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Subject: Farm Bill 2007 Official Comments - 10/10/2005 11:32 AM CDT
Date Sent: 10/10/2005 11:32:58 CDT
Date Received: 10/10/2005 11:35:05 CDT

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Question1: The challenges facing new farmers is the same for existing ones. The ag programs are based on the idea of maintaining cheap food. That concept has held down farmers for years, and the concept is flawed in that the price paid to farmers is such a small part of food products that if the price were 2 or 3 times what they are now food prices would have to raise very little. That one fact would allow young farmers to make a living and allow older farmers to get out and make way for the young farmers.

Question2: USDA needs to research the quality of organic and no-till crops. These types of cropping systems build organic matter in the soil which puts more micro-nutrients into the grain making them more healthy. This fact needs to be used in the world trading that our crops are healthier than those from other countries.

Question3: The loopholes in the current farm bill need to be plugged so the large farmers and corporations can't get around the rules. It should be added to the rules that all people getting a share of the payments must be involved in the farms daily activities and not sitting behind a desk.

Question4: I support the idea of payments based on the amount of conservation work done. It could be by the amount of organic matter in the soil. The more organic matter the healthier the soil and the less erosion that will take place. The levels of organic matter could be determined by the use of satellites and fed right into the USDA computers. The CSP program needs to be returned to the way it was envisioned, which is to reward the best farmers. The current rules require the good farmers to do more or they will not get the payments. That is a cost-share program and we already have several of those that can be used to improve farms.

Question5:

Question6: