

From: "om@dfwnetmall.com%inter2" <om@dfwnetmall.com>
Subject: Farm Bill 2007 Official Comments - 10/26/2005 06:03 AM CDT
Date Sent: 10/26/2005 06:03:50 CDT
Date Received: 10/26/2005 06:05:26 CDT

Email: om@dfwnetmall.com

FirstName: Nancy

LastName: O'Malley

Address1: 2000 E Lamar

Address2:

City: Arlington

State: Texas

zipcode: 76006

Question1: Subsidize new farmers going into organic agriculture which has less environmental costs to US in the long run.

Question2: We are losing foreign markets daily. Two reasons: USDA's lack of handling Mad Cow and USDA's allowing and even promoting the growth of genetically modified foods. We can't even give it away. USDA needs to quit fawning to corporations and make US food exportable again.

Question3: Large farms do not need assistance. Offer assistance only to small farmers and then only so they can switch to a more sustainable farming style. For example: only offer assistance to farmers switching to organic through the transition phase.

There is no reason for further assistance to conventional farmers. You assist farmers in causing more environmental problems when you assist conventional farmers. Time for USDA to wake up.

Question4: Expanding the organic programs and putting new ones in place automatically expand stewardship. Conservation programs such as the Conservation Security Program (CSP) and Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) need to recognize that organic farming practices provide high level environmental stewardship.

Question5: Farm programs to get small rural communities into organic, one place they can still compete, would be beneficial.

Question6: Better support for organic farming. While USDA apparently was looking another way, the organic industry has grown to the point that processors of organic food have to purchase organic foodstuffs outside the USA. Now we are losing even more of our farming heritage to other countries. More aid to smaller farms for organic, and education, research, extension all aimed at enhancing and increasing organic production. Requiring genetically modified foods to be labeled would allow people some degree of safety in eating conventional foods. I personally never eat non-organic soy or corn because it could be genetically modified.