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Question1: Farm Policy has a miniscule affect on land prices.

The main things that are affecting land prices are:

> Urban Sprawl, competition for land for other uses

>Farming has become a "mature industry" in economic terms, economies of scale make large operations more able to afford land.

Furthermore, MOST industries have similar "barriers to entry" as evidenced by the statistic that more than 50% of new business start ups fail in the first two years. Should farming be any different? Well, maybe, agriculture remains as part of "backbone of our entire economy."  
Question2: Price supports, not production support. Farmers must have price support to compete on world markets where other governments subsidize farmers.

Production risk should be managed by the myriad of alternatives including insurance. Production support allows some producers to be inefficient.

Furthermore, world delivery systems need help. Food production capacity is ample to feed the world and yet there are lots of hungry people in the world. Why? Part of the answer is political barriers and part is delivery systems. How can we deliver food to hungry people economically?

Question3: Price support only.

1. U.S. allocates a specific amount for "farm support" each year and set target prices for all commodities except "free market" commodities such as cattle. ["Farm Support" is a BAD misnomer. Should be called "Food Production Support."]

2. Producers report actual production by the end of each year validated by FSA offices.

3. Actual harvest time market price for each commodity is determined by USDA.

4. Exact total amount of U.S. allocation of money for food support is distributed among food producers based on each producers ACTUAL production times the percentage that the actual harvest time market price is under the target price.

Inclusive, yes. Predictable, very.

Beyond challenge, no way.

Question4: Over and over again environmental policy at the federal level

is reduced to pacifying numerous special interest groups and creating abhorrent inefficiencies in food production.

Local entities, possibly with federal support, should establish policy, monitor and enforce stewardship.

Question5: The state support for value added technologies and start-ups here in Texas seems to be great.

The quality of life in rural America should be promoted. Kids (and congressmen) should be taught what it actually takes to have good and safe food on their tables. They should be taught and reminded about the basic values intrinsic to rural America such as accomplishments via hard work, overcoming adversity, lasting relationships, helping others as opposed to self-indulgence, etc.

Question6: Safe food is critical but then allow markets to determine premiums for quality.

Value added support is great.

Farm bill should include significant allocation of resources for marketing our often superior products to other countries.