

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910220135403321
Autore	Chalk Peter
Titolo	Hitting America's soft underbelly [[electronic resource]] : the potential threat of deliberate biological attacks against the U.S. agricultural and food industry // Peter Chalk
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Santa Monica, CA, : Rand Corporation, 2004
ISBN	1-283-59732-2 9786613909770 0-8330-3594-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (67 p.)
Disciplina	363.32
Soggetti	Agriculture - Defense measures - United States Civil defense - United States Food industry and trade - Defense measures - United States Bioterrorism - United States - Prevention
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"Prepared for the Office of the Secretary of Defense." "MG-135-OSD"--P. [4] of cover.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Preface; Contents; Tables; Summary; Acknowledgments; Acronyms; CHAPTER ONE Introduction; Research Methods; The Importance of the Agricultural Sector to the U.S. Economy; Organization of This Report; CHAPTER TWO Vulnerability of U.S. Agriculture to Bio-Attacks; Concentrated and Intensive Contemporary Farming Practices; Increased Susceptibility of Livestock to Disease; Insufficient Farm/Food-Related Security and Surveillance; Inefficient Passive Disease-Reporting System; A Focus on Aggregate Rather Than Individual Livestock Statistics Capability Requirements for Carrying Out an Agroterrorist Attack CHAPTER THREE Potential Impact of a Major Act of Agroterrorism; Economic Disruption; Loss of Political Support and Confidence in the Government; Social Instability; Agroterrorism to Generate Financial Capital and as a Form of Blackmail; Biological Assaults Against Agriculture and Terrorists' Modus Operandi; CHAPTER FOUR Policy Recommendations; Bibliography

Over the past decade, the United States has endeavored to increase its ability to detect, prevent, and respond to terrorist threats and incidents. The agriculture sector and the food industry in general, however, have received comparatively little attention with respect to protection against terrorist incidents. This study aims to expand the current debate on domestic homeland security by assessing the vulnerabilities of the agricultural sector and the food chain to a deliberate act of biological terrorism and exploring the likely outcomes of a successful attack.
