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Question1: Farm policy must take into account what the global trade issues are. If U.S. farmers and ranchers are being undercut by subsidies in the EU and other areas, we must protect our farmers. Until worldwide agreement is reached on subsidies, the U.S. has little choice but to continue. Young farmers should have substantial tax breaks, interest abatement, and other programs to assist in purchasing land. If a city can give an industry a 20 year tax abatement, the U.S. can give a starting farmer the same. In this process, provisions for protecting a rural tax base must be made as well.

One policy would be an additional energy component to further expand greatly the use of ethanol and biodiesel. This should become a regular crop market. Brazil has led the way in this respect, we need to move beyond the small steps in the latest energy bill and make it a matter of national security.

Question2: We need to make sure we're not losing competitiveness by shipping substandard product created at ports where dockage items are reportedly added to increase weight, but overall hurt the U.S. quality reputation.

We need tax policy and farm policy that don't allow unnecessary union labor costs, etc. to raise the price of U.S. goods. The bulk of the crop price should go to the farmer.

New crops may be needed to meet new demand. USDA should be a leader in conjunction with major farm organizations (Farm Bureau, Corn Growers, etc.) to assist farmers and ranchers in possibly changing crop choices

Question3:
Question4:
Question5:
Question6: