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Question1: Farm policy should be based on ecological use of land. The people who pledge to farm organically should be given loans and incentives by the government. Those who raise animals for sale should be given similar incentives and loans if they produce free-range, non-antibiotically fed, non-hormonally grown animals. The health of the population rests on a food supply that is free of pesticides, genetically engineered crops, and antibiotic-treated meats.

Question2: The only way to compete on world markets is to have a healthier product and market it as such. We have seen the consequences of mad-cow disease, which comes only from grotesque misfeeding of herbivorous animals with animal protein. We can compete by saying, our food is the cleanest, healthiest, and therefore best for the people who buy it. High quality and higher price have not stopped other countries from selling their products competitively.

Question3: The policy should be to the advantage of small farmers using sustainable means of production. If agrobusiness engages in ecologically damaging processes, including raising genetically engineered foods, then a label should be placed on their products stating those facts, and let's see how the market responds to that news. In a short time, the agrobusiness land would be converted to sustainable practices.

Question4: Label the products that come from certified organic, non-bio-engineered farms, BUT ALSO label those products that come from non-sustainable practices, genetically engineered crops, and antibiotic-fed animals. Again, the market will show you that people in large numbers are turning to healthier foods.

Question5: Yes, invest in sustainable technologies, such as riparian remediation, soil remediation, natural rotations, and keeping track of the advances by means of the newest computer technology.

Question6: I've already expressed my opinion that quality on the world market will give the U.S. an edge. If people here and abroad are confident that the U.S. provides the best, cleanest, healthiest foods, they will pay for them, even if they can buy more cheaply elsewhere. It used to be that U.S.-made cars and products were far more expensive than domestic ones, but they provided such quality and dependability that they were also a mark of prestige and the intelligence of the buyer.

Alas, that is no longer the case, and it is not in terms of crops either. We need to turn that perception around by providing the best-quality farm products in the world.