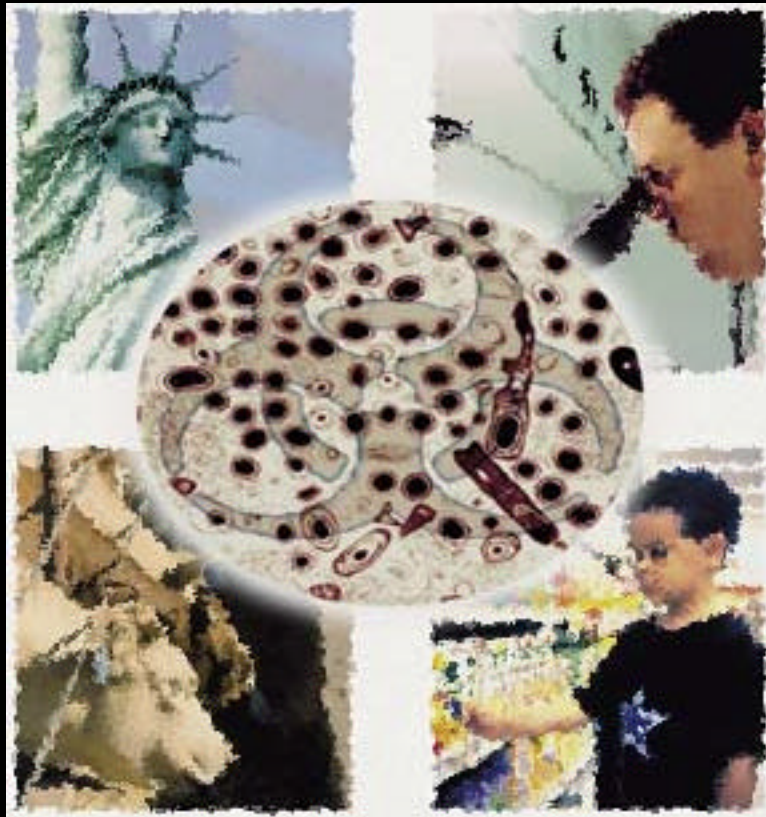


Food and Agricultural Biosecurity



Biosecurity is
Everyone's
Responsibility

Report from the
Texas Summit
Initiative



- What is the Summit Initiative?
- Summit's role in public policy education.
- The Biosecurity Summit.
- Findings and Implications.



The Summit Initiative:

The First Summit



The Agricultural Summit

October 27-28, 1993

College Station, Texas

- A total of 450 participants studied future trends.
- Identified 15 high-priority issues facing Texas agriculture
- Organized under 6 general themes.

Themes from the 1993 Summit

- Environmental and Natural Resource Conflicts
- Education and Information Needs of Consumers
- Role of Government in Agriculture
- Agriculture's Involvement in World Markets
- Competitiveness of Agriculture
- Agriculture's Political Influence and Leadership

Followed by . . .





- Agricultural Mini-Summits
- Food Safety, Health and Nutrition Summit
- The Farm Bill and Beyond Summit Conference
- Environmental and Natural Resource Policy Summit
- Rice Summit Conference



- Finance Summit: Making Dollars and Sense in Risky Times
- Texas Forestry Summit: Preparing for the 21st Century
- Life Sciences Technology Summit: From Potential to Product
- International Agricultural Trade Summit: Making Texas Competitive

The last two Summits





Beef Industry Workshop: Solutions for the Future

January 15-16, 2001
Fort Worth, Texas

Developed recommended solutions and actions in the following areas:

- Production Phases and Issues
- Product Characteristics and Marketing
- Resource Use and Environmental Concerns
- Common Ground



Texas Agricultural Policy Summit

August 13-14, 2001

Lubbock, Texas

The 600 farmers, ranchers, policy makers, farm organization representatives, and university faculty identified both Federal and State policy concerns.

