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Question1: I don't believe the 2002 Farm Bill has served farmers well at all. It is so complicated! I don't think any average farmer can interpret what the counter cyclical payments should be. There is no way to reconcile payments. When the new farm bill is written, have an average farmer read a draft before it is submitted to Congress.

Question2: U. S. farm policy should have AMERICAN farmers in mind. We should either have an open market and sell to whoever is willing to buy our products or a support system that will allow farmers to make a profit. I think too much emphasis is given to what other countries think about U.S. farm policy.

Question3: If the longstanding goal of farm policy has been to stabilize farm prices and incomes, the goal should be changed - because it DEFINITELY has not been achieved in our area. Farm size should not be a consideration of program benefits. If a farmer risks more, he should be entitled to more benefits. The cost of production and the price of machinery does not allow for much profit margin under normal conditions. When disaster strikes, as it did this year, the large farms really took a beating.

Question4: So much is said about conservation and environment. What the general public seems to forget is that the farmer lives on the farm. It is more important to a farmer that his farm's natural resources are conserved than it is to anyone else. Clean water and air is also important to farmers. I think too much blame is cast on the farmers for lack of interest in conservation and environmental issues.

Question5: If drastic measures are not taken to help farmers recover from the effects of 2005 production, this will not be an issue. Rural America will cease to exist. Everyone will be looking for a "town job".

Question6: Bio fuel should be a major issue addressed. The explosion of fuel prices has created a hardship on all Americans. If bio fuel could be used for 25% of our energy needs it would make a big difference to both the farmers and the consumers