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RESOURCE GUIDE

Risk Assessment: Agriculture & Food Supply

DESCRIPTION

Terrorism against the United States' agriculture and the food industry remains a persistent concern in the effort to bolster homeland security. Contamination of the food supply also poses a real danger that has prompted homeland security experts to devise methodologies aimed at assessing risk to this specific, critical infrastructure sector.

RESOURCES

Guides and Reports

Federal Government

[Department of Health and Human Services:](#)

[Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\):](#)

[Food Security Preventive Measures Guidance:](#) The FDA offers risk assessment and mitigation guidelines for retail food stores and food service establishments. The guidelines are designed to lower the risk of contamination of the US food supply, either accidentally or by an act of terrorism.

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/secguid5.html>

[Risk Assessment for Food Terrorism and Other Food Safety](#)

[Concerns:](#) This document is the FDA's general risk assessment of the terrorist threat to the U.S. food supply. Although the report contains no classified information, it nonetheless offers a broad examination of the agroterrorism threat.

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/rabtact.html>

International Organizations

[The United Nations \(UN\):](#)

[World Health Organization \(WHO\):](#)

[Terrorist Threats to Food: Guidance for Establishing and Strengthening Prevention and Response Systems:](#)

The WHO presents a comprehensive report on the threat of agroterrorism and offers preventive measures that can be taken at all levels of food production to reduce the risk of terrorism and strengthen the response in the event of an act of terrorism directed at the food supply.

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Presentations

Federal Government

[Department of Agriculture \(USDA\):](#)

[Office of Risk Assessment and Cost-Benefit Analysis \(ORACBA\):](#)

"Applying the Risk Analysis Paradigm to Bioterrorism in Agriculture":

This is an ORACBA presentation in which the author describes the threat of bioterrorism against agriculture, the nature of risk analysis, and the use of risk analysis to help prevent acts of agroterrorism.

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[Department of Health and Human Services:](#)

[Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\):](#)

[Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition \(CFSAN\):](#)

"Threat/Vulnerability Assessments for Foods": This contains a presentation by the CFSAN's Director for Food Safety and Security advocating and discussing the need for threat and vulnerability assessments to be applied toward advancing the security of the nation's food supply.

http://www.fda.gov/ohrms/dockets/ac/03/slides/4001s1_02_Brackett.ppt

Articles

State Government

[Minnesota:](#)

[Department of Agriculture :](#)

David W. Bullock, **"Risk Assessments Can Be a Valuable Tool in Preventing Agroterrorism"**, [Risk Management Monthly](#), November 2002.

This article stresses the importance and value of risk assessment in combating agroterrorism. It also presents the basic steps in performing a risk assessment.

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