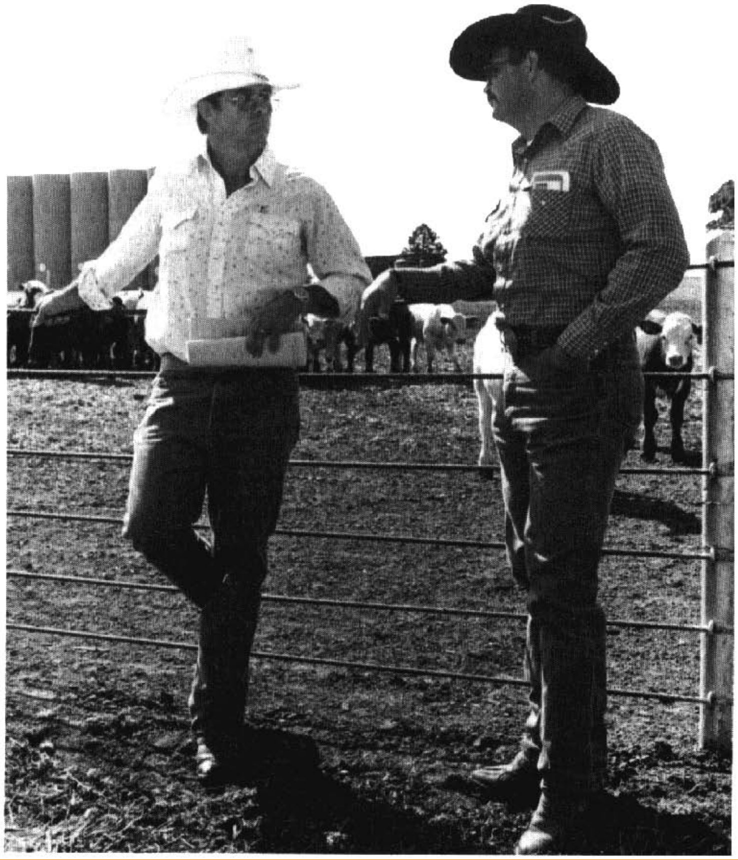
FARMERS AND CATTLEMEN:

Survey of
Kansas Farm Operators' Opinions *on* Agriculture *and* Public Policy



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FARMERS AND CATTLEMEN:

SURVEY OF KANSAS FARM OPERATORS' OPINIONS ON AGRICULTURE AND PUBLIC POLICY*

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ABSTRACT

Results from a recent survey concerning Kansas farm operators' opinions on farm and public policy issues are presented and analyzed by type of farm. The survey results indicate that Kansas grain producers favor continuation of commodity programs and the subsidization of agriculture significantly more than do Kansas cattlemen. The differential economic impacts of present and potential commodity programs, environmental programs, and international trade policies on cattlemen and grain growers are presented and discussed.

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INTRODUCTION

Since the settlement of the American West, the interests and opinions of the cattlemen and farmers who inhabit the region have often diverged. Kansas provides a unique setting for the study of differences in farm operators' opinion concerning agriculture and public policy. The distinct geographical and climatic conditions of the Great Plains provide a diversity of farm types and opinions in the different regions of Kansas (the "Wheat State").

Eastern Kansas, characterized by a longer growing season and more rainfall than the rest of the state, constitutes the western border of the "Corn Belt", where corn, soybeans, sorghum, and other crops are grown. The western half of the state includes the heart of the "Wheat Belt," distinguished by higher elevations, less precipitation, dryland wheat production, and diversified irrigated farming. Separating these two regions are the Flint Hills, which run south from the Kansas River to beyond the Oklahoma border. Because the terrain of the Flint Hills is too steep and rocky for cultivation, the area is devoted almost exclusively to grassland and the production of livestock.

Over two-thirds of all grain producers in Kansas participate in price and income support and acreage reduction programs designed to increase and stabilize farm income (1). No such programs exist for livestock producers, who are subject to unfettered market conditions. Policy analysts have had difficulty explaining the causes of government intervention in commodity markets and the lack of interference in livestock markets (2). However, conventional wisdom holds that farmers demand commodity programs, whereas ranchers are philosophically opposed to government intervention of any form.

