

From: "Daniel@burleytobacco.com%inter2" <Daniel@burleytobacco.com>
Subject: Farm Bill 2007 Official Comments - 09/19/2005 10:46 AM CDT
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Question1:

Question2:

Question3: I would like to comment on question three; ?How should farm policy be designed to effectively and fairly distribute assistance to producers??

I am aware that given the current budget shortfall, funding is limited for farm programs. However, I would like to quickly voice a couple issues of concern to me.

Tobacco is the most important commodity to my farm operation. Because of this, I am very thankful for the work of our congressional delegation to achieve a tobacco buyout that was not paid for by taxpayers. I also appreciate the work of USDA to get the program enacted quickly.

But now tobacco is the only major crop without access to any type of safety net, while it is also the commodity with the most concentration and market power among buyers. I hope that given the great importance of tobacco to this state, USDA will consider new policy options to provide tobacco farmers support similar to that provided to other commodity growers, including the possibility of including tobacco policy in the next farm bill.

Additionally, I am concerned about the limitations that have been placed on USDA's Foreign Agriculture Service in distributing tobacco data and restrictions that prevent them from promoting the export of our commodity.

Tobacco is still a legal commodity and is of great economic importance to this state. It is important that USDA be permitted to provide equivalent services to tobacco farmers as those provided to other commodities. Thank you for your time.

Question4:

Question5:

Question6: