U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

Ag / Bio-Terrorism Countermeasures

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National Plant Disease Recovery System Meeting

(April 23-24, 2007)
CBP's priority mission is preventing terrorists and terrorist weapons from entering the United States, while also facilitating the flow of legitimate trade and travel.
We succeed by working as a team...

- 11,000 CBP Border Patrol agents
- More than 500 CBP pilots and 100 CBP marine officers
- 10,000+ other specialists and support staff
- 18,000 CBP Officers
- 2,058 Agriculture Specialists
CBP Officers

- Identify threats to U.S. agriculture and public safety
- Provide effective regulatory decisions to prohibit or release certain agriculture commodities
- Provide timely referrals to the CBP Agriculture Specialist
CBP Agriculture Specialists

- Experts in regulating/processing imported agricultural commodities
- Understand agricultural threats
- Trained to recognize & prevent ag/bio-terrorism
- Knowledgeable of smuggling indicators
- Technical consultants and conduct field training for CBP Officers
Responsibility

CBP protects more than:

- 5,000 miles of border with Canada
- 1,900 miles of border with Mexico
- 9,500 miles of shoreline
- 317 “ports of entry”—official entry or crossing points
CBP Agricultural Duties

- Inspect passenger baggage and conveyances
CBP Agricultural Duties

- Inspect commercial shipments
CBP Agricultural Duties

- Collect / submit pests and diseases to USDA
CBP Agricultural Duties

- Insure compliance of biologics offered for entry
New technologies provide critical help...

- Non-intrusive inspection systems (X-ray and gamma imaging and radiation portal monitors).

- 12,000 underground sensors and 265 remote video surveillance cameras to detect illegal border incursions.

- Unmanned aerial vehicles.

- National Targeting Center (tactical targeting and analytical research in anti-terrorism efforts).
CBP Agriculture Inspection Accomplishments – FY2006

- Recorded more than 56,203 pest interceptions
CBP Agriculture Inspection Accomplishments – FY2006

- Intercepted more than 2.8 million prohibited agricultural products
...and we work with many partners.

- **Foreign/private sector—**
  - CSI: Operational in 41 ports in 24 countries
  - C-TPAT: 9,000 industry members
  - FAST//NEXUS/AIR NEXUS
  - International trade agreements
  - World Customs Organization
  - Export Control and Border Security (EXBS)

- **Public sector—**
  - Immigration and Customs Enforcement
  - Department of State
  - Coast Guard
  - Federal Bureau of Investigation
  - Central Intelligence Agency
  - Department of the Treasury
  - Department of Health and Human Services
  - Department of Commerce
  - Department of Agriculture
  - Department of the Interior
  - State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies.
CBP Organizational Chart

- Office of the Commissioner
- Office of the Chief Counsel
- Office of Human Resources Management
- Office of Border Patrol
- Office of Regulations and Rulings
- Office of Internal Affairs
- Office of Congressional Affairs
- Office of Field Operations
- Office of Public Affairs
- Office of Strategic Trade
- Office of Finance
- Office of Information and Technology
- Office of Training and Development
- Office of International Affairs
- Office of CBP Air and Marine
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Office of Field Operations

Programs within OFO:

- Field & Resource Management
- Trade Enforcement & Facilitation
- Cargo & Conveyance Security
- Traveler Security & Facilitation
- National Targeting & Security
- Admissibility Requirements & Mitigation Control
- Agriculture Programs & Liaison
Agriculture Programs and Liaison

APL’s functional responsibility is to prevent the intentional and unintentional introduction of foreign animal and plant pests and diseases into the United States, maintaining the marketability of agricultural products, and facilitating the safe movement of people and commodities through United States ports of entry.
Agriculture Programs and Liaison

AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS AND LIAISON

AGRICULTURE POLICY

AGRICULTURE SAFEGUARDING

AGRO/BIO-TERRORISM COUNTERMEASURES
**APL Ag / Bio-Terrorism Countermeasures Program**

- **Mission:** Prevent the entry of ag / bio terrorists and their weapons at and between ports of entry (deter, preempt, and interdict)

- **Objectives:**
  - Determine the best sources of intelligence
  - Establish baseline performance in targeting and interdiction for likely pathways
  - Develop advanced targeting system support
  - Design special training and operations
  - Create effective partnerships and communication
  - Obtain and provide streams of actionable intel

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Create Effective Partnerships / Gather Actionable Intel

- Gather actionable information on exotic plant pests and pathogens, as well as toxins, that may pose a serious threat to agriculture and the food industry if intentionally introduced into the U.S. (e.g., emerging plant diseases).

- Cooperate with Federal and State agencies, as well as industry, in obtaining critical data and information for pathway analyses and risk assessments for high consequence pests and pathogens.

- Assist in determining best means for biodetection and identification of high consequence pathogens and toxins in cooperation with Federal and State agencies (e.g., ARS and CSREES) and industry.
How Best to Cooperate?
Contact Information

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