

Farm Programs Must Target Family Farm

SIoux FALLS, S.D. — Farm program benefits must be targeted to the production levels of family farm operators, according to policies adopted by delegates to the National Farmers Union's 91st anniversary convention.

Delegates approved a policy statement which declared that targeting of farm program benefits would reduce government costs while furthering the sustainability of family farmers, rural communities, and natural resources.

The organization views future farm policy options as a narrowing choice between continued decoupling versus targeting. As federal budgetary constraints reduce funding available for agricultural programs, farmers and farm policy decision makers have to choose between across-the-board cuts and targeted benefits, the organization said.

While the organization continued its historic support for strengthening supply-management programs, it acknowledged that the current farm law and trade policy directions have weakened the nation's ability to effectively manage agricultural supply-demand and pricing levels, thereby intensifying the need for targeting.

Targeting must provide cost-of-production returns and a reasonable livelihood from the basic output of a family-sized farm, according to Farmers Union.

Farmers Union would achieve targeting by limiting federal price supports to the number of bushels produced by a typical family farm operation. It would also target benefits by the use of tiered marketing quotas, set-asides, and other farm program mechanisms which would direct greater support for small to medium-sized farm and ranch operators.

The organization would also establish overall limits on farm program payments, and commodity or marketing loans.

The Farmers Union charged that decoupling with its across-the-board cuts have placed the burden of agricultural budget reductions on the backs of small and mid-sized farm operators, while allowing the largest farm operations in the nation to receive their full entitlements.

"To add insult to injury, the expansion of payment limitation eligibility has been facilitated in recent years for these same large operations," the NFU resolution noted.

The organization stated that steps in decoupling began with the lowering of commodity loan levels to less than out-of-pocket production costs and with the establishment of the triple base system.

"Decoupling so far has provided further artificial competitive advantages to the largest farms while collapsing the very safety

net that was originally established for family farmers. The failure of the current farm program to protect family farmers is evidence by the loss of hundreds of thousands of family farmers during the past decade," the farm group's policy declared.

The NFU organization said it is adamantly opposed to continued decoupling and believes targeting is the most viable public policy alternative available today to respond to the crisis facing family farm agriculture.

It warned that family farmers were becoming an endangered economic species as production and land ownerships are concentrated into the hands of fewer and fewer larger than family sized and corporate farm units.

The organization also outlined support for a targeting plan which protect family-farmers from the scheduled cuts in the 1994 and

1995 crop years when deficiency payments become based on twelve month, rather than five-month marketing averages.

The targeting policy was part of a 200-page document adopted by

the convention delegates. The NFU program of policy and action covers a broad of rural, agricultural, economic, and human issues affecting farmers and their families.

Farmers Protest Proposed Cuts

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — Soybean farmers are gravely concerned about some aspects of the Clinton Administration's proposed plan to cut ag spending and impose new fees, including a proposal to increase the loan origination fee on soybeans from 10 cents to 17 cents per bushel.

A farmer representative of the American Soybean Association (ASA) testified before Congress recently in support of the broad goal of reducing the federal deficit. However, they stressed a need to treat agriculture fairly and noted a number of drawbacks to the Administration's proposed deficit reduction package.

"We want to support President Clinton's bold move to control spending and we are willing to do our part. However, rural Americans should not be asked to pay more than their fair share," said Larry Diedrich, a soybean farmer from Elkton, S.D., who serves as first vice president of ASA.

Diedrich notes agriculture has been part of every deficit reduction package, and during the last 10 years, spending on agriculture has been reduced by \$57 billion. "After these sacrifices, we are now asked to absorb three times more cuts in terms of percent of budget than any other non-defense domestic sector," he said. "Of the \$150 billion proposed in spending cuts and fees for non-defense programs during FY94-97, 5.4 percent of the cuts are in USDA-administered programs."

In testimony before the House of Representatives' Committee on Agriculture, Diedrich outlined areas of particular concern to soybean farmers. He pointed out that the loan origination fee, even at its current level, seriously reduces the effectiveness of the soybean

marketing loan.

"According to ASA calculations, the origination fee has cut soybean loan activity in half from 1990 levels by increasing effective interest rates to well above commercial levels," he said. "Even at the two percent rate, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) projects future use will continue to decline. A higher fee of 3.33 percent will result in little or no use of the loan. No one wins with this proposed increase."

Diedrich also singled out other troublesome aspects of the Administration's proposal. "One major concern to soybean farmers is the broad-based energy tax. This tax will affect virtually every aspect of farm activities, from direct costs of diesel for tractors and equipment to indirect costs for pesticides and fertilizers," he said.

Diedrich expressed disappointment with the President's proposal to reduce market development-oriented foreign food aid by \$245 million and to cut \$35 million in funding for USDA's Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS).

"Food assistance programs have been an important market for U.S. soybean farmers," he said. "FAS is an effective agency that provides instrumental support for ASA's overseas operations. Any reductions in market development activities are counterproductive when we are facing tougher market competition."

Diedrich emphasizes soybean farmers want to do their part to return the government to solid financial ground. But he said, "I do not believe this goal can be accomplished on the back of American agriculture. We must find a better solution where the burden is truly shared."

