

Chairman Lucas, Congressman Peterson, and members of the committee thank you for holding this hearing on the future of US farm policy and the formulation of the 2012 Farm Bill.

I am Craig Adams, and my family has been in production agriculture starting as sharecroppers for at least four generations in southern Ohio and have grown our business to 1,700 acres of which 900 are owned. We have a diversified operation raising corn, soybeans, wheat, hay, pasture, commercial beef cows, and kids. My wife Kim is an educator with a master in curriculum supervision. We have two children in college and one in middle school.

Because of the 1980's farm crises, poor yields, 18% interest, and no functional crop insurance, I am the only Wilmington College agriculture graduate of 1979 still engaged in full time production. All of us who started farming in this time frame are survivors of or near bankruptcy. Without the 1985 farm bill and a community bank that believed in young men with dreams, I would not be here today.

With high commodity prices and an over extended federal budget, there is a push to eliminate or substantially reduce government support of agriculture. I believe everyone receiving federal USDA dollars should share equally in reductions. During the late 1990's there was public outcry over congressionally approved crop disaster payments. Crop insurance in its current form is the most effective answer to short crop years. Any producer who desires an effective risk management tool can purchase crop insurance. Agriculture will accept reductions in FSA programs for crop insurance to survive. Independent company's servicing independent agents whom dispense advice to farmers using 30 – 40 year historic yield databases to get true production patterns, not weather fluctuations, helping mitigate premium increases stemming from catastrophic loss. We need an insurance program that's affordable to all crop producers across the US. Commodity markets are cyclical and our self-produced food is a national asset. If all risk is removed via shallow loss I fear the unintended consequence could be the loss of affordable insurance.

Spring is the time of renewal, with baby animals entering the world and crops peaking through the warm soil seeking the sun's energy. Be like a farmer Chairman Lucas and nurture our farm bill to passage.

Thank You,

Craig Adams

Committee on Agriculture
U.S. House of Representatives
Required Witness Disclosure Form

House Rules* require nongovernmental witnesses to disclose the amount and source of Federal grants received since October 1, 2009.

Name: Craig Adams

Organization you represent (if any): None

1. Please list any federal grants or contracts (including subgrants and subcontracts) you have received since October 1, 2009, as well as the source and the amount of each grant or contract. House Rules do **NOT** require disclosure of federal payments to individuals, such as Social Security or Medicare benefits, farm program payments, or assistance to agricultural producers:

Source: -0- Amount: -0-

Source: _____ Amount: _____

2. If you are appearing on behalf of an organization, please list any federal grants or contracts (including subgrants and subcontracts) the organization has received since October 1, 2009, as well as the source and the amount of each grant or contract:

Source: -0- Amount: -0-

Source: _____ Amount: _____

Please check here if this form is NOT applicable to you:

Signature: Craig Adams

* Rule XI, clause 2(g)(5) of the U.S. House of Representatives provides: *Each committee shall, to the greatest extent practicable, require witnesses who appear before it to submit in advance written statements of proposed testimony and to limit their initial presentations to the committee to brief summaries thereof. In the case of a witness appearing in a nongovernmental capacity, a written statement of proposed testimony shall include a curriculum vitae and a disclosure of the amount and source (by agency and program) of each Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) received during the current fiscal year or either of the two previous fiscal years by the witness or by any entity represented by the witness.*

PLEASE ATTACH DISCLOSURE FORM TO EACH COPY OF TESTIMONY.

Committee on Agriculture
U.S. House of Representatives
Information Required From Nongovernmental Witnesses

House rules require nongovernmental witnesses to provide their resume or biographical sketch prior to testifying. If you do not have a resume or biographical sketch available, please complete this form.

1. Name: Craig Adams
2. Organization you represent: None
3. Please list any occupational, employment, or work-related experience you have which add to your qualification to provide testimony before the Committee:
Self employed in production ag., Board Chair - United Producers Inc Limestone Mktg
Highland Co SWCD Board, Extension advisory committee, Limestone Mktg
Trustee OFBF
Coop
4. Please list any special training, education, or professional experience you have which add to your qualifications to provide testimony before the Committee:
B.S. Wilmington College, FECS director training
5. If you are appearing on behalf of an organization, please list the capacity in which you are representing that organization, including any offices or elected positions you hold:

PLEASE ATTACH THIS FORM OR YOUR BIOGRAPHY TO EACH COPY OF TESTIMONY.