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CHOICES
The magazine of food, farm, and resource issues
4th Quarter 2006 • 21(4)
A publication of the American Agricultural Economics Association

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A Statement from the Editors

Welcome to our tenth issue of *Choices* (Q4 2006).

In this issue of *Choices,* we offer two collections of papers. One theme covers the topic of setting the stage for the next farm bill, by updating the justification for farm programs, reviewing policy issues likely to affect the 2007 Farm Bill, projecting the effects of continuing the 2002 Farm Bill with less spending, and examining new program options based on land stewardship programs. The other theme addresses changes in fresh produce marketing and small farms'/firms' response strategies in order to remain competitive, profitable, and economically viable in this changing market. This issue also contains articles on obesity lessons from Japan and on formula versus grant-based funding for agricultural research.

Look for future issues where we plan coverage on Immigration and U.S. Agriculture, Export-Led Food Quality, Animal Identification, and Returns to Research and Extension. See our thematic coverage page at www.choicesmagazine.-org for a complete list and planned schedule.

In light of the AAEA Board's decision regarding Choices' funding and the uncertainty as to whether another funding source will allow continuation, the editors will no longer accept new thematic proposals. Our schedule is full through June 2007 when our editorship ends. Proposals

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Choices is the outreach vehicle of the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) and is designed to provide current coverage regarding economic implications of food, farm, resource, or rural community issues directed toward a broad audience. *Choices* publishes thematic-oriented groupings of papers and individual papers. The broad themes we will repeatedly visit in *Choices* are agriculture and trade, resources and the environment, consumers and markets, and agribusiness and finance. Submitted manuscripts are subject to peer review for publication consideration.

Choices is published at the end of each quarter of the year by the American Agricultural Economics Association. Visit our web site at http://www.choices-magazine.org.

Editorial Communications

Potential manuscripts, thematic proposals, and comments can be submitted through http://www.choicesmagazine.org/submissions.htm or directly emailed to the editors at Choices@ag.tamu.edu. Editorial communications can be sent to Choices@ag.tamu.edu.

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currently in process will be moved through to publication. This policy will continue unless funding conditions change. Grab bag submissions will continue to be processed until all issues through June 2007 are full and we still have room. We encourage you to submit single articles for the "Grab Bag" section of *Choices*. For submission requirements, see http://www.choicesmagazine.org/submissions.htm.