# Safe Handling of Fresh Produce

- 1. Handle only produce you intend to purchase.
- 2. Wash hands prior to handling and/or consuming produce.
- 3. Bring multiple bags to the market. Keep produce separated from raw meats, eggs, and fish to prevent cross-contamination.
- 4. Reusable bags should be made of material that can go through a washing machine and dryer cycle. Bags should be washed regularly.
- 5. Wash all produce whole before consumption, even those that you remove the exterior from.
- 6. Produce should be washed under cool running water. Do not soak or submerge produce, this increases chances of cross-contamination.
- 7. Ensure that work areas and tools used to prepare produce for consumption are clean and that your hands have been properly washed.
- 8. Produce that has a firm exterior should be scrubbed with your clean hands or a clean brush under running water.
- 9. Dry produce that has been washed with a single use towel.
- 10.Fruits and vegetables that have been cut should be stored in the refrigerator. Cut produce should not be left at room temperature for more than two hours.

Funding for this project provided by:

Rutgers On-Farm Food Safety

# Safe Storage of Fresh Produce

COUNT	ERTOP	<b>STORAGE</b>

Fruits

Apples (less than 7 days) Muskmelons Persimmons Watermelons

#### Vegetables

Basil (stems in water) Cucumbers Dry onions Eggplant Garlic

Peppers

Potatoes

Pumpkins

Sweet potatoes

Tomatoes

Winter squashes

## **RIPEN ON COUNTER THEN REFRIGERATE**

Nectarines Peaches

Ginger

Pears Plums

## **REFRIGERATOR STORAGE**

**Fruits** 

Apples (greater than 7 days) Apricots Asian pears Blackberries Blueberries Cherries Cut fruits Figs Grapes Raspberries Strawberries

#### **Vegetables**

	Artichokes	Carrots	Lettuce	
	Asparagus	Cauliflower	Mushrooms	
~	Green beans	Celery	Peas	
	Lima beans	Cut vegetables	Radishes	
	Beets	Green onions	Spinach	
	Broccoli	Herbs (not basil)	Summer squash	
	Brussels sprouts	Leafy vegetables	Sweet corn	
-	Cabbage	Leeks		

For more information visit the University of California Davis Postharvest Center: https://tinyurl.com/ProduceUCDavis