



New Mexico Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee

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2025 Youth Discussion Meet Questions

Biosecurity is essential to protecting animal health, food security, and the economic stability of rural communities. Outbreaks such as screwworm infestations in beef cattle and Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) in horses demonstrate the devastating impact of animal diseases. How can farmers, ranchers, and Farm Bureau work together with government agencies and veterinarians to strengthen biosecurity protocols, improve disease surveillance, and ensure rapid response to emerging threats?

Public lands play a vital role in agriculture, especially in the western United States, where many farmers and ranchers rely on federal grazing permits and access to natural resources. With increasing pressure from recreational use, environmental regulations, and shifting public policy, how can the agricultural community work with stakeholders to ensure that public land management supports both conservation and agricultural productivity?

As the demand for sustainable energy sources grows, farmers and ranchers are increasingly approached to host solar and wind farms or to grow crops for alternative fuels. How can the agricultural community balance the opportunities and challenges of integrating renewable energy production with maintaining productive farmland and rural vitality?

Working with elected officials, in all levels of government, is critical to advancing public policy that supports farmers and ranchers. How can Farm Bureau help elected leaders better understand the challenges of the agriculture sector and the importance of supporting the financial viability of America's family farms and ranches?

The development of oil and gas resources can provide significant revenue and infrastructure improvements for rural communities, but it can also lead to land use conflicts, environmental concerns, and regulatory challenges. How can farmers and ranchers work with energy companies, policymakers, and local communities to create solutions that support energy development while preserving agricultural land and rural quality of life?