

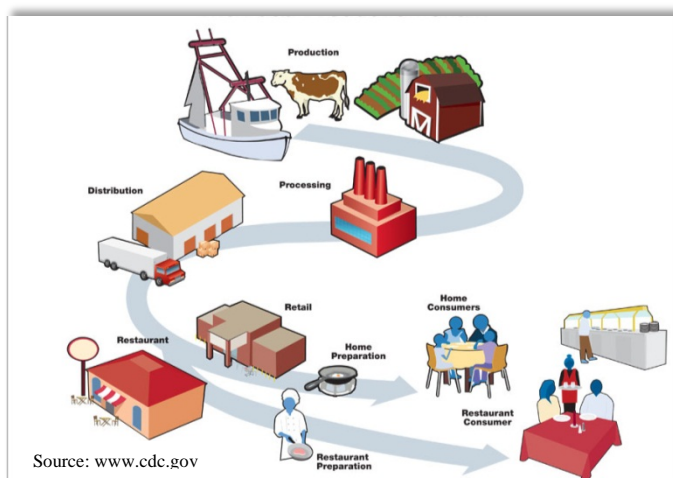
## How YOU Can Identify and Report Suspicious Activity in the Food and Agriculture Sector

You have a unique and important role in securing our nation. Our food and agriculture assets are vital components of American society—hostile actions taken against this sector have the potential to cause grave harm to citizens and our economy. YOU can help protect your fellow citizens by safeguarding the “farm-to-table” process and ensure sensitive agricultural supplies don’t fall into the wrong hands. The Joint Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC) has no information that individuals are planning attacks against the food or agricultural sectors in our area of responsibility. Knowledgeable, vigilant employees who understand their operating environment are in the best position to identify when something is *just not right*. The JRIC is reaching out to personnel working in food and agriculture to raise awareness of what constitutes suspicious behavior, and when, where, and how to report such activities.

### What Should You Look For?

The following behaviors—factoring in circumstances and environment, occurring alone or in combination—may be considered suspicious. *It is important to remember that just because someone’s speech, actions, beliefs, appearance, or way of life is different, it does not mean that he or she is suspicious.*

- Seeking information related to US agriculture vulnerabilities
- Asking questions about or displaying an interest in farm or agricultural facility security or distribution
- Asking questions about or displaying an interest in operational information related to crop fields, feed yards, processing plants, animal auctions, or animal fairs and trade shows
- Attempting to acquire official vehicles, uniforms, badges, access cards, or credentials for food and/or agricultural facilities; posing as an employee
- Possessing a collection of equipment or materials at a residence such as laboratory equipment, protective clothing, incubators, literature on animal diseases, biology, or poisons
- Inquiring about or attempting to purchase agricultural disease cultures, or large amounts of highly toxic chemicals
- Issuing threats against a company or organization (for example, restaurants, food retailers, agricultural or manufacturing facilities); individuals may include current or former employees
- Traveling in areas where agricultural or livestock disease outbreaks are occurring or have occurred



The “farm-to-table” process involves the production, processing and manufacturing, distribution and delivery, preparation and consumption of food. YOU can help safeguard the steps in this process.

- Purchasing large amounts of fertilizer while
  - Acting nervous or impatient
  - Refusing to provide a delivery address
  - Expressing interest in ammonium nitrate to the exclusion of other fertilizers
  - Seeking chemicals with weight in excess of fertilizer distributor capacity
  - Using a credit card in someone else’s name, or using cash to make a large transaction
  - Possessing little knowledge about agriculture
  - Failing to state legitimate use for product

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- Purchasing large quantities of pesticides, combustibles, or fertilizers containing ammonium nitrate with cash or out of season
- Making suspicious inquiries regarding equipment (for example, spray range)
- Unwillingness to state reason for purchasing or renting commercial sprayers or crop dusting aircraft when asked; locating stolen or abandoned spray devices
- Storing agricultural supplies in unusual containers
- Transporting fertilizers with rental vehicle or vehicle with out-of-state license; transporting large portions of fertilizers containing ammonium nitrate or other combustible materials

### How Can YOU Help?

- Report the loss of uniforms, badges, access cards, credentials; deactivate missing or stolen cards
- Report the loss or theft of agricultural disease cultures, agricultural animals, or equipment, such as sprayers
- Report stolen fertilizers, especially large quantities of ammonium nitrate
- Engage customers in conversation; ask questions; observe responses
- Detail suspicious encounters; make note of the following details:
  - Physical characteristics
  - Number of persons involved
  - Time activity occurred
  - Number, types, descriptions of vehicles involved

#### Citizens in Action

In early 2011, Khalid Ali Aldawsari, a Saudi citizen residing in Lubbock, Texas, allegedly considered various targets in an attack against the United States. His target set was diverse: dams, nuclear power plants, even Iraq war vets. He was in the process of procuring chemicals that had the potential for use in an improvised explosive device when citizens brought him to the attention of the FBI. Aldawsari had attempted to circumvent delivery restrictions by receiving the chemical phenol through an intermediary—a freight company—but alert employees returned the shipment to the manufacturer and notified authorities.

*Citizens can report tips and leads to the JRIC via the website at [www.jric.org](http://www.jric.org), by e-mail at [leads@jric.org](mailto:leads@jric.org), or by telephone at (562) 345-1100 or (888) 705-JRIC (5742).*

The JRIC appreciates your feedback. To participate in our online survey, [click here](#).

### Why Your Input Matters: Domestic Incidents in Food and Agriculture

- **January 2003:** Ninety-two persons became ill after purchasing ground beef that was intentionally contaminated with nicotine at a Michigan supermarket
- **April 1995:** Timothy McVeigh bombed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in downtown Oklahoma City, Oklahoma using a bomb composed of ammonium nitrate fertilizer, diesel fuel, and other chemicals
- **February 1993:** Terrorists attacked the World Trade Center in New York City using ammonium nitrate fertilizer
- **Sept-Oct 1982:** Members of a religious cult poisoned several salad bars in Oregon with *Salmonella* bacteria; 750 people became ill



**Timothy McVeigh constructed a bomb with agricultural fertilizer and other chemicals. The blast killed 168, and injured several hundred more.**

Several indicators listed are derived from the *Criminal Investigation Handbook for Agroterrorism* authored by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Food and Drug Administration, and the US Department of Agriculture

*Preventing terrorism is a community effort. By learning what to look for, **YOU** can make a positive contribution in the fight against terrorism.*