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Question1: Whether we are ready or not corporations are taking over our nations farms. They have the financial backing, the clout in congress, and the education needed to succeed in todays global market. We should not discourage our young people from getting into farming at the corporate level.

Question2: I cannot answer this.

Question3: No answer to this.

Question4: We need to take land next to our rivers, streams, and lakes out of production to keep contaminants from farming operations from entering our waterways. The Conservation Reserve Program has an excelent program to provide for buffer strips adjacent to waterways to protect them from runoff from farming operations. CRP also has the added benefit of supporting our wildlife and fisheries, and the tourism they support. Never before has a farm program brought more economic benefit to small farmers AND local economies than this program. If we lose CRP it would have a devastating effect on small farmers and the small communities they support.

Question5: We must find a way to keep at least a portion of our farming dollar in the communities where it is earned. I think we could possibly make co-ops a better investment for not only farmers but also local businessmen with the knowledge and capitol to make these programs profitable.

Question6: Expanded basic and applisd research.