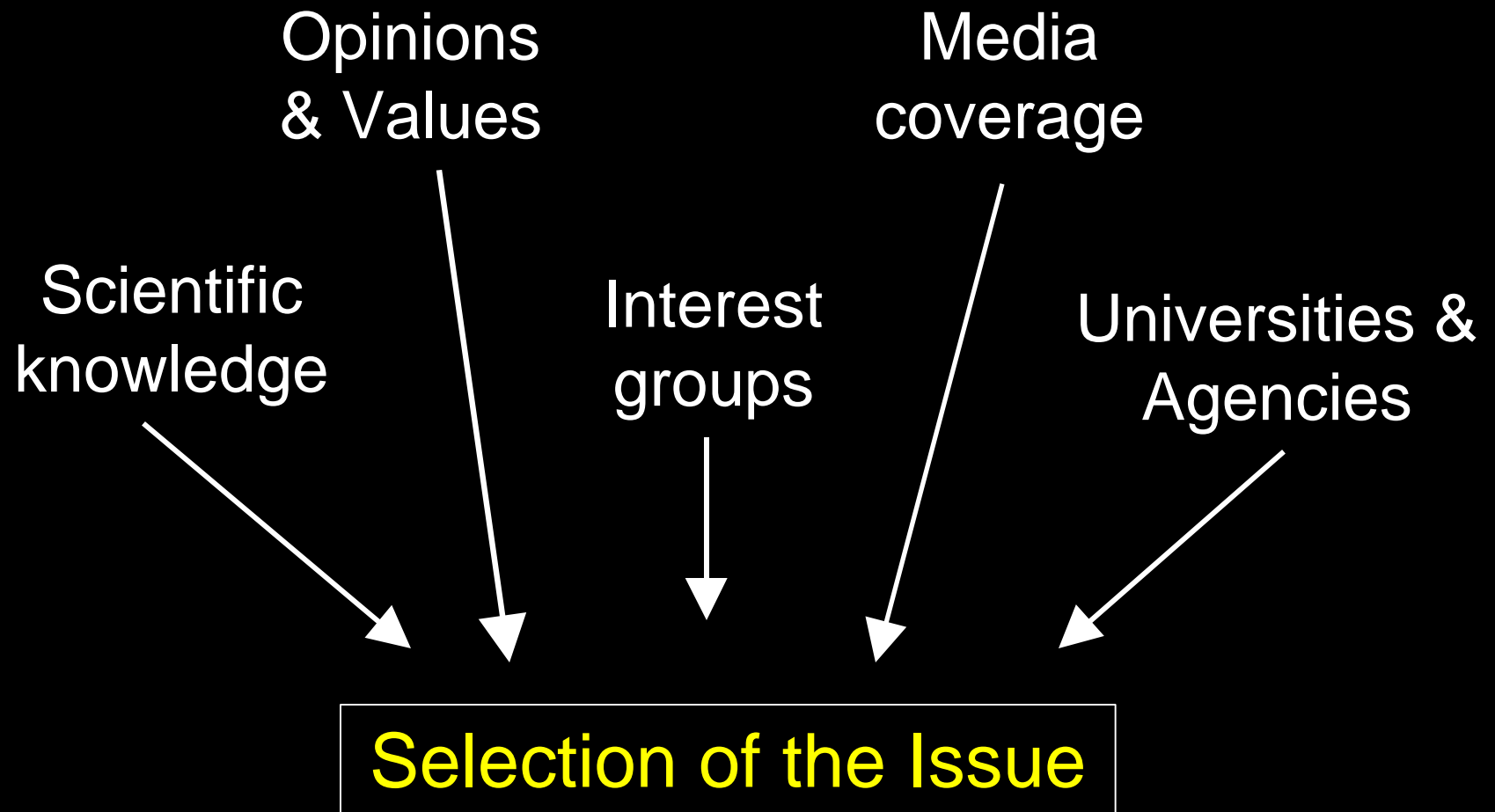
The Summit Initiative



As a result of the Summit Initiative

- Several thousand Texas citizens . . .
- representing industry, agriculture, natural resources, and consumers . . .
- have been brought together . . .
- to identify, prioritize, and initiate work . . .
- toward resolution of several critical public issues.

