



May 21-22, 2019  
Loews Coronado Bay Resort  
San Diego, California

## Suresh DeCosta

**Director of Food Safety**

**Lipman Family Farms**

Suresh joined Lipman Family Farms as Director of Food Safety in April 2016.

Prior to joining Lipman, he worked as Food Safety Lead for Agricultural Products at McDonald's; National FSQA Manager for Chiquita/Fresh Express; and Product Application Scientist for SureBeam.

Suresh is a recognized subject matter expert with the ability to lead cross-functional groups of suppliers, customers and produce industry representatives. His broad food science industry experience includes product development, beverage formulation, food irradiation, coffee blend management, good agricultural practices and fresh cut processing.

He leverages his holistic understanding of supply chain from farm to fork to mitigate food safety risks at each stage of the supply chain. Suresh uses his interpersonal skills to build consensus in technical and non-technical environments which help drive industry change.

Suresh has served as the Chairman of the United Fresh Produce Association Food Safety and Technology Council and as a board member of its board of directors. Suresh is a member of the Center for Produce Safety Technical Committee. He has received multiple industry awards, including the UFPA technical award for his leadership in helping standardize agricultural food safety practices.

Suresh received an MS in Food Science from Chapman University and a BS in Environmental Science from Slippery Rock University.