

Presenter:

Reuben Beverly

Working Title:

Abstract:

The Georgia Department of Agriculture regulates food production, processing, distribution, and marketing in order to assure that food is safe, wholesome, and properly labeled. The Chemical Laboratories Division tests for the presence of foodborne pathogens, allergens, pesticide, and antibiotic residues, and other biological and chemical contaminants. The Department cooperates with many other state and federal agencies to provide a coordinated effort to protect food safety. With added concerns for food contamination as a criminal or terrorist activity, the Chemical Laboratories Division is working even more closely with other labs in the state and across the nation to provide a seamless food protection system. Current and future activities of the laboratories to protect food safety will be discussed.