low in general population and in children
- In 2013, turmeric from Bangladesh was recalled for excessive lead levels
- That recall prompted reconsideration because found turmeric consumption high enough in some instances to warrant monitoring

Lead in Turmeric

- Recent recalls are because of “gross contamination”
- Lead levels of 40 – 50ppm
- FDA has seen 100+ppm
- ASTA is in agreement that those levels are excessive

Lead in Turmeric

FDA's position on lead:

- ❑ Research shows there is **no safe exposure level**
- ❑ Lead is **commonly found in agricultural products** because of air/soil contamination
- ❑ They are **not looking for zero**
- ❑ FDA will **not issue guidance** to spice industry
- ❑ **However....** FDA will share their “thinking” on a level that will not likely prompt enforcement action

Lead in Turmeric

- FDA wants to see spice industry data on lead in turmeric
- Compare levels from companies with good GAP/GMP practices to FDA monitoring data
- Will determine level based on that comparison
 - FDA wants the level to be something industry can meet
- Expect it will be between 10ppm and 0.1ppm

Lead in Turmeric

- How do we get there? With your help
- ASTA needs data on lead levels found in turmeric
- FDA wants to know – is it possible to source turmeric with undetectable levels (won't impact result – they just want to know)
- What percentage of turmeric imported into U.S. is used as a spice? Color? Dietary supplement? Other?

Lead in Turmeric

- All information will be submitted through ASTA General Counsel, aggregated and blinded for FDA submission (FDA agrees – they do not need to know companies)
- If you are willing to participate – see me for data template
- Caution – if we don't get data – there will be no progress

Pesticide Residues

- Very few tolerances exist in the U.S. for spices
- Chemical companies seek tolerances for major crops when they introduce new chemicals because of cost and need to recoup investment: 2008 CropLife study: 10 years and \$270 million from product development to regulatory approval
- Minor crops, particularly imports, face challenges
- EPA is aware of this and is proposing pilot project to explore alternate ways of securing import tolerances for minor crops (using field trials)

Pesticide Residues

- ASTA is taking multi-pronged approach to a complex issue
 - Proposed pilot to secure import tolerance on metalaxyl for pepper
 - Cooperation with Vietnam on pesticide use
 - CropLife America membership and active participation in Food and Beverage Committee

Proposed Metalaxyl Pilot

- ❑ EPA not willing to include ASTA in their proposed pilot because we need to use monitoring data not field trial
- ❑ But they are willing to work with us
- ❑ Challenge: we need monitoring data to submit for safety assessment
- ❑ At this point we don't have data we can use

Efforts with Vietnam

- Meeting December 2015 in Vietnam
 - Joint representation ASTA/ESA/CSA
 - Stakeholder meeting with 150 people
 - Discussions on growers' needs to protect crops and importers' needs to meet regulations
 - Meeting with Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Vietnam Pepper Association
 - Key accomplishment: acknowledgement of potential problem with residues and expressed willingness to work to address
 - Agreement to develop action plan and timeline

Efforts with Vietnam

- Meeting with VPA at ASTA Meeting in Scottsdale April 2016
 - ▣ Review of key issues
 - ▣ Update from VPA on progress
- Next meeting scheduled November 2016 in Vietnam
 - ▣ Will involve stakeholders
 - ▣ Overview of issues/progress/next steps

CropLife – Food and Beverage Comm.

- Membership consists of trade associations and a number of companies, including Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, Unilever
- Provided educational background on regulations and process for establishment of tolerances
- Exploring how to increase awareness of minor crop/imported crop issues with chemical companies
- Exploring options for minor crops



Guidance Documents

- Clean, Safe Spices – *update*
 - FSMA/RFR information
 - No changes to recommendations
- Allergens – *new*
 - Pre-Conference Workshop April 2017
- Economically Motivated Adulteration – *new*
 - Food Safety Committee Working Group developing
 - Combines ASTA White Paper on Adulteration with Guidance on Authenticity of Herbs and Spices (UK)

Additional ASTA Resources

- Government Relations and Advocacy Committee
 - FSMA Decision Tree
- Food Safety Committee
 - Risk Assessment Considerations for FSMA
 - On-demand webinar series on process validation
- Membership Committee
 - Database Resources



