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Question1: The commodity title of the farm bill is in need of reform through effective payment limitations and closing loopholes utilized to avoid existing limitations.

In addition, abuse of multiple entity is a loophole for unearned payments under the Loan Deficiency, Cyclical and Direct Payment Programs.

The current system of commodity production payments creates a situation where payments are bid into expanding production causing increased costs to other farmers.

The next farm bill must enact strict payment limitations.
Question2: US farm policy should prioritize conservation programs and cut subsidies. They are not restricted by the WTO rules and they best serve the public good with conservation benefits.

While conserving and protecting natural resources it could simultaneously serve as an available safety net for producers.

Question3: Currently a lopsided distribution that finds 8 percent of subsidy recipients receive nearly 80 percent of payments.

Conservation programs are open to any producer, not just those who grow a select commodity.
Question4: Additional funds for technical assistance and implementation procedures as well as funding for existing Conservation Programs. The funds should be directed away from commodity payments. Farming is a business like the rest of us taxpayers have.

Conservation programs are very popular as seen by the applications that far outstrip available funding.

FSA must more rigorously uphold violations of noncompliance determinations

A program that makes conservation an integrated and ever-present element of agriculture production is an obvious means to best achieve real conservation and environmental goals.
Question5: Farm programs, as they are currently structured do not address the causes of long-term population decline experienced by many farming communities.

Rural areas would be best served by prioritizing conservation spending to enhance communities rather than continuing the preference given to production subsidies.

Question6: Population growth will take care of this issue.

The government needs to get out of basic and applied research of new products. Leave this to industry.

Greater effort to control chemicals applied to commodities that may affect our health needs to be included in the next farm bill.