PUBLIC AUCTION

Charles S. Snyder Inc. and Ford Motor Credit

April 24, 1993

*at Charles S. Snyder, Inc.
RD 3, Tamaqua, PA.*

Watch for complete listing in 2 weeks
717-386-5945
Fax 717-386-4080

PUBLIC AUCTION

VALUABLE REAL ESTATE


ANTIQUES & PERSONAL PROPERTY

SAT., APRIL 17, 1993

Auction Time 9 A.M.

Real Estate 1 P.M.


LOCATION: 721 Matietta Ave., Mt. Joy, PA. From Main St. In Mt. Joy take Rt. 772 South approx. 1 1/2 mi. to property on left. E. Donegal Township, Lancaster County, PA.



Real Estate consists of a 2 1/2 story, 3 bedrm. home with eat-in-kitchen, dining room, living room, attached summer kitchen & wash house. 2nd floor has 3 full size bedrms., full bath & full attic & partial basement. Oil hot water baseboard heat system. Public water. House exterior has alum. siding, soffit & fascia. 1-car detached garage. Note: Terms are 10% down sale day. Balance 60 days. Ideal country home w/farmland boundary. Inspection by appointment or open house on Sat., April 3 & 10 from 1-4 P.M. For details call auctioneers at 215-445-4309 or 717-733-1006. Full Listing to appear April 10.

Terms by
MAMIE NEIDIGH
HAROLD R. NEIDIGH, P.O.A.
717-426-1567

Auction conducted by
Randal Kline, Lloyd Kreider,
Roy Good Jr.,
Auctioneers, AU2116L
215-445-4309



KLING, KREIDER, & GOOD
AUCTIONEERS

GANT

FARM AUCTION

FRANKLIN RD. — EVANS CITY, PA.

APPROX. 1 MILE NORTH OF PA. TURNPIKE EXIT 3 ON RT. 19 TO RT. 228 EAST, FOLLOW SIGNS TO AUCTION -OR- APPROX. 5 MILES WEST OF RT. 8 ON RT. 228 TO FRANKLIN RD.

SAT. APRIL 3, 1993

STARTING AT 10:00 A.M.

TRACTORS - COMBINE - FARM MACHINERY - STOCK TRAILER - 4-WHEELER - TOOLS - MORE

PARTIAL LISTING

TRACTORS: Case IH #885 4WD dsl. w/ only 533 hrs., canopy, dual hyd., torch amp, front weights, 540 & 1000 pto, (like new); IH #385 dsl., 677 hrs., (like new); Farmall H; (*Super clean tractors*).

COMBINE: Gleaner E self propelled combine w/10' grain head & scour clean, 2 row corn head.

FARM MACH: JD. F845 3X16" 3 pt. hyd. roll over plow; JD. 4X16" semi mtd. plow; IH 3X16" semi mtd. plow; 10' IH trans. disc; 12' spring tooth harrow; Lely 10' 3 pt. rotara (new tines); 3 pt. cultivators; IH 13 single disc grain drill on rubber; Ford #309 3 pt. 2 row corn planter; NH #352 grinder mixer w/sheller & ext. auger; Case IH #445 baler w/thrower; IH #3309 disc bine (like new); 3-18' Meyers bale wagons on hvy. gears; IH rollabar rake; 2 spinner hay tedder; Woods RM500 3 pt. finish mower; IH 3 pt. semi mtd. 6' sickle bar mower; NI #323 1 row corn picker; Kill Bros. model 275 gravity box on 6 ton Kory gear; NI #222 3 beater pto manure spreader; 36' Kewanee hay & grain elevator; 6' 3 pt. back blade; 3 pt. 6' box blade; 200 gal. trail type sprayer; 3 pt. fertilizer spinner; 2-4" grain augers; 6" grain auger; 3 pt. log splitter; and more!!!

STOCK TRAILER: 1986 Moritz 16'X6' bumper pull trailer (very good)

4-WHEELER: Kawasaki Mule 500, positive traction, dump bed (very handy machine for the farm, excellent cond., less than 1 yr. old)

BUGGY: 2 seated Hack, Sleigh

TOOLS & MISC: Agway rear tine roto tiller; Lincoln 225 amp welder; 300 PSI pressure washer; 2 cyl. portable air compressor; IH front end suit case weights; 4 hole Universal hog feeder; several pipe gates; Meyers jet pressure tank; squirrel cage fan; ladders; bench vise; anvil; bench grinders; weed eater; misc parts; gravity box covers; power saws; irrigation equipment; several wooden chicken crates; egg baskets; 1 row garden planter; forks & shovels; and much, much more!!!

THIS IS AN EXTREMELY CLEAN LINE OF MACHINERY, ALL SHED KEPT AND WELL MAINTAINED. IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF GOOD EQUIPMENT, DON'T MISS THIS AUCTION!!!

TRACTORS & MACHINERY SOLD APPROX. 11:00 A.M.

TERMS: Cash or check w/proper I.D.

Owner:
Mr. Leon Gant
Franklin Rd.
Evans City, Pa.

Auctioneer:
JOHN R. HUEY II C.A.I.
SLIPPERY ROCK, PA.
(412) 794-6044
AU-001588-L
Licensed & Bonded in Ohio, W.Va. and Pa.
LUNCH

Owner or auctioneer not responsible for accidents.