From: "stevej@fivearea.com%inter2" <stevej@fivearea.com>
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Email: stevej@fivearea.com
FirstName: Steve
LastName: Johnson
Address1: Box 366
Address2:
City: Olton
State: Texas
zipcode: 79064
Question1: Land prices are a factor of many influences, location and proximity to large city, recreation and hunting, irrigation and nonirrigation, just to name a few. The existing 2002 farm bill may have boosted land values to some degree because of price supports. Price supports have far reaching positive effects in all of ag economy. Without them land prices would certainly fall, equipment manufacturers like john deere would be hurt, etc. because not many farmers can survive without them. We are all better off with higher land values and current farm program than without.
Question2: we as producers in United States do not compete on a level playing field. Consider labor costs, epa restrictions on chemicals resulting in higher cost, fuel taxes which greatly increase our cost, etc. We must raise the range in which commodity prices in all global markets trade at. People will argue that this will reduce demand for the particular commodity. I would argue that a 20 cent raise in cotton prices would have a huge impact for producers and very little impact on consumers. This would take great thought and cooperation from many governments. Huge obstacle but one thing is for sure it would be in the best interest of all to do so. My grandfather sold cotton for higher price than I can today. Obviously some thinking outside of this box is needed. Keep bringing all governments together. Continue to encourage china to have a floating currency not one fixed permanent to dollar. Be tougher in negotiations with china. We both need each other but they need our huge economic market and we can negotiate better deals than what we have received in the past. Create more of a multi country effort to pool surplus grain to be given away to starving people in other nations. There will always be abuse of something like this but it is better to have tried. This will get rid of surplus, help other countries, and raise prices. We have given money that winds up in dictators hands, just give them more grain etc and maybe it will reach the people.
Question3: We must continue price supports because without them Ag economy in the United States will collapse. We as producers would rather have higher prices but until we can solve this problem supports are a must. If the goal is to support the ag economy then the size of farm receiving the program benefits is irrelevant. A business that is recording profits will reinvest money back into the economy whether they are big or small. If the goal is to protect the small family farm that farms part time and works part time in the city then I believe that the goals need to be changed.
It is the Ag economy that needs to be protected not just the family farmer. I beleive that the current farm bill has payment limits that are slightly to low. I do believe that this bill does a good job of decoupling support from production. Keep this current farm bill and try to improve on it as best we can.
Question4: Current program seems to be working well.
Question5: New technologies will come from the private sector better

than from usda.
Question6: Certainly the energy policy using ethanol etc. is one example of success. any development of new uses and markets is needed. How this fits into an overall farm program I do not Know. This is such a large topic I do not know how you incorporate this. Possibly appropriate some money with overall authority to distribute funding given to a bipartisan committee and worked on a case by case basis. Some ag economist could be included as advisors since some within universities already work with these issues.