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Question1: Not only new farmers, but all farmers need to be able to calculate their cash flow as accurately as possible. One way the new farm bill could help in this is to do away with the non-guaranteed portion of the crop base payment that is based on the market and increase the guaranteed portion of the payment.

Question2:

Question3: In order to be more effective and fair in the distribution of assistance, there needs to be some changes at the county office level. It would be very helpful to the county office staff and more fair to the producer if they could have the flexibility of whether they want to receive 50% or 100% of their payment and in what month like it was in the previous farm bill. If this is not possible, then let the final payment be issued in September instead of October. There are numerous county offices in each state that have hundreds of CRP contracts as well as crop base farms. When trying to make CRP annual rental payments and final crop base payments during the same time frame it causes many stressful moments in the county office. This could be avoided if the final crop base payments could be issued prior to October 1. If the new farm bill could be designed with how the final product will be administered at the county office level from the onset, it would ultimately be more effective in how it assists the producer. If the eligibility forms would be consolidated into as few as possible, it could also be administered more effectively and economically. Another suggestion that could make things easier for the producer as well as Farm Service Agency & Risk Management Agency, would be to allow the FSA acreage certification software to interface with that of RMA. The majority of producers now carry some type of multi-peril coverage on their crops. If they could come to one agency, (FSA), to report their planted acres that would definitely help the producer as well as help with the accuracy of the acreage report. The reporting dates for the crops could be revised so that both FSA & RMA have the same dates. Thank you for your consideration as you develop the new farm bill.

Question4: By allowing the cropland cap per county for CRP to be increased.

Question5:

Question6: