

21st Century Farm Policy Challenges and Opportunities

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21st Century Farm Policy Challenges and Opportunities

What is the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP)?

- Nation's fastest growing conservation/hunting/fishing/wildlife organization
- Pursues sound research based U. S. conservation policy

21st Century Farm Policy Challenges and Opportunities

“Alternative Policies or the Status Quo”

**Can we support traditional farm policy
under the WTO?**

**What changes should be made to existing
farm bill regarding conservation and
environmental policy issues?**

Can we support traditional farm
policy under the WTO?

Quick answer:

**Regarding programs under the
Commodity Title – Not Likely**

**Brazilian Cotton Case Forced Policy
Change:**

**Both U.S. Senate and House propose to
eliminate Step 2 Cotton Program through
Budget Reconciliation**

Can we support traditional farm
policy under the WTO?

Possible additional pending cases:

Canada – U.S. Corn Subsidy

Can we support traditional farm
policy under the WTO?

**Conservation Programs
Authorized Under the 2002 Farm
Bill, so far, have not been subject
to any negative WTO action.**

2002 Farm Bill Conservation Programs

The most effective conservation projects are the ones that are conceived and carried out at the local level, by the people who live and work on the land.

Conservation programs are tools provided under the 2002 Farm Bill to assist you in practicing good stewardship on the land you farm.

2002 Farm Bill Conservation Programs

- **Conservation Reserve Program**
- **Wetlands Reserve Program**
- **Grassland Reserve Program**
- **Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program**
- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program**
- **Conservation Security Program**
- **Forest Land Enhancement Program**
- **Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program**

2002 Farm Bill Conservation Programs

Projected 2006 Budget of \$100.5 Billion

- **23.5 percent commodity programs**
- **5.0 percent conservation**

2002 Farm Bill Conservation Programs

- **Better educate the non-farm community regarding the public benefits of ALL farm bill programs!**
 - **Cheap safe food supply**
 - **Clean air and water**
 - **Recreational opportunities (hunting, fishing, outdoor activities)**

2002 Farm Bill Conservation Programs

Conservation Programs –

- **Producers need to utilize existing conservation programs:**
 - **Be as educated regarding availability and applicability of conservation programs to their farms as they are of programs offered under Commodity Title**
 - **enroll marginal and fragile lands – permanent vegetative cover**
 - **install buffer strips for watershed protection**

2002 Farm Bill Conservation Programs

Potential Results of Increased Utilization of Farm Bill Conservation Programs –

- Expensive inputs can be focused on the farm's most productive soils
- Better yields which translate into enhanced crop insurance benefits and reduced premiums
- Additional income/options in the form of higher wildlife numbers
- Benefits to society, such as cleaner water, air

2002 Farm Bill Conservation Programs – Changes?

Create WTO-compliant programs with features that provide a viable safety net for production agriculture, and yet promote sound land stewardship practices.

The closest program we have now authorized under the 2002 Farm Bill is the Conservation Security Program (CSP)

YOU TELL US WHAT WORKS FOR YOUR OPERATION

- **Unique opportunity in less populous states such as North Dakota to provide valuable input to your Members of Congress**
- **The next Farm Bill is critical - YOU make sure it works for YOU!**