Not surprisingly, a majority of grain growers favor the continuation of the voluntary commodity programs that yield direct benefits to themselves. Conversely, a majority of livestock producers favor elimination of such programs. This is the main result of this study; a significantly greater percentage of Kansas farmers than cattlemen prefer government intervention in agriculture. Differences in farm operators' opinion by farm type are uncovered by nonparametric statistical analyses of the results of a farm operator survey on agricultural and public policies. Producers' opinions disaggregated by farm type are of interest to both policy analysts, who seek information on the effectiveness of agricultural policies, and policy makers, who seek information on constituent satisfaction with the present regime.

Twenty-one land grant universities cooperated in the implementation of a national policy survey of farm operators' attitudes concerning farm legislation (1). Three thousand Kansas farm operators[1] were randomly selected from a total of over 50,000 by the State Statistician's Office in Topeka. In March of 1989, questionnaires were mailed to this sample of farm operators. A follow-up questionnaire was mailed 25 days later, and 1221 usable questionnaires were returned. The survey included questions concerning farm policy, as well as questions on the characteristics of the respondents.

We shall proceed by reporting and analyzing the results of this survey concerning agricultural and public policies. Statistically significant differences between farmers and ranchers in attitudes towards commodity programs, future farm policy options, environmental issues, and international trade are presented and discussed and conclusions are presented.

COMMODITY PROGRAMS

The policy survey results were amenable to statistical analysis of survey responses by farm type. Type of farm was defined in the survey by the "most important source of cash receipts in 1988." Farm types represented in Kansas (Table 1) include Grain (40%); Hogs, Beef, and Sheep (17%); and Mixed Grain and Livestock (32%). Lesser categories are dairy and "Other." Because of the limited dairy operator response (29 questionnaires) and the nebulous term "other," this study concentrates on statistical differences between the policy attitudes of three major groups: "Grain," "Livestock," and "Mixed."

In the discussion that follows, the terms "farmer" and "grain producer" both refer to those respondents who checked "grain" as the most important source of cash receipts. In Kansas, there is very little production of hogs or sheep.[2] For this reason, the terms "cattlemen" and "livestock producers" are used synonymously, referring to survey responses of "hogs, beef, and sheep" as the most important source of cash receipts. Table 2 demonstrates that the survey respondents in each farm type category are distributed evenly across farm size, as measured by gross annual sales.

Cross-tabulations of survey responses by farm type were calculated for all policy questions on the survey. Nonparametric chi-square tests of statistical significance by type of farm were performed, and all survey questions that were statistically associated with farm type at or below the 5 percent level [$p \leq 0.05$] are reported in Tables 3 through 6.[3]

Table 3 (Q3.1) presents the overriding theme of this report; a majority of grain producers (43%) prefer to keep the present production controls and price supports after 1990, whereas a majority of livestock producers (47%) prefer the elimination of such programs. Mixed grain and livestock producer opinions are located between those of the other two groups, with 39 percent favoring "no change," and 30 percent favoring elimination. Commodity programs serve to transfer resources from consumers and taxpayers to the producers of the covered commodities.[4]

Grain producers (farmers) benefit directly from this form of government intervention. Many of the covered crops are feed grains, such as corn and sorghum, that are inputs for the production of meat. It comes as no surprise that livestock producers (cattlemen) are opposed to policies such as acreage production programs that increase the price of a major input. The maintained hypothesis of this research is that divergent policy opinions between farmers and cattlemen are based not merely on differences in political philosophies, but also on the dissimilar economic impacts on these two groups.

Questions Q3.2 and Q3.3 present results that further confirm farmer support for continuation of agricultural spending relative to cattlemen. Fifty-nine percent of the livestock producers surveyed are in agreement with "reducing farm program expenditures," whereas only 38 percent of the farmers agree. A majority of grain producers (52%, Q3.3) favor continuing payments to "smaller-sized farms." This represents a significantly larger percentage than livestock producers, who favor rather "payments to those with the greatest need."[5]

Current Commodity Policies

Grain producers are predominantly (58%, Q3.4) in favor of raising target prices at the rate of inflation. Livestock producers are split between raising target prices (39%) and phasing out target prices (35%). Opinions of operators in the mixed category are between these two extremes. Target prices do not increase market prices of the covered crops, because deficiency payments are made to farmers for the difference between the target price and the loan rate, whichever is higher. Thus, prices received by commodity program participants are artificially high, but the cost of feed to livestock producers is not raised and may be lowered by target prices because of the supply response of grain producers.

Target prices, however, are accompanied by acreage reduction programs considered to be detrimental by cattlemen. Although livestock producers as a group favor phasing out target prices to a greater degree than do grain growers, the most frequent response was "raise with inflation" for all three farm types.

Commodity loan rates do affect market prices; the loan rate becomes the price floor for covered crops. For this reason, livestock producers are expected to be opposed to increased loan rates. Most livestock producers (48%) favor elimination of loan rates, whereas 36 percent favor market-based loan rates (Q3.5). Grain producers prefer loan rates based on market prices (43%) and increases in loan rates (31%). Only one quarter of Kansas operators surveyed prefer elimination. Once again, diversified producers' opinions are centrally located between grain and livestock producers.

Question Q3.6 indicates that the continuation of paid land diversion is significantly more popular among grain producers (57%) than livestock producers (45%). Acreage control policies are intended to reduce production, increase scarcity, and thus increase prices. To the extent that land diversion is effective, the opposing viewpoints of the majority of farmers and cattlemen ratify our expectations. Because of the impact of land diversion on feed prices, we expect strong unfavorable responses by cattlemen. However, acreage reduction programs are often accompanied by target price programs. Thus, cattlemen responses to questions Q3.5 and

Q3.6 may be tempered by opinions on the typical policy package that includes both higher prices and fewer acres planted.

Relative to cattlemen, grain producers slightly favor continuation of generic Payment-In-Kind (PIK) certificates, which pay farmers enrolled in CCC programs with generic certificates instead of cash (Q3.7). This program may allow for larger income transfers to enrolled grain producers by paying them in kind (3), although it is subject to greater complexity of marketing decisions (4).

Future Commodity Policies

Although the current commodity programs are generally favored by farm operators, there are several policy changes that could be introduced in the 1990 farm legislation. A "marketing loan," currently implemented for cotton and rice, allows farmers to borrow, using crops as collateral. Marketing loans differ from nonrecourse loans by providing subsidies to producers without requiring the acceptance of defaulted commodities by the government (5). Producers are allowed to pay back the loan at the market price, typically lower than the loan rate. The difference between the loan rate and the repayment rate is a direct subsidy to producers.

Grain producers favor the extension of a marketing loan to wheat, feed grains, and soybeans (49% Yes, 23% No, Q4.1), whereas livestock producers as a group are not in favor of the extension (33% Yes, 42% No). The opinions of mixed grain and livestock operators are between the other two (47% Yes, 27% No). These results are anticipated because of the direct subsidy to the producers of grains that would be forthcoming from the extension of a marketing loan to wheat, feed grains, and soybeans.[6]

Current farm program participation is implemented through an "acreage base," which defines the number of acres that an operator is allowed to plant in a given crop. All groups of surveyed producers favor a "total acreage base," (66%, Q4.2) which would assign a set number of acres upon which farmers could plant any crop, rather than specific bases for each crop. Grain producers favor this idea to a greater degree (69%) than do livestock producers (63%).

A majority of all respondents is in favor of the increased flexibility that a total acreage base would provide. Latitude would be gained in management decisions by allowing farm operators to respond to market forces (prices) for all crops. The total acreage base scheme may also offer environmental advantages from crop rotation and the production of alternative crops, which may allow for smaller quantities of chemical usage.

The current farm policy pays a maximum payment of $50,000 per crop to any single farm operation. This policy has led to enforcement problems because of creative methods of defining a farm operation, such as breaking up large farms into smaller ones to collect payments above the per farm maximum (6). A majority of survey respondents (47%, Q4.3) favor "no change" in this policy. However, livestock producers are less likely to favor increasing the limit.

