

**From:** "mbrowne@clarkston.com%inter2" <mbrowne@clarkston.com>  
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Email: mbrowne@clarkston.com

FirstName: David

LastName: Browne

Address1: 4633 Onstot Road

Address2:

City: Asotin

State: Washington

zipcode: 99402

Question1: Land price is only one factor limiting new generations from entering agriculture. Fuel, fertilizer, equipment costs all are up.

Commodity prices are lower than when I started farming full time over 28 years ago. How does one encourage the next generation to farm when benefits are only diminishing? It is too late, if one doesn't have an foothold in the industry already or the financial means to buy their way in there is no way to enter. This is the consequence of the loss of true family operations.

Question2: Open the markets to our products. Don't allow barriers to exist. We are able to compete on any level playing field and always have. Make the point that subsidies in this country aren't anywhere near those of the E.U. or Japan. When our customers demanded cleaner wheat we met that demand. When they want a certain type even variety we grow it often without extra compensation but just to retain the business.

Question3: Payment limitation was implemented to address this issue, however there are abuses that allow large operations to receive multimillion dollar subsidies. This is counter to the idea of the true family farm. Make true limits and this will help slow the demise of the farms that have been the backbone of the country from it's beginning.

Question4: Design programs that reward stewardship and encourage further innovation. Fund the program and follow through, don't administer from the top, allow the local agencies(county level)to implement the program. This is proven the best way to get the largest benefit for dollar invested. Conservation is a long term endeavor therefore we must treat it and fund it that way.

Question5: Today the senate voted to cut the budget for agriculture and at the same time came up with 3 billion dollars to subsidize television converter boxes for conversion to digital broadcast, does this make any sense? I realize this doesn't address the question but this type of action makes me question the sincerity of this entire process. I have very little faith that these forums will make any difference. We need a real food security act, there is nothing that will bring a country to ruin faster than relying on others to supply what we need,,i.e. OIL.

Think about that very seriously. No other investment cost the taxpayer so little and returns so much as the money invested in the ag community.

We are the force that supplies cheap, reliable and safe food that the people of this country need and expect. Imagine what the economy of this nation would be if our citizens had to spend 20%, 30% or even up to 70% of there income on food. No summer home, boat, motorhome, none of the luxuries that drive so much of our consumer spending. WE ARE A BARGAIN!

Question6: Encourage innovation.