



APRIL 22ND, 2021

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COS CENTER for PRODUCE SAFETY



Western Growers Center for Innovation & Technology in conjunction with The Center for Produce Safety and the Yuma Center of Excellence for Desert Agriculture will launch the event: AgTechx Food Safety – A Year of Food Safety Acceleration for Rapid Diagnostics and Prevention Technologies.

Don't miss the opportunity to hear from Dr. Rodrigo Nieto Gomez speak about the accelerating innovation and changing policy dynamics, followed by three panels that discuss how innovation should consider regulation in the product development cycle, the role of research, and what Western Growers Science, Technology & Innovation leadership believes to be important to its members.

During the event, companies will learn about the opportunity to work with the WGCIT during the coming year on accelerating prevention and rapid diagnostic solutions. Details will be provided during the session.

For more information, please contact Dennis Donohue, Director of Western Growers Center for Innovation & Technology at ddonohue@wga.com.



APRIL 22ND **9:30AM**

ACCELERATING INNOVATION AND CHANGING POLICY DYNAMICS Keynote Speaker DR. Rodrigo Nieto Gomez

Dr. Rodrigo Nieto is a geostrategist and defense futurist focused on the consequences of the accelerating pace of change in homeland security and policing environments. He is a research professor at the National Security Affairs Department and at the Center for Homeland Defense and Security at the Naval Postgraduate School and has also worked as a certified facilitator and instructor for the Command College for the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) and a former instructor at the Executive Academy of the Emergency Management Institute. He is also a faculty member of Singularity University.

Dr. Nieto has a Ph.D. in Geopolitics from the French Institute of Geopolitics of the University of Paris. He holds a J.D. from the State University of San Luis Potosi, Mexico.

INNOVATION FROM A REGULATORY PERSPECTIVE 10:00 AM Featuring guest speaker:



Tom Sidebottom
Research Scientist and Consultant
(formerly with US Food & Drug Administration)

RESEARCH PERSPECTIVE 10:30 AM The role of research featuring guest speakers:



Paul Brierley
Executive Director, Yuma Center of Excellence for Desert Agriculture



Bonnie Fernandez-Fenaroli

Executive Director, Center for Produce Safety

WESTERN GROWERS' ROLE 11:30 AM Discussion on food safety trends and the role of Western Growers Science & Innovation with guest speakers:



De Ann Davis Senior Vice President, Science, Science & Technology



Walt Duflock
Vice President, Innovation, Science & Technology

