

**From:** "rs@nike3.com%inter2" <rs@nike3.com>  
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Email: rs@nike3.com  
FirstName: russell  
LastName: spreeman  
Address1: 2204 I street  
Address2:  
City: la porte  
State: Indiana  
zipcode: 46350

Question1: Government intervention into farming should be minimal. For every intended consequence there are several unintended ones.

Question2: If our farms are run efficiently and productively, we will be able to compete better because our costs will not be as high. If we can ethically subsidize farm exports to help be more competitive, then we should do that as well. Finally, instead of sending dollars to foreign countries, send American products including food and equipment. This will assure our foreign aid goes to help and feed people, not to be grafted away by people over whom we have no control. This would get our farm exports out to the world and also provide foreign aid.

Question3: Assistance should be sufficient to assure that we have enough production capacity for each type of crop or product - but it should not be used as welfare to keep uneconomical producers in business - not even family farms. It appears to me that the people pushing hardest for farm subsidies are turning them into welfare programs. I sympathize with family farmers but if their profession can't be done in a way that is self supporting, then they must consider alternatives.

Question4: Provide incentives, not subsidies. Encourage improvements that will make farms more environmentally friendly and will provide better conditions for the animals. We should not be dishing out cash to effect these changes.

Question5: There is a law of diminishing returns in all things. Spending X amount to achieve 90% of the goal is much better than spending 10 times as much to achieve 95%. Good intentions must be balanced with some actual common sense.

Question6: Areas which have a specific goal and a quantifiable benefit are worth considering, but spending huge sums subsidizing things that are not economically feasible or which have no actual need, is just a waste of money. We need to let farming stand on its own without propping up unworthy or failing enterprises or 'pie in the sky' ideas.