

Capability Standards – Food and Agriculture Safety and Defense, and Animal Disease Emergency Support

Food and Agriculture Safety and Defense is the capability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from chemical, biological and radiological contaminants, and other hazards that affect the safety of food and agricultural products. This includes the timely eradication of outbreaks of crop diseases/pests, assessments of the integrity of the food producing industry, the removal and disposal of potentially compromised materials from the U.S. food supply, and decontamination of affected food manufacturing facilities or retail points of purchase or service. This also includes appropriate laboratory surveillance to detect human foodborne illness or food product contamination. It is accomplished concurrent to protecting public health and maintaining domestic and international confidence in the U.S. commercial food supply. Additionally, the public is provided with accurate and timely notification and instructions related to an event and appropriate steps to follow with regard to disposal of affected food or agricultural products and appropriate decontamination procedures.

Animal Disease Emergency Support is the capability to protect, prevent, detect, respond to, and recover from threats and incidents that would result in the disruption of industries related to U.S. livestock, other domestic animals (including companion animals) and wildlife and/or endanger the food supply, public health, and domestic and international trade. It includes the ability to respond to large-scale national and regional emergencies as well as to smaller-scale incidents through rapid determination of the nature of the event, initiation of the appropriate response, containment of the disrupting effects, and facilitation of recovery.

Associated Target Capabilities: [Animal Disease Emergency Support](#); [Epidemiological Surveillance and Investigation](#); [Laboratory Testing](#); [Food and Agriculture Safety and Defense](#). Additional information on building this capability can be found on page 141 (Food and Agriculture Safety and Defense) and 277 (Animal Disease Emergency Support) of the U.S Department of Homeland Security's September 2007 document: *Target Capabilities List: A Companion to the National Preparedness Guidelines*.

Desired Outcomes – Threats to food and agriculture safety are prevented, mitigated, and eradicated; trade in agricultural products is restored; affected products are disposed of; affected facilities are decontaminated; public and plant health are protected, notification of the event and instructions of appropriate actions are effectively communicated with all stakeholders; and confidence in the U.S. food supply is maintained. Foreign animal disease is prevented from entering the United States by protecting the related critical infrastructure and key assets. In the event of an incident, animal disease is detected as early as possible, exposure of livestock to foreign diseases is reduced, immediate and humane actions to eradicate the outbreak are implemented, public and animal health and the environment are protected, continuity of agriculture and related business is safely maintained and/or restored, and economic damage is minimized. Trade in agricultural products and domestic and international confidence in the U.S. food supply are safely maintained or restored.

The jurisdiction has created and maintains an Emergency Operations Plan and a Resource Manual that:

1 2 3

- Describes the process to determine nutrition assistance needs, obtain appropriate food supplies, and arrange for delivery of the supplies.
- Describes the methods to ensure the safety and security of the food supply.
- Describes the response actions to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, recover, and restore natural and cultural resources and historic properties.

Comments and Notes:

Animal Disease Emergency Support

- Identifies and describes the actions that will be taken to assess and provide food production and agricultural safety services (e.g., conducting a coordinated investigation of food and agricultural events or agricultural or animal disease outbreaks).
- Identifies and describes the actions that will be taken to assess and provide animal care services (remove and dispose of carcasses, rescue/recover displaced household pets/livestock, provide emergency veterinary care, treat endangered wildlife). Include agencies, veterinarians, animal hospitals, the Humane Society, and the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources.
- Describes the plan to respond to animal and plant diseases and pests, including an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease or an outbreak of a harmful or economically significant plant pest or disease.

Comments and Notes:

Capability Assessment - Administration, Finance, and Direction and Control

- 1 2 3 4 5 The jurisdiction has engaged an integrated team to develop this capability.
- 1 2 3 4 5 The jurisdiction has developed an integrated plan for this capability.

- 1 2 3 4 5 The jurisdiction has identified the hazards/threats that would necessitate the application of this capability.
- 1 2 3 4 5 The jurisdiction's local responders have the necessary training to effectively carry out this capability.
- 1 2 3 4 5 The jurisdiction has access to the necessary resources to effectively carry out this capability (either local or identified through MOUs).
- 1 2 3 4 5 The jurisdiction's local responders have received the necessary training to be able to carry out this capability.
- 1 2 3 4 5 The jurisdiction's local responders have the expertise to carry out this capability.
- 1 2 3 4 5 The jurisdiction has tested this capability within the last year through exercise or activation.

Scale Key:

- 1- The jurisdiction has not started to develop this measure.
- 2- The jurisdiction has started to develop this measure, but we are not far along in the process.
- 3- The jurisdiction has developed this measure, but it needs to be improved.
- 4- The jurisdiction has fully developed this measure.
- 5- The jurisdiction has fully developed and tested this measure.