Will the Big Bad Wolf Get Food Poisoning From Grandma's Cooking?

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1. Food Safety is in the News!
   Everyday there is another food-borne illness outbreak
   The public is becoming more educated in the area of food-borne illness
   The government is taking notice and passing new laws and regulations to protect the public
   "Are forest-based food products potentially hazardous foods?"

2. Major Factors Contributing to Foodborne Disease in the 1990's
   Changes in food consumed
   New methodology of food production and processing
   Distribution of food products
   Emergence of new infectious agents or new trends with known agents

3. Nature and Extent of Food-borne Illness
   Estimated between 24 to 81 million cases/year
   Estimated annual cost: $7 to $23 billion/year
   Effects range from discomfort to death
   Large percent of food-borne illness is preventable

4. Food Safety Categories
   Food - microorganisms indeginous to food products
   People - people transfer dangerous bacteria to the food products
   Facilities - the environment in which products are processed can harbor dangerous bacteria

5. What causes Food-borne Illness?
   Bacteria
   Parasites
   Viruses
   Chemicals (natural or added) - Toxins
   "Potentially Hazardous Foods?"

6. "It can't happen to us - we're natural or organic!"

7. Food-borne Outbreaks in recent years
   E. coli O157:H7 in hamburger, apples, sprouts, lettuce, water parks
   Hepatitis A in strawberries
   Salmonella and Campylobacter in poultry
   Cryptosporidium in water
   Cyclospora in raspberries

8. Forest Products - concern???
   Fruits - apples, berries
   Nuts - acorns, walnuts
   Meats - Venison, Bear, Moose
   Plants - ginseng
   Mushrooms
   Medicinal herbs

All Have Been Implicated In Food-borne Outbreaks!!

9. Food Safety from Farm to Table

10. National Food Safety Initiative
    A new interagency strategy to prevent food-borne disease
    Food-borne illness: a significant public health problem
    The current system for protecting food
    Immediate actions to improve food safety
    A new early warning system for public health surveillance
    Coordination at the federal level of the four agencies: FDA, CDC, FSIS and EPA
    Risk Assessment
    Research
    Inspections
    Education

11. What does this mean to the "Forest Farmer" Processor?
    Same regulations will apply with respect to production, processing, marketing of forest-based products as do to traditional products
    "Natural or "Organic" does not mean "SAFE" with respect to food-borne illness
    Education and Awareness are the keys

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