



Rural Coalition/Coalición Rural

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FARMWORKER ISSUES FOR USDA:

- 1) Liaison in Outreach Office to Establish Relationships and Regular Dialogue on Full Range of issues within agriculture as they affect farmworkers
- 2) Additional roundtable sessions and hearings in areas accessible to farmworkers
- 3) Prioritizing of issues by farmworker groups-est. of an advisory committee??
- 4) Funds for pesticide training and research, and other outreach programs
- 5) Information for and dialogue with small farmers on pesticide training, worker protection, and other issues.
- 6) Establishing information programs to assist all farmers in complying with existing law and in learning where to find access to farmworker training programs.
- 7) Include farmworker groups in review of all regulations affecting them, including trade, etc.
- 8) Funds for demonstration projects, including innovative training and development of materials for farmworkers and farmers in Organic agriculture.
- 9) Include attorneys familiar with farmworker issues in the OGC Civil rights division and in the Office of Civil Rights to set standards.
- 10) Statement by the secretary on the role and dignity of farmworkers in agriculture
- 11) Address the issue of cut-off of foodstamps to legal residents, esp. elderly residents.
- 12) Regular communication in outreach to farmworker groups for information and feedback on housing, rural development, credit unions, etc. and other programs to include farmworkers.
- 13) Implement and enforce the Environmental Justice Executive Order at USDA, through outreach office in coordination with NRCS, etc. Establish clear policies, after more listening sessions and roundtables with key farmworker groups.
- 14) Complete the CRIT team work with adequate input and staffing. Immediately approve

funds through a program agency to fund an IPA (That is an interagency personnel agreement whereby the USDA pays for someone to work with an outside group) to the RC to assure this work is complete well and with adequate input and expertise.

15) Appoint a USDA representative to the interagency groups working on environmental justice and farmworker issues.

16) Promote cooperation through the outreach office and elsewhere among small farmers and farmworkers.

17) Include farmworker representatives on the Small Farms Commission being established.

18) Look for new models of participation and programs to allow farmworkers to enter agriculture as individuals, in groups, or in partnership with existing farmers or with land trusts who have no one to farm.