

Farm Futures

Illinois is a major agricultural state. In some years, farmers have to struggle to make a living. It could be that the weather is bad for farming one year. For example, in a drought, farmers may lose a lot of crops. In other years, the crops could be so great that prices are lower. There is so much corn that farmers lower their prices to sell their crop. Some national government programs support farmers. There are government loans that farmers can get to help them pay for expenses if their crops fail. Still, most people in this country do not farm. So you may not hear many candidates talk about farm programs this election year.

Discussion Points

- At one time in this nation's history, most people were farmers. What changes took place that changed that?
- If you were living on a farm in Illinois today, what problems would you face?

Think It Through

Make a plan for improving farming in Illinois. Your plan can be like the one you made for education, environment, or health. What program would help a farm community to solve some of the problems that farmers face today?

Get It Across

Design a commercial to persuade voters to elect candidates who are concerned about farmers. It could be a commercial that is shown in urban areas. The point of the commercial would be to persuade urban voters to elect candidates who will support farmers.