Extension Public Policy Education on Agrosecurity

Leon E. Danielson
North Carolina State University
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Lack of Information

- Homeland Security a new national issue
- Federal, State & Local Programs
- ESCOP & ECOP initiatives
- CSREES interviewing for NPL
- Extension Disaster Education Network
- New issue for public policy educators
Federal Programs

• Federal Extension
  • Little information filtered down
  • NPL interviews in August
  • More information flow?

• Extension Disaster Education Network
  • Based at University of Missouri
  • Most states have representatives
  • Policy specialists not involved
USDA

• Partnering for Homeland Security underway
• $43.5 million
  • Animal Disease Surveillance ($4.5m)
  • Animal Disease Response ($14m)
  • Plant Pest & Disease Detection ($4.3m)
  • Rapid Detection & Diagnostics Network ($20.6m)
• No reference to policy or policy education
• Are there state policy education programs?
Public Issues Education

• We offer a framework for education
  – Understand the issues & options
  – Citizen stakeholders involved
  – Implementation

• Science underlying the issue

• Natural Risk vs. Induced Risk

• Training in facilitation and collaborative problem-solving
Public Issues Education

• Diversity
  • across nation
  • across disciplines

• Politics and secrecy
Homeland Security

• Focus--“Citizen Corps” & emergency preparedness

• Limited attention to agr. & agrosecurity

• Nothing on agrosecurity education

• Little on risks of scenarios, potential costs and benefits of programs, impacts of programs, cost of doing nothing

• Creating Homeland Security will take time
EDEN: Homeland Security

EDEN is the Extension Disaster Education Network, an affiliation of Land Grant university professionals dealing with disaster education.

For more information on EDEN:
www.agctr.lsu.edu/eden
EDEN: Homeland Security

- Extension Educators from 30 states.
- 1,120 responses.
- Web based.
- July, 2002 time period
- Educators from:
  - Agriculture
  - Leadership and community development
  - Family and consumer science
  - Youth development
EDEN: Homeland Security

Which audiences are appropriate for Extension to address on the homeland security topic:

- Food and ag – 87%
- Local government – 80%
- General public – 74%
- Emergency Mgt. – 68%
- Volunteer groups – 63%
- Youth – 48%
EDEN: Homeland Security

Please rate the following homeland security topics as to how urgent they are to your community (scale of 1-9):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Urgent (1-3)</th>
<th>Not Urgent (7-9)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drinking water security –</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Security –</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual’s role –</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government’s role –</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal biosecurity –</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal security -</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm security –</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial security –</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant/crop biosecurity –</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EDEN: Homeland Security

Besides developing and delivering training and educational materials, how could Extension enhance homeland security?

• Collaboration/Networks
• Planning and facilitation
• Form coalitions and task forces
• Watch for unusual happenings in the county
• Create public awareness
• Develop good farm practices (for security)
EDEN: Homeland Security

Steve Cain
Purdue Extension
Disaster Communication Specialist
EDEN Homeland Security Project Director

1143 AGAD/AgComm
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907
765-494-8410
cain@purdue.edu
Closing

- Extension should conduct programs on agrosecurity
- Policy educators can make a contribution
- Need to indicate our interest in being involved
- What programs do we want to develop?