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Question1: I am glad to have this opportunity to log disapproval of government assistance to factory farms that routinely abuse animals.

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:

Response: 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 p

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: I guess by helping the smaller farmers more & monitoring the pollution caused by the larger farms as well as the horrible conditions animals are kept in

Question6:

Due to the vagueness in the wording of the "access to pasture" rule in the national organic standards, different interpretations abound as to how often animals need to be on pasture and if all animals must have access to pasture. Some large factory farms have been endangering the integrity of organic agriculture by creating loopholes for corporate organic farming, such as raising chickens without access to the outdoors and operating an intensive factory farm with 70,000 chickens or 5000 cows. Since organic agriculture is now a billion dollar industry, some large meat, egg and dairy industries ?purveyors of egregious animal and environmental abuses ?are seizing a financial opportunity by tapping into a 'niche-market' due to growing consumer demand for products raised in a less abusive way.