Biosecurity and implications for agricultural research facilities and centers at Purdue University. (A07lechtenberg093153-Oral)

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Abstract:

Agricultural research and production in the United States is vulnerable to biosecurity breaches such as the introduction of a plant or animal disease. Such an occurrence could result in tremendous economic losses. It is important that an investment be made to reduce the potential impact of biosecurity threats on agriculture. Areas that need to be examined include: the development of rapid detection systems, determination of the genetic composition of pathogens known to have been the target of biological warfare research, development of plant and animal resistance to these pathogens, and implementation of communication and educational programs about biosecurity across the food and agricultural system in the United States. Protection of research facilities and centers in addition to empowerment of Extension systems for engagement activities related to biosecurity are issues which should be or already have been evaluated within academia, and will be crucial to sustaining research activities and guiding rational public response now and in the future.

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