Addressing Critical Issues
through the
Summit Initiative Process



Selection of the Issue

```
graph TD; A[Selection of the Issue] --> B[Prepare background information]; A --> C[Identify subject matter experts]; A --> D[Solicit diverse participation]; B --> E[The Summit Event]; C --> E; D --> E; E --> F[Expert Speakers]; E --> G[Workgroup Sessions]; E --> H[Audience Response];
```

Prepare
background
information

Identify subject
matter experts

Solicit
diverse
participation

The Summit Event

Expert
Speakers

Workgroup
Sessions

Audience
Response

The Summit Event

Expert
Speakers

Workgroup
Sessions

Audience
Response

Prepare report on Summit
recommendations

Encourage groups to
continue to work toward
issue resolution

Influence future
direction of research,
education, & extension

Summits were successful because . . .

- Planned to focus on a timely high-priority issue.
- Provided background information relevant to the issue.
- Worked to involve a broad spectrum of participants from all sides of the issue.
- Conducted as participatory working sessions with facilitators.

“The model succeeds . . .
in bringing together [the]
expertise to increase public
knowledge regarding complex,
multidimensional policy issues.”

Nuckton, Carter, and Cleaves, *JOE*, W1992

The Biosecurity Summit



Biosecurity Issues: Background for the Summit

- The 9/11 and anthrax attacks.
- In early 1990s, learned about Soviet Union's biological weapons programs.
- Activities of rogue nations and Gulf War.
- Disgruntled individuals.

Biosecurity Issues: Background for the Summit

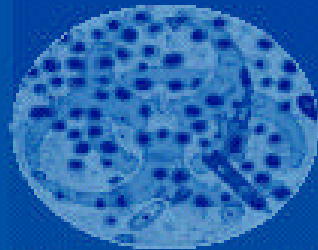
- Assessing the risks:
 1. Probability of occurrence.
 2. Magnitude of the consequence.
- Economic damages due to loss of public confidence.
- Even false alarms can have dramatic economic consequences, e.g. Kansas.

Food and Agricultural Biosecurity Summit

Planning Committee Chairs:

- Pierce Miller, VIP Livestock Company
- Garry Adams, Assoc Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine
- Neville Clarke, Director, ICAB

Background Publication



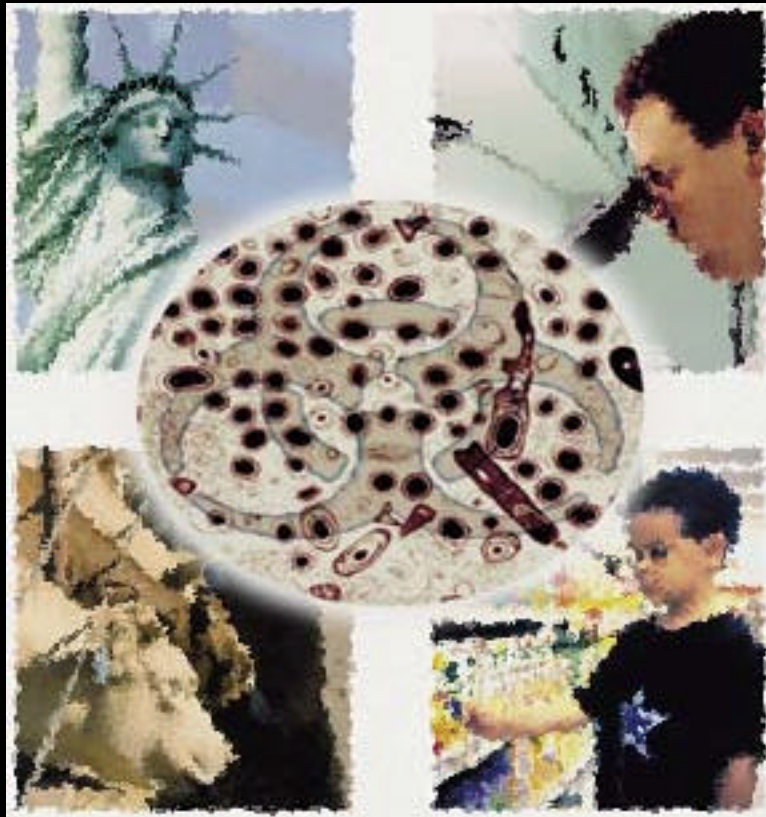
Biosecurity: Safeguarding Our Agriculture and Food Supply



