

Subject: Producers Want to Know Farm Policy

Story summary: A new farm bill will be debated, perhaps in the near future. Farmers and ranchers are interested in how it may differ from current farm law and how they'll be affected.

TRT: 1:52

Suggested lead: Debate is nearing on new federal farm legislation. Producers want to know what direction farm policy will take. Tom Steever has more.

Suggested supers:

Bob Stallman
President, American Farm Bureau
@ :16

Orlando, Florida
@ :28

Don Villwock
VP, Indiana Farm Bureau
@ :43

Charlie Kruse
President, Missouri Farm Bureau
@ 1:19

Tom Steever reporting
@ 1:31

Producers Want to Know Farm Policy
Tom Steever Reporting
January 10, 2001

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| <p>Tractor plowing</p> <p>Tractor w/loader</p> <p>U.S. Capital</p> <p>Pull-back Ag Dept.</p> | <p>VO/ WHILE FARMERS AND RANCHERS ENJOY THE INDEPENDENCE OF PRODUCING FOOD AND FIBER, THE FACT IS, THEIR OPERATIONS DEPEND HEAVILY ON DECISIONS MADE HERE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. IN HARD TIMES THEY ALSO DEPEND ON THE ASSISTANCE COMING FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.</p> |
| <p>Bob Stallman President, American Farm Bureau</p> | <p>SOT/ “The cost to stabilize our agricultural economy over the past three years has been high. The cost not to help producers would have been far higher.”</p> |
| <p>Orlando, Florida</p> <p>Audience</p> <p>M/s person in audience</p> <p>Farm bill session Stallman</p> <p>Farm bill session panel</p> <p>Pan of audience/panel</p> | <p>VO/ FARM BUREAU MEMBERS TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR A REPORT FROM MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ON 21ST CENTURY PRODUCTION AGRICULTURE. THE GROUP, WHICH INCLUDES SEVERAL FARM BUREAU LEADERS, IS CLOSE TO SUBMITTING THEIR REPORT ON FARM POLICY AFTER HOLDING LISTENING MEETINGS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.</p> |
| <p>Don Villwock VP, Indiana Farm Bureau</p> | <p>SOT/ “Producers, no matter if it’s California or in the Northeast or the Northwest or in the Plains or in the Midwest, that all program crops are in trouble. A lot of the specialty crops and some of the livestock producers are feeling pain too.”</p> |
| <p>W/s Bob Stallman news conference</p> <p>OTS Stallman news conference</p> | <p>VO/ BECAUSE OF THAT THE AMERICAN FARM BUREAU PRESIDENT, ALSO A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION, SAYS THERE NEEDS TO BE A BUDGET INCREASE FOR AGRICULTURE.</p> |

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| Stallman sot news conference W/s Stallman news conference | SOT/ “Unfortunately the four billion a year envisioned by Congress in 1996 for the post-Freedom to Farm era is woefully inadequate.” |
| W/s barge loading M/s barge loading | VO/ THERE IS ALSO THE FEELING THAT UNITED STATES’ FARM POLICY SHOULD PUT PRESSURE ON OUR TRADING COMPETITORS. |
| Charlie Kruse President, Missouri Farm Bureau | SOT/ “Every day we have to be as aggressive as we can and let our trading partners around the world know we are going to be there and we’re going to do whatever it takes to allow our farmers and ranchers to sell what they produce in this country.” |
| Combine and truck Barge loading Tom Steever reporting Farm family at convention | VO/ WHETHER AFFECTING DOMESTIC OR INTERNATIONAL FARM BUSINESS, THE FEELING AMONG PRODUCERS IS THAT FARM POLICY NEEDS TO PUT FARM FAMILIES AT THE FOREFRONT. |
| Stallman sot Baby in carrier Pull back to ladies | SOT/ “We need to find a way to keep as many producers as possible in agriculture and provide opportunities for the young people who want to farm.” |
| | VO/ IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA, I’M TOM STEEVER. |