





## OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

United States Department of Agriculture



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**AUDIT**

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**TO:** Gary S. Washington  
Chief Information Officer  
Office of Chief Information Officer

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**FROM:** Janet Sorensen  
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**SUBJECT:** Security Over USDA Mobile Applications

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) performed an inspection of USDA-developed, publicly accessible, mobile apps available solely on public app stores. We reviewed these USDA-developed apps to determine if the agencies and staff offices were identifying and mitigating vulnerabilities on these mobile apps. We verified this by selecting USDA-developed mobile apps and performing vulnerability scans using a commercial mobile app vulnerability scanner. We specifically focused our inspection on publicly accessible USDA-developed mobile apps from the Internet that could be independently tested using our vulnerability scanner. As part of our inspection, we identified and reviewed a sample of agencies' and staff offices' processes for scanning mobile apps and mitigating vulnerabilities, and we reviewed applicable NIST publications and DRs to determine whether the sampled agencies and staff offices were in compliance. **This report contains sensitive content. It is being withheld from public release due to concerns about the risk of circumvention of law.**

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