Texas Agricultural and Natural Resources Summit Initiative

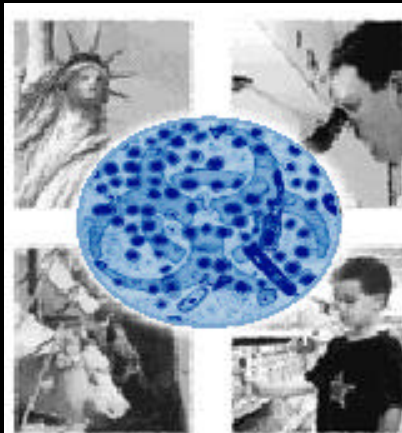


Food and Agricultural Biosecurity Summit



May 6-7, 2002
Austin, Texas

Attending: 140
leaders from
industry, academia
and government.



Food and Agricultural Biosecurity: *Everyone's Responsibility*

Speakers:

- Susan Combs, Texas Ag Commissioner
- Floyd Horn, U.S. Office of Homeland Security
- Linda Logan, Texas Animal Health Commission
- Jim Butler, USDA Deputy Under Secretary

Dr. Floyd Horn – Keynote Address



Federal and State Agency Panel



Foreign Animal Disease (FAD)

FAD Incident Exercise Orientation

June 26, 2001



**A Texas Community Partnership ...
Preparing Today for Tomorrow's Challenges**

FAD Exercise Program Objectives

- ① Enhance capability to “*manage*” FAD incidents



- ② Improve interaction and cooperation between local, state, federal, and private association responders and providers
- ③ DEM-TAHC sustainment of a continuous and viable FAD State Preparedness Program

Dr. Garry Adams, Assoc Dean
College of Vet Medicine
Lessons Learned from 2001 UK
FMD Epidemic



'01 UK Foot & Mouth Disease Epidemic

Lessons Learned - *Personal Observations*

- ✓ **Veterinarians must be prepared to be the official in charge of all *on site* operations - diagnosis, appraisal, counselor, euthanasia, depopulation, disposal, decontamination, documentation & records**



Learning from the FMD Epidemic in U.K.

- ✓ **Texas veterinarians participated**
- ✓ **Mass culling logistical nightmare**
- ✓ **Diagnostic capacity overwhelmed**
- ✓ **Lack of vaccines delayed use**
- ✓ **Lack of early detection led to rapid spread**

Vulnerability of U.S. Agriculture

- ✓ **Large size and complexity**
- ✓ **Relative ease of access**
- ✓ **Highly concentrated**
- ✓ **Limited genetic diversity**
- ✓ **Susceptibility to foreign disease**

