**FARM TOOLKIT**

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE READINESS MEASUREMENT TOOLKIT**

The FARM Toolkit is a measurement tool designed to enable food-sector stakeholders to improve their Mission Areas and Core Capabilities in the event of a food emergency. Based on Presidential Policy Directive 8 and NASDA's Food Emergency Response Plan, FARM Toolkit aims to strengthen food emergency preparedness.

**FARM TOOLKIT CAPABILITIES**

**BENCHMARKING:** The FARM Toolkit utilizes an interactive survey to gain information on state’s current capabilities by answering questions aligned with Presidential Policy Directive 8; National Preparedness.

**RESOURCES:** Based on their responses to the benchmarking survey, states are linked directly to resources customized to improve their food emergency preparedness. Resources include funding opportunities, available training, best practices, and references.

The FARM Toolkit enables participants to periodically compare progress from the foundational levels established when the tool is first used. The tool provides a common structure and approach for developing and assessing food-related capabilities, so stakeholders can measure their progress on preparedness over time.

Continuous changes to the food system make it vulnerable to economically motivated adulteration, natural disasters, foodborne illness outbreaks, and intentional contamination highlighting the importance of preparedness for all food contingencies.

FARM Toolkit is a fundamental step in building, maintaining, and guiding the core capabilities necessary to protect our national food and agriculture systems from threats and hazards harmful to human and economic health. This tool allows state and federal governments to:

+ Address preparedness gaps
+ Demonstrate improvement and value of food preparedness
+ Adapt to new risks and emerging threats

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