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Question1: I'm not sure that this is a significant problem. In our area of Texas, the major impact on ag land prices is exurban residential development, not farm subsidies. If US policy were to try to effectively reduce ag land prices, it would reduce subsidies for suburban sprawl through federal highway cost-shares.

Question2: Competition on the basis of price will continually undercut the stability of the farming economy, communities and families. Farm economic growth is better tied to qualitative factors, such as having a local supply, freshness, organic processes, etc. Chasing the global market with the lowest priced goods is a race to the bottom.

Question3: Farm subsidies need to get away from underwriting surpluses in grain commodities in the global market, and towards improving more holistic goals of management of local soils and watersheds, and insuring food security by having local, fresh supplies of diverse produce.

Question4: Incentives need to be fully funded for farmers, and ranchers (who, especially in the west, control a majority of watersheds), to pursue long-term stewardship. In exchange, there need to be concessions by landowners not to sell and fragment their properties.

Question5: As we face increasing shortages and instability in our fossil fuel sources, I would think that rural economic growth, and national security, would greatly benefit from investments in biofuels, particularly biodiesel (ethanol appears to require too much energy to make, in terms of the amount of energy produced).

Question6: Incentives should be more determined by growers than processors and marketers and other intermediaries.