Dairy policy has been a controversial aspect of farm programs, because the government intervenes directly by purchasing dairy products on the open market to increase prices. Although basing dairy programs on production costs is popular among dairy producers, the most frequent response of grain producers is "not sure" (32%, Q4.4), whereas a majority of cattlemen (44%) are in favor of "phasing out" the program. There is an economic link between the dairy industry and cattle production. Government support to dairy farmers serves to increase the size of dairy herds, resulting in larger supplies of steers and culled dairy cows to beef processors. This has a price-depressing effect in cattle markets.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Soil conservation, water quality, and chemical use are topics that are expected to be central arguments in the debate over the 1990 farm legislation. Livestock producers favor a conservation compliance rule as a condition for receiving program benefits (70% Yes, 19% No, Q5.1), relative to grain producers (60% Yes, 28% No) and the mixed category (58% Yes, 31% No). Many livestock producers would be less affected by such a rule and, thus, may be less opposed to it than grain operators. The producers of grain would be required by such a regulation to expend resources to meet the compliance conditions and, thus, are less likely to favor conservation compliance, although there is broad support for compliance among all types of Kansas survey respondents.

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), initiated by the 1985 Food Security Act, is an acreage set-aside program with both environmental and price-supporting goals. Highly erodible land is eligible to be placed in the program for 10 years, with annual payments accruing to the farm operator. This program is popular among operators in Kansas, particularly among the producers of grain. Over 58 percent of grain-producing respondents favor expansion of the CRP, whereas only 17 percent favor elimination of the program (Q5.2). Livestock producers are less enthusiastic about expansion; 41 percent favor expansion and 24 percent responded "eliminate the CRP." Once again, the mixed grain and livestock producer responses were centrally located between those of the cattlemen and the farmers.

Acreage reduction programs, whether set in place to meet price-support objectives or conservation objectives, adversely affect cattle producers for two reasons. First, decreased acreage planted is intended to reduce the production of grains, causing greater scarcity and higher prices to consumers and cattle producers. Second, acreage reduction programs often allow the use of set-aside land for grazing, which serves to increase the supply of cattle among farm operators who produce both grains and livestock. This has an adverse effect on cattle prices.[7]

Regulation of farming practices is an unpopular method of achieving environmental goals, especially among livestock producers (Q5.3). Only

8 percent of all responding livestock producers and 14 percent of grain producers favor such regulation. Cost-sharing was the preferred method of introducing environmental goals into farm legislation (Q5.4); cattlemen are slightly more favorable (58%) to this form of government intervention than grain producers (56%), with the mixed category being the most enthusiastic about the program (64%). A vast majority of farmers and ranchers in Kansas prefer the "carrot" of financial incentives typified by cost-sharing to the "stick" of restrictive environmental regulations for pecuniary reasons.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The 1985 Food Security Act was designed to recapture the United States' share of world food markets through lower price support levels, while maintaining farm income through target prices and deficiency payments. Increased exportation of grains was explicitly encouraged through the Export Enhancement Program (EEP), a direct subsidy (payment-in-kind) to grain traders. Kansas producers were in general agreement with continuation of Export Enhancement and other export subsidies (Q6.1). Grain producers responded "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" more frequently (62%) than livestock producers (45%) and the mixed group (57%).

Livestock producers are expected to be opposed to export subsidization, which would increase the domestic price of feed grains. However, the only commodity that has been subsidized during the tenure of the EEP is wheat, which is not a feed grain. Had the exportation of feed grains been subsidized, support for the program would most likely decline among cattle producers.

Approximately 3 percent of all farm types "Strongly Disagree" with export subsidy continuation. However, 19 percent of livestock producers disagree, whereas 10 and 9 percent of grain producers and the mixed group disagree, respectively. The EEP is a controversial program, characterized by disagreement among policy makers and analysts. The United States has traditionally advocated the "free trade" of goods between all countries. The export subsidy has moved the U.S. away from that established policy stance. The current Secretary of Agriculture, Clayton Yeutter, stated that he "... could recall a time a few years ago in which the export subsidies being used by the European Community were so high that Kansas farmers could have given their wheat away and would not have been able to move it into some of the world market places... Well, those kinds of policies are simply ludicrous, and we must change them so that we can move toward what people typically call a level playing field in the conduct of agricultural trade" (7).

