

# Update on Security Plans to Prevent Bioterrorism Attacks During Agricultural Bacilli Programs

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## **Abstract**

In the aftermath of September 11, security in aerial application suppression programs utilizing *Bacillus thuringiensis* has become a critical concern for State pest control managers and aerial applicators.

An update of security plans of those States involved in the 2002 Gypsy Moth State-USDA-FS Suppression Programs was reviewed. The following issues were discussed:

1. Insecticide: Including chain-of-custody documentation from manufacture to aerial applicator, factory evident seals, testing of insecticides for contaminants, insecticide-sampling protocols.
2. Equipment: Security of aircraft and spray equipment, flushing of equipment, 24-7 security at airport or LZ's.
3. Operations: Restricted access to loading and storage areas, FAA approval for flights in restricted areas, background checks on pilots and ground crew, identification documents for access to operations areas, aircraft coded transponders.
4. Public Awareness and Project Communications: Conduct public meetings, meet with local authorities and emergency management officials, media notification prior to treatment.