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Question1: Would support tax incentives and no interest loans for up to 10 years as a way to jump-start new farmers and ranchers. Support more funding for programs that provide social/cultural support through nonprofits and Extension.

Question2: New farmers should be provided incentives through interest free loans and tax benefits for up to the first ten years.

Question3: Against large subsidies for cotton and sugar. Support the shift to conservation payments more in line with WTO.

Question4: We support conservation payments based on a tier system. This would benefit farmers who have always been good stewards, but have NEVER been rewarded for it. Also in allign with WTO requirements.

Question5: We need a major focus on rural communities. Perhaps a more high level and visible federal position dedicated to rural communities beyond current Rural Development programs would help. From an agricultural stand point, food prouduction can be tied in with tourism and revitalizing small towns. Government programs should provide low or no interest loans and incentives for everything from producing artisan food products to bio-pharmaceuticalcrops.

More support for nonprofits who play a major role in small communities and rural America; also more support for social research on what really works in revitalizing rural America for economic developmen related to agriculture and food production. Very much support food pantry programs that provide fresh produce grown in America for low-income and schools.

Question6: Niche crops such as organic and specialty crops are expanding. Would support low interest loans and tax incentives for producers willing to put additional effort into producing these products. We support agroforestry and community-based forestry, which includes crops for the floral, gourmet and medical markets. Many of these crops can be grown in areas that also provide environmental benefits, such as buffers between crop fields and rivers. Very much support incentives that encourage eating more locally grown food, such as the Food Pantry program that provides purchasing power to low income people and schools.