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U.S Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Outlook Forum 2001

February 22 & 23, 2001

IMPLICATIONS OF STRUCTURAL CHANGE FOR AGRIBUSINESS

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Agricultural Outlook Forum 2001

"Implications of Structural Change for Agribusiness"

Farmland Profile

Headquarters: Kansas City, MO

2000 Sales: \$12.2 billion

Owners: 1,700 local cooperatives

600,000 North American producers

and ranchers

Motto: Proud to be Farmer Owned®

Assets: \$3.3 billion asset base

Mission: To be a global, consumer-driven,

producer-owned, financially successful

"farm-to-table" cooperative system.

Today's Topic.....

Change!



Why did this event make such a difference?

- Privatization -- the state buyers began to disappear
- "Consumer power" began to be exerted
- → We had to start "marketing" our grains rather than just selling them

Marketing?

A business function that:

- → Identifies unfulfilled needs and wants
- → Defines scope and magnitude of needs and wants
- → Establishes a company's targets
- → Decides the appropriate products, services, and programs
- ◆ Causes everyone in the organization to "think about and serve the customer."

Who is the Customer?

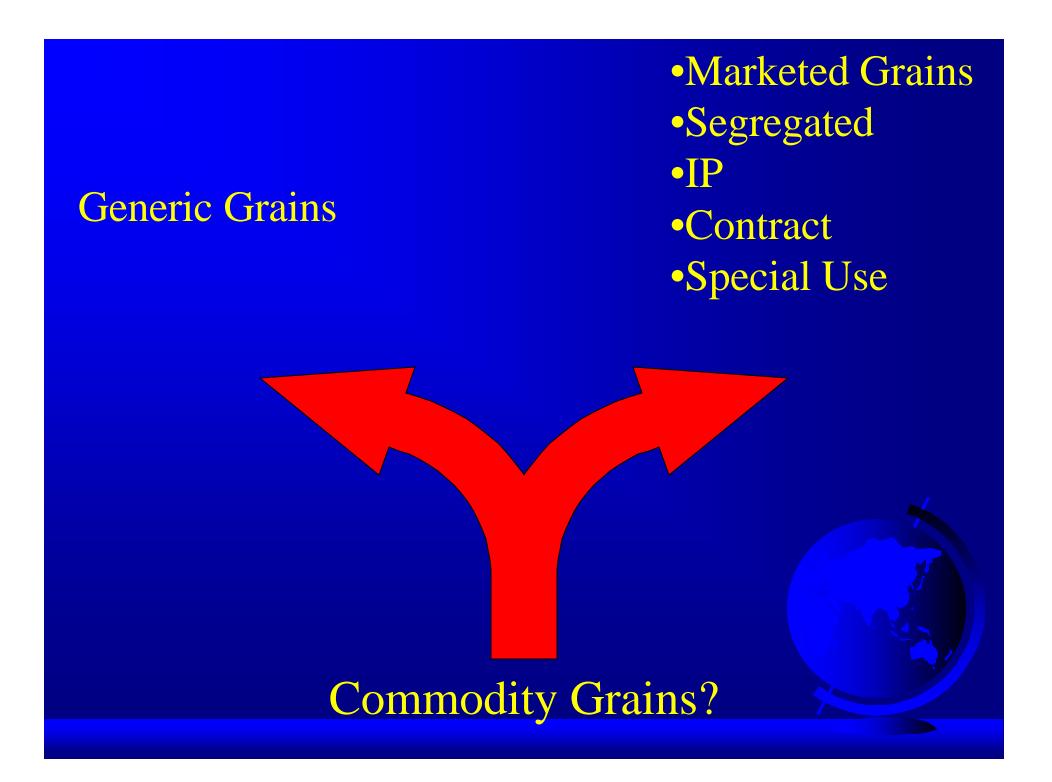




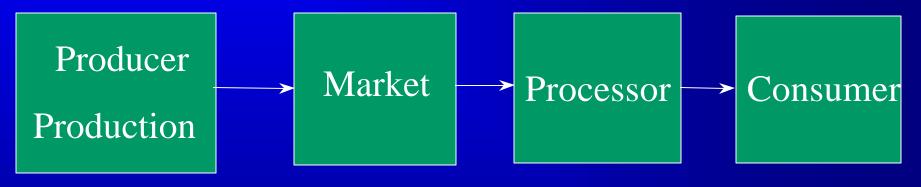
Customer-Driven?

Ability to identify what the consumer wants (and is willing to pay for), then design the product and/or service to fulfill the want.





Past Grain Paradigm





Present/Future Grain Paradigm

Physical Product

Consumer

Desires

Market:

•What I Want

When

•How

Producer

Production

Information

Yesterday our Customers looked like this..... U.S. Grain Industry State Grain Buying Entity Consumer Consumer Consumer Consumer Consumer Consumer Consumer

Today our Customers look like this..... U.S. Grain Industry Consumer Consumer Consumer Consumer Consumer Consumer Consumer

Buying Patterns Have Changed...

