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Question1: Not enough info for me to comment. Perhaps tax cuts for someone who can show that he has some sort of plan to start as a new farmer that can be credited towards the purchase price.

Question2: I don't know enough about the subject but perhaps instead of paying farmers not to grow we could get them to grow things that can be exported or used for fuel conversion. I find it upsetting (especially as a tax payer) when I hear of farmers being paid not to produce to avoid a glut.

Question3: I have seen in my own area farmers, who know how to use the subsidy system, continue to grow and prosper while the ignorant small guy struggling starts to or goes under. It does not seem fair. I also find it interesting how much expensive new or newer machinery & all sorts of 4 wheel toys all these people seem to accumulate and yet claim so much poverty. I can't afford all of these items and so don't buy them.

Question4: I am a firm believer of downsizing cattle and pork operations. Yale had a great weekend conference years ago about how this was affecting our world and water supply. I feel that there is not enough public education on what this really is doing to our world, today and in the future. Big business, etc. seems to be too controlling of this type of public education. Private forest lands should be under more monitoring for the protection of our environment and the poor cutting practices that abound in rural areas.

Question5: I strongly feel that small businesses should be allowed to produce products right on the farm from products they grow or harvest. A very good example is Vermont made cheese made on small farms from their own milk or neighbors milk. Why should big business be the only ones to get the advantages and tax breaks. Small businesses are the heart and soul of what Vermont represents to the outside world and this should continue to be promoted via the state level. This encourages more self sufficiency and conservation of larger land spaces for these purposes. It will also encourage more growth in these areas and more ideas for self sustaining of family units working towards something that our communities and state can be proud of. This is great for tourism dollars also and for mail order. We should be allowed to import and export wine and beer also.

Question6: I don't know enough about this but feel that we should definitely expand for specialty crops and products that can be produced on the farm or agricultural site rather than have to be shipped off site to be made in a large commercial operation. We should be supporting new ideas and products and the small operation or idea that helps promote the agricultural image of the small person on his own land in Vermont producing his thing. This is what we show to the outside world. How about if we start supporting it at home. We have so many people that don't have college degrees who could be successful if they had a bit of creative help and support in various ways, educationally & financially.