

USDA RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
DM 3540-000

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CHAPTER 8
GENERAL INFORMATION

1 PURPOSE

This Departmental Manual chapter establishes the policy and procedures for the use of a Risk Management Program in the security protection of Information Technology (IT) assets within USDA. A comprehensive Risk Management Program includes the use of a standardized Risk Management Methodology, Risk Assessments, Risk Checklists and Mitigation Strategies. Each of these areas will be covered in separate parts of this chapter.

Part 1, Risk Management Methodology
(Reserved)

Part 2, Risk Assessments and Risk Checklists. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) require a review of security controls during the development of a system, whenever significant modifications are made to the system or every three years. Likewise, 44 U.S.C. 3533 (a) (6) and 3543 (a) (5) require an annual review of Federal security programs.

Risk assessment checklists have been developed to comply with these requirements and to support OCIO's risk-based approach to cyber security. When executed, these checklists identify potential vulnerabilities that could lead to the loss of mission-critical information assets. This part establishes policy and procedures for performing Risk Assessments and using USDA's Security Checklists.

2 CANCELLATION

This Departmental Manual will be in effect until superseded.

DISTRIBUTION:

3 SCOPE

This manual identifies procedures for assessing both agency security programs and Automated Information Systems (AIS) using USDA-developed Security Checklists. In addition, it provides procedures for reporting deficiencies identified during assessment and tracking actions required to eliminate these deficiencies.

This manual chapter applies to all USDA agencies, programs, teams, organizations, appointees, employees and activities.

4 ABBREVIATIONS

AIS	- Automated Information Systems
CIO	- Chief Information Officer
CS	- Office of Cyber Security
IRM	- Information Resources Management
IT	- Information Technology
OMB	- Office of Management & Budget
OCIO	- Office of the Chief Information Officer
USDA	- United States Department of Agriculture