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Question1: Farm subsidies, where needed, should be directed to traditional family farmers, not to huge, corporate farms.

Niche farming and organic production could be encouraged with incentives.

Question2: Look after domestic production first - feeding your own hungry people, and organic and sound land practises will help future competition.

Question3: Assistance should be based on sound land and agricultural practises such as conservation, erosion and sediment controls, crop rotation and perennial crop cover percentages of the land base, and support for small or family farms, not intensive livestock or agricultural production. Emphasis should be on sustainability for land and families, not production numbers that create harm.

Question4: Renewable Energy Investment funds should not be diverted to factory farms to subsidize digesters turning unmanageable amounts of animal manure into energy as a way to perpetuate the industrial system, but should be used to help family farmers develop clean, safe, renewable energy projects that harness the wind and the sun. Conservation should be a top criteria in policy, and clean air, water and soil is a vital component of any policy. Private forest lands should be retained, sacrifice urban sprawl instead, and tree planting in the form of windbreaks and riparian areas should take place, since the trees and plants like willows regulate air and water, keep soils in place, and provide shade and shelter and habitat for species like fish and birds, which in turn help to control crop pests etc.

Question5: By encouraging businesses to locate, relocate or begin in rural areas. Invest in health care decentralization (old folk's homes are better in the country) and keep up the quality of education and provision of services so the rural children can make good choices for their future and build home businesses and agricultural or land based businesses in the rural area.

Question6: With firm policies to offer economic and regulatory support for organic and speciality crops, renewable energy investments in small and large scale experimental projects such as producing compost logs for erosion control, and research activities that lead to better environmental decision making, such as understanding the bacteria in our soils, and the relationship between chemical use and blights and diseases in crops and effects on human health. Also, for marketing, efforts should be made to get rural people to interact with urban residents in the form of exchange and interpretive days so city kids can get out of town and recognize their vegetables, know and care about the country and its crops, and celebrate that healthy, independent lifestyle.