



# Agricultural Economic Espionage A Growing Threat

## You can help the FBI with thwarting Economic Espionage and Theft of Trade Secrets

The FBI welcomes any information you have that could assist with disrupting possible Agricultural IP theft. Below are questions that will help the FBI understand the threat and assist with ongoing investigations. If you can provide answers, please contact your local FBI Strategic Partnership Coordinator or FBI field office.

- What information and technology related to the agricultural and biotechnology industries are foreign competitors targeting from US businesses, academic and research entities?
- What are technology gaps of foreign competitors? Are they lacking R&D, manufacturing, production, or operational capability?
- How do US agricultural companies collaborate with US academic and government research entities? What agricultural research at US companies and academic institutes is supported by federal grants? What agricultural research at US academic and government entities is considered proprietary?
- How do foreign competitors keep tabs on US research activity and science experts at US companies and academic institutes?
- Which foreign competitors do US companies find most aggressive in pursuing US agricultural information and technology? What kind of compromise and penetration activities related to theft of sensitive research and commercial business information has US companies experienced over the past years?



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### Contact Information

FBI investigations indicate economic espionage and trade secret theft against US agricultural and biotechnology companies and institutes is on the rise. Over the past two years, foreign actors have targeted and collected against US companies, universities and government research facilities for agricultural information concerning plant genome, new variety development, breeding programs and advanced manufacturing processes. The FBI continues to lead efforts to mitigate, neutralize and disrupt the theft of US agricultural intellectual property and trade secrets that could be used by foreign governments or foreign companies to gain an unfair economic advantage.

