

From: "jartiola@ag.arizona.edu%inter2" <jartiola@ag.arizona.edu>
Subject: Farm Bill 2007 Official Comments - 09/20/2005 01:55 PM CDT
Date Sent: 09/20/2005 01:55:08 CDT
Date Received: 09/20/2005 01:56:35 CDT

Email: jartiola@ag.arizona.edu

FirstName: Janick

LastName: Artiola

Address1:

Address2:

City:

State: Arizona

zipcode:

Question1: Urban growth is pricing farmers out of valuable farm land. Its is also destroying natural systems that provide invaluable benefits in the form of renewable resources and that act as buffers (barrier) to industrial and urban land, air and water pollution.

Any new farm policy that is not tied to some new radical thinking (needed in assessing the real land values)will do little to reverse this trend.

Question2: The question is not "how should" but whether should" farm policy be designed to maximize US competitiveness.

The answer is that we should be mindful of what goes on here at at home first and try to protect not only our farmers, but also the environment that protects all of us.

Short-term competitiveness in the form of subsidies and laxed or non-existent environmental laws and regulations, do little to insure that our valuable and water will be here 100 years from now.

Question3:

Question4: Begin my valuing food commodities at their real price. Inform the public as to the real value of that loaf of bread or lettuce. Do not develop policies that favor large corporations to control food production, but instead foment and sustain growth of small farms with individuals that live and work close to the natural environment. Small farmers are the ones that will provide not only productivity, but also stewardship of the environment.

Question5: The development of non-obtrusive structures like for example wireless telefones and wireless internet and regional transportation hubs will be critical to the rural development without destroying (urbanizing) the environment in the process.

Question6: The examples listed above are all desirable outcomes of future agriculture. Marketing and research efforts should consider all the variables necessary to produce the outcomes listed above. Again, pricing commodities at their real value AND researching way to optimize their production considering ALL the variables and consequences, including environmental degradation/preservation/sustainability, should be the first step.