Yeutter went on to say that "We've used a lot of export subsidies of our own, our so-called EEP program, to generate the financial support to regenerate those exports to where they were a few years ago." The official stance of the administration seems to be that our own export subsidies are a bargaining chip to be used in trade negotiations to reduce other nations' trade barriers. In a recent speech, Richard Crowder, an

Undersecretary of the U.S.D.A., stated that "...the principal objectives of the E.E.P. have largely been met. The program has challenged unfair trade practices, expanded U.S. agricultural exports and spurred trade negotiations" (8).

Not all analysts are as enthusiastic about the EEP as these administrators. The EEP may reduce government stocks of grain by shifting them to exporters, but it is questionable if this has any positive impacts on the producers of grain (9). Johnson (10) writes, "The current U.S. farm programs represent a major barrier to successful GATT negotiations to reduce barriers to agricultural trade... It is hard to see how any negotiator, even Clayton Yeutter, can enter GATT negotiations with any hope of a successful outcome when he has to carry such baggage with him as are found in the Food Security Act of 1985..." The opinions of Kansas farm operators as a group are more in line with the administration's viewpoint than with the academic stance on export barriers.[8] The perceived benefits to grain producers in the short run apparently outweigh the reduced ability to negotiate lower trade barriers over a longer time horizon.

Although a given grain producer is more likely to favor the export subsidy than a representative cattleman, views on reducing import barriers to encourage more trade are the opposite. A majority of cattlemen disagree or strongly disagree with import barrier reductions (44%, Q6.2), but only 35 percent of the grain producers are in disagreement with reductions in import barriers. The United States is a net importer of beef and beef products, resulting in Kansas cattlemen desiring the maintenance of impediments to the entry of these products from foreign markets. Grain producers are typically exporters, who have less to lose by reductions in import barriers.

CONCLUSIONS

Kansas is an excellent location in which to study differences in the policy opinions of farm operators by type of farming operation. Grain producers, livestock producers, and mixed grain/livestock operators are all well represented in different geographical and climatic regions of the state. The producers of livestock are almost exclusively cattlemen, resulting in the traditional division of agricultural producers between farmers and cattlemen. The above analysis has uncovered statistically significant differences in policy views of the these two groups and the mixed group.

Since the introduction of the current commodity programs by the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933, government intervention in agriculture has been characterized by policies that transfer resources from consumers and taxpayers to the producers of the "basic commodities." Not surprisingly, the beneficiaries of government intervention are supportive of the continuation of the traditional programs that give price support through commodity loan rates and income support through the target price/deficiency payment scheme.

The production and sale of cattle does not fall within the group of subsidized commodities. However, livestock producers are affected indirectly by the commodity programs, resulting in less approval of government programs among livestock producers in the "Wheat State." The results of the policy survey conducted in Kansas demonstrate that cattlemen are oriented toward the elimination of the current policies. We could argue that this result is not merely due to the historical opposition of government support to the growers of grain. Subsidized grain production through acreage reduction compliance requirements results in higher market prices for cattle producers, causing an economic motivation for the reduction or elimination of government support for grain producers.

The 1985 Food Security Act involved a major policy shift from price supports to income supports. This strategy, coupled with export subsidies, has gained approval among cattlemen, farmers, and diversified producers. Grain producers as a group are in favor of income support from deficiency payments and the elimination of excess grain stocks through subsidized exports, rather than the high loan rates of the early 1980s that resulted in the loss of international market shares and the buildup of government stocks.

Cattlemen are better off following such a policy shift, because target prices do not artificially raise feed grain prices. In fact, target prices may lower feed grain prices through the supply response of grain growers. Relative to the 1980 Farm Bill, the 1985 Food Security Act could be considered a "cheap food" policy; artificially high target prices result in supply response, yielding larger quantities of grain produced and lower feed grain prices.

The 1990 farm legislation debate will be characterized by general agreement concerning the commodity programs, with secondary issues such as environmental factors, acreage bases, and crop insurance/disaster relief as the points of contention among farm analysts and lobbyers. More grain producers than livestock producers in Kansas favor a movement toward the total acreage base and the extension of a marketing loan to wheat, feed grains, and soybeans. This is far from surprising; these potential programs would yield direct benefits to those involved in the production of grain.

