

Homeland Security Guidelines for the Agriculture Sector

The following are recommended actions to take, where applicable for your business, for the various Homeland Security threat levels. Other information may be found on the www.dhs.gov website. In addition, pertinent actions may be recommended and announced by federal, state and local authorities, whenever the threat level is raised.

Threat Level	Recommended Actions
SEVERE (Red)	<p><i>Complete recommended actions at lower levels.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to radio/TV for current information/instructions. • Be alert for suspicious activity and report it to proper authorities immediately. • Determine need to close/curtail business based on circumstances and in accordance with your emergency plan. • Be prepared to work with a smaller work force. • Be prepared to shelter in place or evacuate if instructed to do so by authorities.
HIGH (Orange)	<p><i>Complete recommended actions at lower levels</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine need to restrict access to business. Increase security measures and surveillance of operations. • Contact vendors/suppliers to discuss their emergency response plan and procedures if travel restrictions need to be implemented. If necessary, order extra supplies. • Institute a vehicle inspection program, checking the undercarriages, hoods and trunks of vehicles to your business. • Check identification of visitors, vendors and delivery people. • Review and update your emergency contact roster, especially after-hours contact information.
ELEVATED (Yellow)	<p><i>Complete recommended actions at lower levels</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be alert for suspicious activity and report it to authorities. • Contact local emergency management to discuss your operations' need and impact if travel restrictions are implemented. • Have essential employees develop alternate routes to/from work and test them. • Initiate enhanced mail, packages and delivery screening procedures.
GUARDED (Blue)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the Best Management Practices applicable for your operations. • Review and update emergency response plans. • Maintain contact with local emergency management and government agencies about disaster preparedness. • Review disaster supplies and replace outdated items.