



For Planning Purposes: August 22, 2006

*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

House Committee on Homeland Security to Hold Agroterrorism Field Hearing at UGA

Georgia Congressmen Barrow, Linder, Norwood, and Scott to attend; witnesses from the Department of Homeland Security, the USDA, and the CDC will outline Federal and state efforts aimed at combating the threat of Agroterrorism in the United States

On Thursday, August 24, the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Homeland Security Subcommittee on Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack will host a field hearing at the University of Georgia. The topic: "*Agroterrorism's Perfect Storm: Where Human and Animal Disease Collide.*"

Georgia Congressmen John Barrow, John Linder, Charlie Norwood, and David Scott are all scheduled to attend, as well as representatives from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The purpose of Thursday's hearing is to increase awareness about the relationships between zoonotic diseases (diseases capable of affecting both animals and humans), bioterrorism, and agroterrorism. The hearing will examine Federal prevention and preparedness strategies in this area, analyzing various agencies' approaches and priorities in combating agroterrorism and the threats caused by bioterrorism and zoonotic diseases.

In addition, witnesses from the State of Georgia will detail front line efforts to help prevent agroterrorism and keep dangerous zoonotic diseases from emerging in the United States.

The hearing is scheduled to start at 1:00 PM, and will be held at the University of Georgia's Hugh Masters Hall, located at 1197 Lumpkin Street in Athens.

WHAT: The House Subcommittee on Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack will host a field hearing at the University of Georgia to discuss federal and state efforts to combat bioterrorism, agroterrorism, and zoonotic diseases.

WHEN: Thursday, August 24, 2006. The hearing starts at 1:00 PM.

WHERE: UGA's Hugh Masters Hall, located at 1197 Lumpkin Street, Athens.

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