Conservation compliance and the CRP are more highly favored by grain producers; this group is more likely to benefit. Acreage set-asides, whether implemented to meet price support objectives or conservation objectives, are likely to have negative impacts on livestock producers through a decreased supply of feed grains and an increase in the supply of cattle among mixed grain and livestock producers. For these reasons, cattlemen are less ardent about the continuation of such programs.

International trade issues affect both the producers of grain (predominately an exported good) and the producers of livestock (primarily an imported good). Relative to livestock producers, Kansas grain producers favor the continuation of export subsidies and the reduction of import barriers.

Many of the results of this policy survey confirm our a priori expectations; beneficiaries of government subsidies (farmers) favor the continuation of support, whereas those adversely affected (cattlemen) are less likely to favor intervention. The maintained hypothesis used to interpret such results is that not merely differences in political philosophy between farmers and cattlemen, but also differences in the economic impacts of government intervention, cause opinion to vary between types of farm operators in Kansas.

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NOTES

1. The survey made use of the Census of Agriculture definition of a farm: any place capable of producing at least $1,000 of agricultural products in a given year (11).

2. The 1987 Census of Agriculture (11) reports that fattened cattle and other cattle and calves comprise 90 percent of the total value of livestock and poultry sold in Kansas. Hogs and pigs accounted for less than six percent of the total value, and sheep production was insignificant.

3. Survey results are presented in Tables 3 through 6, with questions numbered as Q3.1, Q3.2, etc.

4. The 1985 Food Security Act is considered by some to be a "cheap food" policy, because of lowered price supports and increased reliance on income support through deficiency payments. Since 1985, taxpayers may be bearing the brunt of farm subsidies, whereas consumers may pay higher prices only for commodities such as sugar, tobacco, and milk.

5. "Smaller-sized farms" and "those with the greatest need" may be considered to be the same by some survey respondents. If these two responses are aggregated into a single response, the percentage difference between grain producers (58.6%) and cattle producers (56.9%) is less dramatic.

6. Although marketing loans are a direct subsidy to grain producers, they are not expected to increase the supply of grain above levels associated with the present target prices. This is because the target prices are not altered; only the size of the deficiency payment is increased. Thus, the marketing loan is not expected to lower the prices of the crops which are subject to the loans.

7. Land that is set aside to meet the eligibility requirements of the commodity programs is restricted from secondary uses such as grazing. However, the Secretary of Agriculture often makes a discretionary decision to allow for grazing on both set-aside and Conservation Reserve Program acres when climatic conditions are deemed to be "poor." In three out of the past four years, some Kansas counties have had the ability to graze or hay set-aside acres.

8. However, Gardner was recently appointed to the USDA as the Assistant Secretary for Economics, blurring the distinction between the viewpoints of the administration and the "academics."

Table 1. Farm Type of Respondents to Farm Operator Survey, 1989

Response to: "What was your most important source of cash receipts in 1988?"

Farm Type	Percent of Kansas Respondents	Percent of 21 State Respondents
Grain	40	26
Hogs, Beef, Sheep	17	30
Dairy	2	9
Mixed Grain and Livestock	32	13
Other	7	16
No Reply	2	6
Total	100	100

Source: Guither et al. (1).

Table 2. Frequency of Kansas Farm Policy Survey Respondents by Type and Sales Class

	Gross Annual Sales (Including Government Payments)					
Farm Type	Under $40,000	$40,000- $99,999	$100,000- $249,999	$250,000- $499,999	Over $500,000	Total
Grain	213	140	108	14	4	479
	(44%)	(29%)	(23%)	(3%)	(1%)	(100%)
Mixed	131	135	85	19	6	376
	(35%)	(36%)	(23%)	(5%)	(2%)	(100%)
Livestock	117	48	28	11	2	206
	(57%)	(23%)	(14%)	(5%)	(1%)	(100%)
Total	461	323	221	44	12	1061
	(43%)	(30%)	(21%)	(4%)	(1%)	(100%)

Note: The categories "dairy," "other," and "no reply" are not included in this Table. Percentages do not add to 100 because figures were rounded.