2001 UK Foot & Mouth Disease Epidemic

Lessons Learned - *Personal Observations*

- ✓ Professional “Bedside” manner is essential

**The other
epidemic . . .**

**The
psychological
epidemic is
overwhelming**



Pascal Rossignol / Reuters file

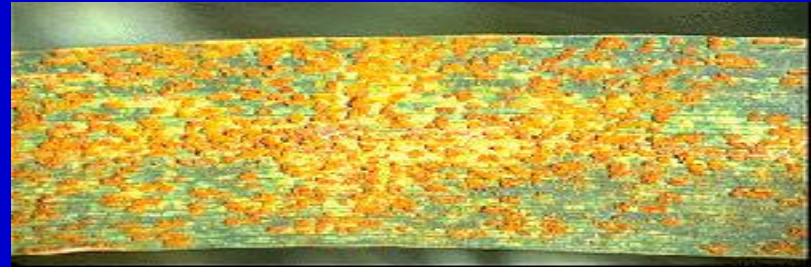
Paul Engler – Cattle Feeding



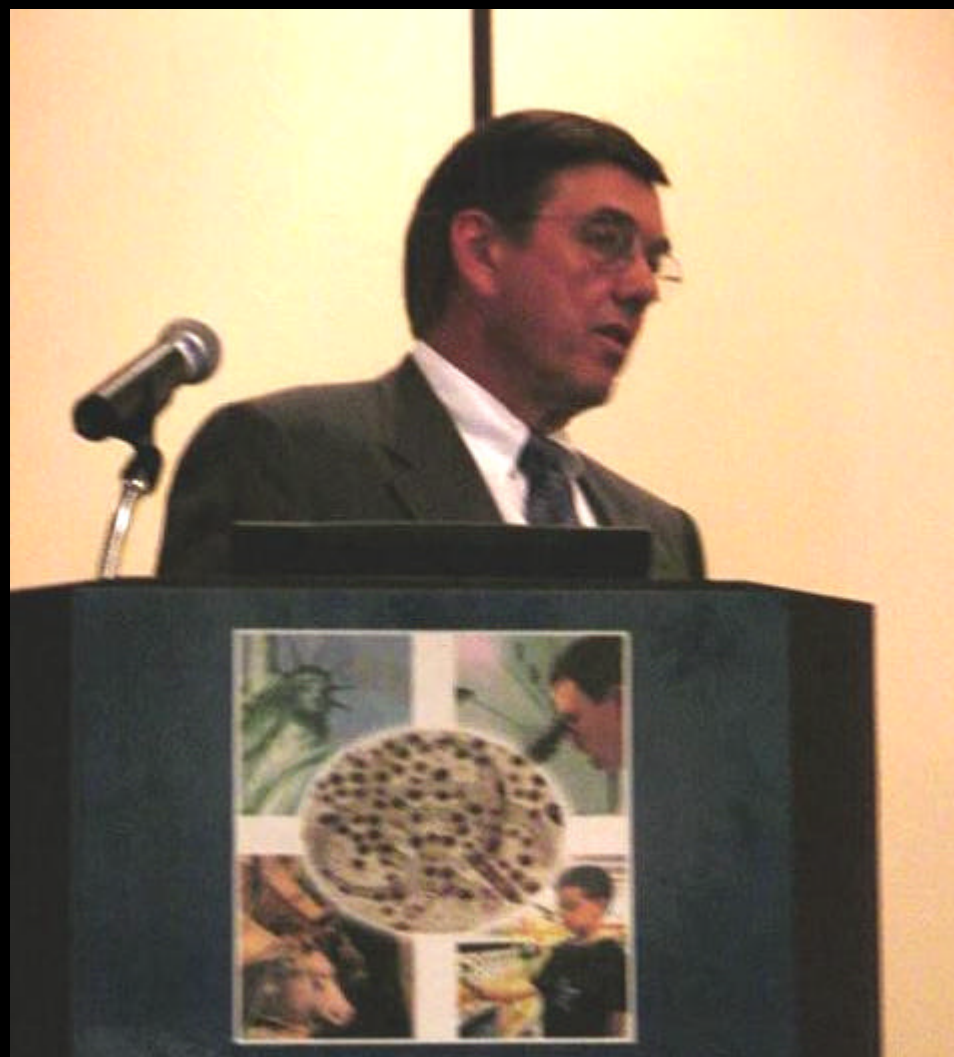
Dr. Robert Zeigler, Plant Path, KSU

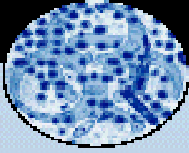
Defending Against Crop Bioterrorism

- Prevention of Losses
 - Resistance to pathogens (plant counterpart to vaccines)
- Containment of Outbreaks
 - Identification, quarantine, eradication
- Prosecution of perpetrators