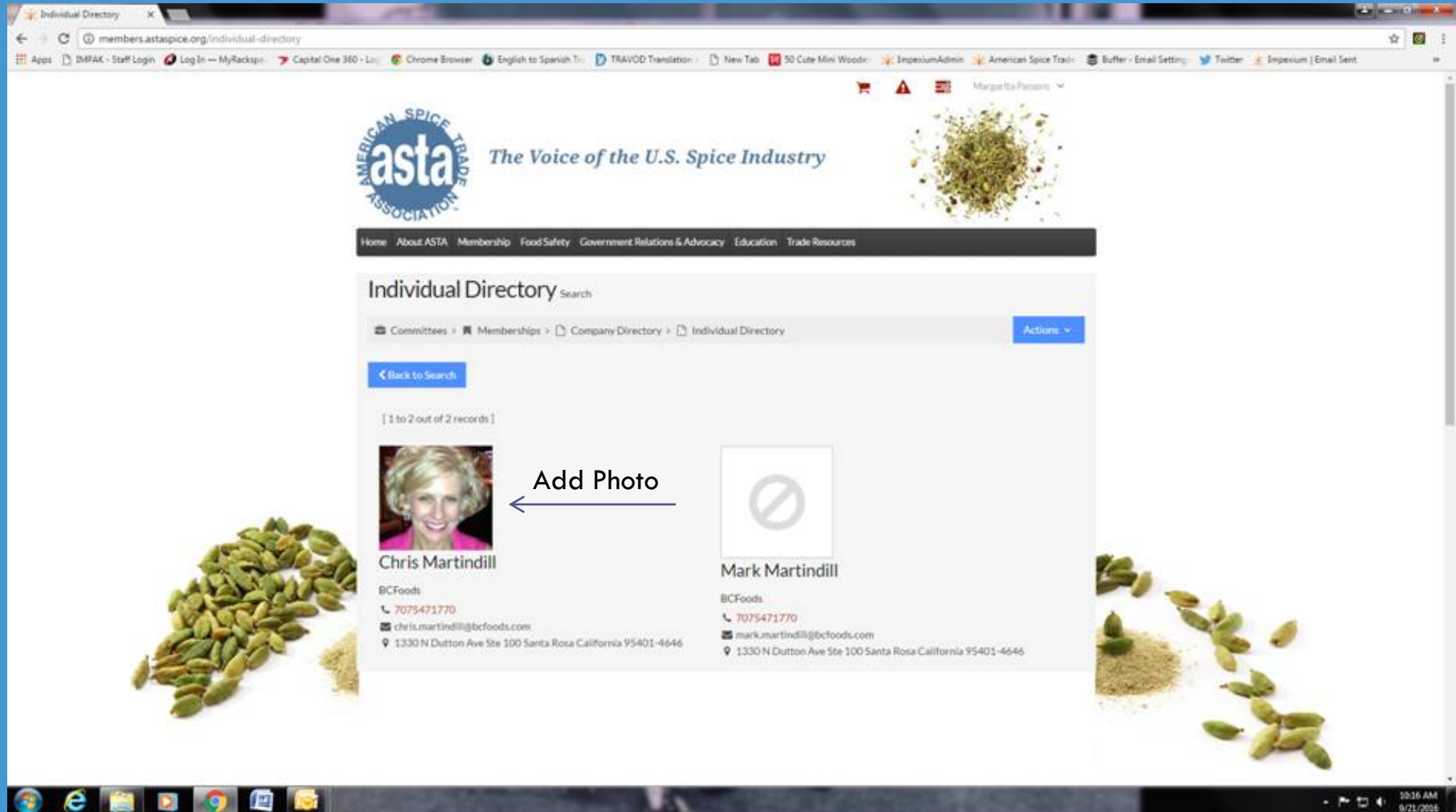
ASTA Database Resources

The screenshot shows the 'Organization Directory' page for 'Certified Laboratories, Inc.' on the website members.astaspice.org. The page includes a search bar, a 'Back to Search' button, and a list of records (1 to 1 out of 1 records). The record for 'Certified Laboratories, Inc.' is displayed, showing its logo, contact information, and a detailed description of its services and accreditations. Annotations with arrows point to specific sections of the record:

- Products & Services**: Points to the 'Products and Services' section, which lists 'Full Service Laboratory, Consulting Services - Process, Consulting Services - Food Safety'.
- Accreditations and Certifications**: Points to the 'Accreditations and Certifications' section, which lists 'ISO/IEC 17025:2005, McCormick Approved Lab, General Mills Approved Lab, VASP-PEC, USDA Certified, AOAC'.
- Organization Description**: Points to the 'Organization Description' section, which states: 'For over 90 years, Certified Laboratories, Inc. has been providing full service quality laboratory testing services for the food industry. As a state-of-the-art, ISO 17025 accredited laboratory, we're proud to offer complete microbiological, chemical, instrumentation testing facilities in New York, Southern California, Northern California and the Midwest.'

The page also features a navigation menu at the top with links to Home, About ASTA, Membership, Food Safety, Government Relations & Advocacy, Education, and Trade Resources. The bottom of the page shows a Windows taskbar with various application icons and a system clock indicating 10:15 AM on 8/21/2016.

ASTA Database Resources



The screenshot displays the ASTA (American Spice Trade Association) Individual Directory page. The header features the ASTA logo and the tagline "The Voice of the U.S. Spice Industry". Below the header is a navigation bar with links: Home, About ASTA, Membership, Food Safety, Government Relations & Advocacy, Education, and Trade Resources. The main content area is titled "Individual Directory" and includes a search bar and a breadcrumb trail: Committees > Memberships > Company Directory > Individual Directory. A "Back to Search" button is located on the left. The directory lists two records, 1 to 2 out of 2. The first record is for Chris Martindill, with a photo and contact information for BCFoods. The second record is for Mark Martindill, with a placeholder for a photo and contact information for BCFoods. An arrow points to the "Add Photo" button next to Chris Martindill's profile.

Individual Directory

members.asta.org/individual-directory

Apps IMPAK - Staff Login Log In - MyRacksp Capital One 360 - Log Chrome Browser English to Spanish T... TRAVOD Translation New Tab 50 Cute Mini Wood ImpexiumAdmin American Spice Trade Buffer - Email Setting Twitter Impexium | Email Sent

Margarita Passero

asta
AMERICAN SPICE TRADE ASSOCIATION

The Voice of the U.S. Spice Industry


Home About ASTA Membership Food Safety Government Relations & Advocacy Education Trade Resources

Individual Directory Search


Committees > Memberships > Company Directory > Individual Directory Actions

Back to Search

[1 to 2 out of 2 records]

 Add Photo

Chris Martindill
BCFoods
7075471770
chris.martindill@bcfoods.com
1330 N Dutton Ave Ste 100 Santa Rosa California 95401-4646



Mark Martindill
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10:16 AM
9/21/2016

ASTA Annual Meetings

- April 23 – 25, 2017 Austin Hilton, Austin, TX
- April 15 – 18, 2018 Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples, FL
- April 7 – 10, 2019 Omni Amelia Island Plantation, Amelia Island, FL