Table 3. Opinions of Kansas Policy Survey Respondents by Type: Current Commodity Policies

Q3.1. Response to: "What should be the policy toward production controls and price supports after the 1985 Food Security Act expires in 1990?" [p=.000]

Response	Farm Type					
	All Farms	Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Keep present programs	37.85	43.33	28.02	42.86	38.98	24.42
Mandatory sup. control	12.28	13.75	9.18	17.86	12.63	8.14
Decoupling	10.91	12.08	10.63	10.71	11.56	2.33
Eliminate	32.05	22.71	46.86	28.57	30.38	56.98
Other	6.91	8.13	5.31	0.00	6.45	8.14
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Q3.2. Response to: "Reducing the federal deficit has been one of the major policy issues in recent years. The federal deficit should be reduced by reducing farm program expenditures." [p=.000]

Response	Farm Type					
	All Farms	Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Strongly agree	9.40	7.91	12.68	3.45	7.75	19.28
Agree	34.77	30.98	46.34	24.14	33.96	34.94
Not sure	17.69	17.31	15.61	20.69	17.65	24.10
Disagree	28.04	33.33	21.95	37.93	26.74	15.66
Strongly disagree	10.09	10.47	3.41	13.79	13.90	6.02
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Q3.3. Response to: "Farm commodity programs have recently cost $15 to $20 billion each year. If reductions were required because of the need to reduce federal spending, which would you favor?" [p=.000]

Response	Farm Type					
	All Farms	Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Uniform percent cuts	30.70	29.83	32.06	37.93	32.72	20.93
Cut some progs. more	5.17	5.25	7.18	3.45	3.69	6.98
Pay small-size farms	49.11	52.10	41.63	48.28	51.45	40.70
Pay those with need	8.65	6.51	15.31	3.45	6.07	17.44
Other	6.36	6.30	3.83	6.90	6.07	13.95
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 3. Continued)

Q3.4. Response to: "What should be the policy toward target prices?" [p=.000]

Response	All Farms	Farm Type: Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Current levels	10.99	11.48	10.10	17.24	9.76	13.64
Raise with inflation	49.96	57.62	38.94	48.28	51.98	26.14
Lower each year	9.30	8.56	11.06	13.79	9.23	7.95
Phase out in 5-10 yrs	26.04	19.00	34.62	17.24	25.33	50.00
Other	3.72	3.34	5.29	3.45	3.69	2.27
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Q3.5. Response to: "What should be our commodity loan rate policy?" [p=.000]

Response	All Farms	Farm Type: Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Base on market prices	40.65	43.10	36.23	46.43	41.33	32.94
Raise to support price	26.16	31.42	15.94	21.43	28.80	11.76
Eliminate	33.19	25.48	47.83	32.14	29.87	55.29
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Q3.6. Response to: "Should an annual paid land diversion program to control production be continued as an option to the Secretary of Agriculture?" [p=.000]

Response	All Farms	Farm Type: Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Yes	52.50	57.05	45.00	57.14	54.81	32.94
No	25.22	18.74	32.00	25.00	25.94	42.35
Not sure	22.29	24.21	23.00	17.86	19.25	24.71
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Q3.7. Response to: "Should generic (payment-in-kind) certificates continue to be part of price and income support programs as long as government-controlled stocks exist?" [p=.036]

Response	All Farms	Farm Type: Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Yes	41.26	44.30	37.98	44.83	41.16	31.82
No	43.29	41.35	41.35	48.28	46.17	44.32
Not sure	15.45	14.35	20.67	6.90	12.66	23.86
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 4. Opinions of Kansas Policy Survey Respondents by Type: Future Commodity Policies

Q4.1. Response to: "Should the marketing loan be extended to include wheat, feed grains and soybeans?" [p=.000]

Response	All Farms	Farm Type: Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Yes	44.32	49.23	32.65	55.17	46.54	31.76
No	28.95	22.64	41.84	24.14	26.59	44.71
Not sure	26.73	28.13	25.51	20.69	26.87	23.53
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Q4.2. Response to: "What type of acreage base would you favor?" [p=.002]

Response	All Farms	Farm Type: Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Continue current policy	24.63	23.52	24.50	24.14	26.46	23.17
Assign total crop base	65.55	69.28	63.00	65.52	64.81	53.66
Other	9.82	7.20	12.50	10.34	8.73	23.17
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Q4.3. Response to: "There is now a limit on direct price support payments to each farmer with certain exceptions. What recommendations would you make for the future?" [p=.000]