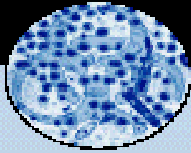
Bill Fry, VP, HEB - Food Retail





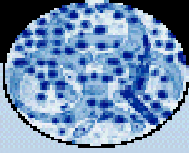
About the Work Groups

- Assigned to three groups: two animal and one plant group.
- Outline for recommendations:
 - Prevention, preparation, & policy
 - Response, mitigation, & recovery
 - Communications
 - Research & education



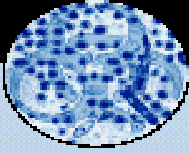
Biosecurity Recommendations

1. Assess and prioritize the threats and risks.
2. Develop prevention contingency plans and strategies.
3. Emphasize improved detection and adopt the latest surveillance methods.
4. Conduct simulated outbreak exercises.



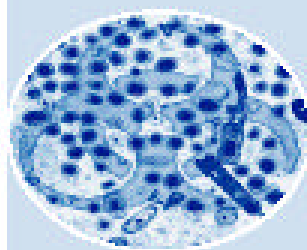
Biosecurity Recommendations

5. Fill gaps in regulatory powers needed for containment and interdiction.
6. Improve coordination and decision making for rapid response.
7. Develop new containment methods.
8. Raise public awareness of potential threats.



Biosecurity Recommendations

9. Promote public confidence through education and information.
10. Encourage cooperation among Texas institutions and agencies.
11. Incorporate biosecurity into higher-education curricula.
12. Prioritize and fund research to develop improved biosecurity tools.



Biosecurity: Safeguarding Our Agriculture and Food Supply

Summary Report and Recommendations



Texas Agricultural and Natural Resources Summit Initiative



Implications and Challenges for Public Policy Education



Challenges for Education

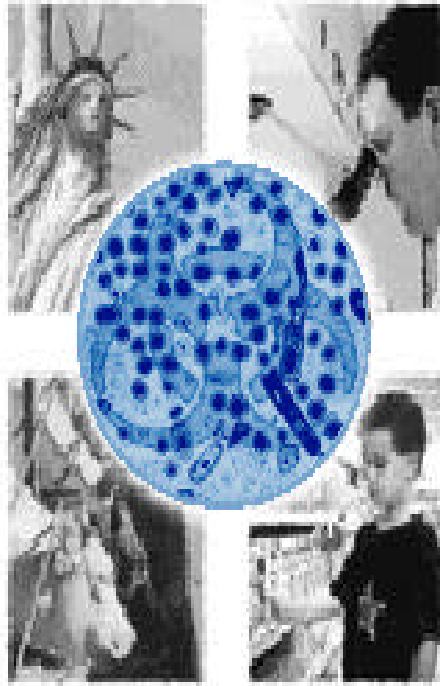
- Overcome the natural tendency to ignore risk.
- Create awareness without losing public confidence.
- Keep sensitive information away from the “bad guys.”
- Requires a multidisciplinary approach.

Challenges for Education

- Emphasize economic analysis to assess and prioritize the risks.
- Enhance coordination among federal, state, and local agencies.
- Promote simulated attack exercises to test preparedness.
- Evaluate effectiveness using appropriate indicators.

“There is no silver bullet, no single event or action that is going to suddenly make the threat of terrorism disappear. . . We will press the fight as long as it takes. We will prevail.”

President George W. Bush on “How long will the war last?”



Food and Agricultural Biosecurity: *Everyone's Responsibility*



For latest information, visit the
summit web site at:

<http://agsummit.tamu.edu>

or

e-mail: agsummit@tamu.edu