

From: "firedancer9@yahoo.com%inter2" <firedancer9@yahoo.com>
Subject: Farm Bill 2007 Official Comments - 11/21/2005 08:00 AM CST
Date Sent: 11/21/2005 08:00:30 CST
Date Received: 11/21/2005 08:05:50 CST

Email: firedancer9@yahoo.com

FirstName: Jennifer

LastName: Foy

Address1: 77 S Portage St

Address2:

City: Westfield

State: New York

zipcode: 14787

Question1:

Question2: American and foreign consumers care about how farm animals are treated. But the US has fallen far behind many other countries in setting minimum standards for the welfare of animals on farms, in transport and at slaughter. The USDA should propose eliminating the most egregious factory farming practices, such as crates for pregnant sows and veal calves and battery cages for laying hens.

Question3: Current subsidies benefit large producers that subject animals to intensive confinement, mutilations and aversive handling techniques. The USDA should stop providing financial assistance to producers that participate in practices shown by scientific research to be inhumane.

Question4: Eliminating factory farming practices will benefit both animal welfare and the environment. USDA should propose setting minimum space allowances that provide animals with the freedom to perform natural behaviors and also protect the environment by reducing pollution and waste disposal problems.

Question5: They could provide support for the small rural farms rather than giving support to factory farms that are ruining this idea of country farms, of healthy produce, of America...Factory farming is cheaper at the cost of being inhumane to animals, creating run-off that contaminates nearby small organic farms and also watersheds. The government should be focusing on the repercussions of this type of industrialized farming. New technologies will not solve these problems if the factory farms are allowed to continue with their cruel and environmentally devastating practices.

Question6: The farm industry should focus more on marketing locally, encouraging consumers to buy locally grown foods to cut down costs, resources, and environmental problems of transport. Also much more focus on renewable energy used for the processes of farming as well as transport. Local, organic crops should far outweigh the marketing efforts rather than transported or imported product.