Response	All Farms	Farm Type: Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Increase the limit	6.97	8.88	3.37	0.00	7.83	3.45
Make no change	46.52	47.73	42.79	72.41	48.83	29.89
Decrease the limit	33.84	30.99	44.23	13.79	32.11	39.08
Eliminate the limit	6.63	7.85	3.85	6.90	4.96	13.79
Other	6.05	4.55	5.77	6.90	6.27	13.79
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Q4.4. Response to: "What should be the future price support program for milk producers?" [p=.000]

Response	All Farms	Farm Type: Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Cont. present program	20.39	22.11	19.21	35.71	19.26	13.79
Base on prod. costs	16.72	16.00	17.24	57.14	14.78	14.94
Phase out	31.91	25.47	43.84	3.57	33.25	42.53
Sec. of Ag. set prices	3.92	4.63	2.96	0.00	3.96	3.45
Not sure	27.05	31.79	16.75	3.57	28.76	25.29
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 5. Opinions of Kansas Policy Survey Respondents by Type: The Environment

Q5.1. Response to: "To be eligible for farm program benefits, the 1985 farm bill requires the development of conservation plans for farms with highly erodible land by 1990 and implementation by 1995. Should soil conservation and water quality compliance be a condition for receiving farm program benefits?" [p=.012]

	Farm Type					
Response	All Farms	Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Yes	62.38	60.33	69.86	72.41	58.31	70.11
No	26.29	28.18	18.66	20.69	31.13	14.94
Not sure	11.33	11.48	11.48	6.90	10.55	14.94
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Q5.2. Response to: "The 1985 Food Security Act authorized up to 45 million acres for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) which makes rental payments on a bid basis to farmers for long term retirement. What should be the future policy?" [p=.015]

	Farm Type					
Response	All Farms	Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Limit to 30 m. acres	24.01	20.63	30.77	20.69	24.61	25.00
Expand to 45 m. acres	33.64	35.83	28.85	41.38	35.86	20.24
Expand to 60 m. acres	19.10	22.29	12.50	13.79	18.06	23.81
Eliminate CRP	19.02	17.29	23.56	17.24	17.02	27.38
Other	4.23	3.96	4.33	6.90	4.45	3.57
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Q5.3. Response to: "Regulation of farming practices would be effective in achieving improvements in soil conservation and water quality." [p=.026]

	Farm Type					
Response	All Farms	Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Yes	12.21	13.93	7.58	20.69	10.62	17.78
No	87.79	86.07	92.42	79.31	89.38	82.22
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Q5.4. Response to: "Cost sharing would be effective in achieving improvements in soil conservation and water quality." [p=.013]

	Farm Type					
Response	All Farms	Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
	--Percent--					
Yes	57.97	55.53	58.29	55.17	63.99	45.56
No	42.03	44.47	41.71	44.83	36.01	54.44
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 6. Opinions of Kansas Policy Survey Respondents by Type: International Trade

Q6.1. Response to: "The U.S. should continue the export enhancement program established by the 1985 farm bill and other government export subsidies." [p=.000]

	Farm Type					
Response	All Farms	Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
			--Percent--			
Strongly agree	11.30	15.25	2.49	10.34	12.74	4.55
Agree	45.30	46.61	42.49	51.72	44.72	45.45
Not sure	28.56	24.79	33.33	31.03	29.54	32.95
Disagree	11.56	10.38	18.91	3.45	9.21	13.64
Strongly disagree	3.28	2.97	2.99	3.45	3.79	3.41
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Q6.2. Response to: "The U.S. should reduce our agricultural import barriers to encourage more trade." [p=.050]

	Farm Type					
Response	All Farms	Grain	Lvstk.	Dairy	Mixed	Other
			--Percent--			
Strongly agree	7.18	7.81	6.86	0.00	7.77	4.44
Agree	28.46	31.43	26.47	10.34	27.35	27.78
Not sure	26.24	26.16	23.04	37.93	26.54	28.89
Disagree	29.91	28.06	36.27	27.59	29.22	28.89
Strongly disagree	8.21	6.54	7.35	24.14	9.12	10.00
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

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