- → U.S.D.A. Specifications -- a guideline
- → Competitive year round supply
- → Performance
- → Will the products from your grain meet my customers' needs?
- → Drive for consistency
- → Technical support
- **→** Support services
- → Facilitate Financing



Consumer Driven

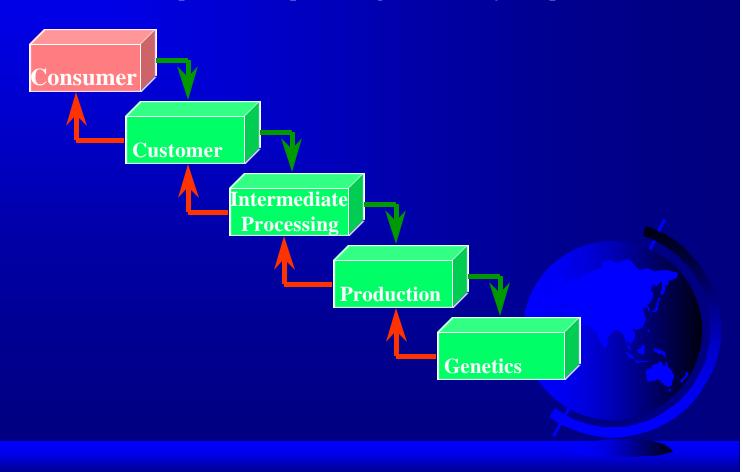
- → Barely 1/2 of food purchases are from the grocery store
- → 5 Companies = 42% of retail food sales
- → 3 Fast Food Sandwich Chains = 61% market share
- → 3 Pizza Chains control 84% of the market

What is the power of a brand?



New Generation Food Production System

A system that can verify, <u>TO THE CONSUMER</u>, that certain procedures and safeguards were followed in the production, processing and delivery of a product.



Process Verification

Consumer Preferences

- "Safe"
- "Healthy"
- "Ready-to-Eat"

Wholesale / Retail

Distribution Channels Category Marketing

Processing / Packaging

Consumer Preferences (e.g. Ready-to-Eat) Niche Markets (e.g. Residue Free)

Grower / Producer

Specialty Crops High Value Meat or Fish

Food Origination

Plant Genetics

Animal Genetics

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An IP-based Food Production Model



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Genetic Technology aka: "Biotechnology"

- **→** Emotional
- → High Risk
- → Feeling of being violated
 - Consumers
 - Producers
 - Grain Handlers
- → "Pandora's Box is

Open!"



The opportunities are immense!

The Risk is Significant!

Biotechnology Prediction....

- → Acceptance will occur when stakeholders feel they are in a "win-win" situation -- will take time.
- → Immense marketing opportunities will develop
- → Grain will be handled differently
- → Production systems will develop

How it is done today!

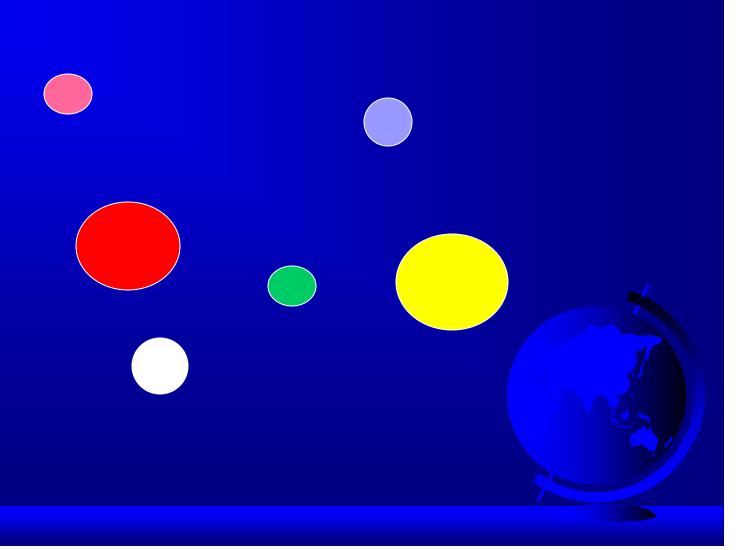
Producer

First Handle Elevator

Exporter

(A Fragmented & Redundant Supply Chain)

Independence!

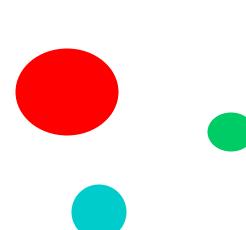


Interdependence!

Commonality:

- People
- •Systems
- •Processes
- Arbitrage
- •Risk Management
- •IP Systems
- •Transportation
- •Market Clout
- Asset Optimization



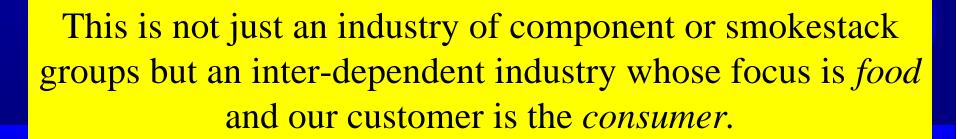






How will we manage change?

- → Think and act outside of the "Box"
- → Manage facts vs emotion
- → Become engaged
 - Not just the technology companies or regulators
 - Not just producers
 - Not just grain handlers and marketers
 - Not just millers or processors



Farmland

Proud to be farmer owned

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