



American Spice Trade Association

Cheryl Deem

Executive Director

**2010 Annual Meeting and Exhibits
Naples, Florida**

2010 Meeting Attendance

	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Active	194	184	169	173	116	123
Associate	51	30	40	46	45	41
Non-Member	20	23	22	15	11	0
TOTAL	265	237	231	234	172	164
Workshop	106	96	64			

Membership

	2010	2009	2008	2007
Active	133	122	128	118
Associate	55	56	56	57
TOTAL	188	178	184	175

2009 – 2010 Accomplishments

Julia Bellinger

- Active Government Relations Committee
- Fall Legislative/Regulatory Meeting & FDA visits
- Food Safety Legislation - Coalitions
- USDA – Noxious Weed/Seed Issue
- Member Assistance

2009 – 2010 Accomplishments

Margarita Passero

- Oversight of Annual Meeting
- Financial Management
- Operations Management
- Member Needs Assessment

2009 – 2010 Accomplishments

Laura Greer

Promoted to Senior Coordinator

- Membership Oversight
- *ASTA Advocate* and *FYI ASTA*
- Advertising



Introducing Laura Somerville

- Scholarship Program
- Web Site
- Check Sample Program
- First ASTA Office Contact

FDA Risk Profile

- Pathogens and Filth in Spices
- Published in Federal Register April 20th
- Seeking public comment, scientific data and information
- Risk profile – science based approach to assist in regulatory decisions
- ASTA data collection/response to other questions

ASTA/FDA Dialogue

- Spices are in the spotlight
- Move up planned overseas spice facility inspections
- Continue sampling blitzes at the border
- Renewed focus on filth
- Want to work cooperatively with industry to ensure safety

FDA Next Steps

- Risk profile –may result in additional regulations
- Formal guidance possible
- Food Safety Legislation – specific guidelines for spice industry likely

ASTA Actions

- Data collection/Federal Register response
- U.S. plant and domestic growing area visits
- Ongoing education about spice industry
- Education about implications of actions and proposals

ASTA Actions

- ASTA **cannot** ask not to enforce regulations
- ASTA **cannot** ask for leniency in enforcement

Spices in the Cross Hairs

- Opportunity to work with FDA
 - Goal is food safety
 - Take industry concerns into account
- FDA must have confidence in industry practices

Thank You

Questions?

