

## Video Questions- Andrea Davis' Master's Project

### ANNA PRIZZIA- SUSTAINABILITY

**1. What is food security?**

**ANSWER:** The ability for people to have access to safe, healthy, fresh food.

**2. How much of our disposable income do we currently spend on food in the U.S.?**

**ANSWER:** Less than 12%;

**3. What is the number one cause of chronic disease in the U.S.?**

**ANSWER:** Food

**4. What is a food desert?**

**ANSWER:** Places where people of lower socio-economic class do not have access to healthy, fresh food. Areas where people tend to shop in convenience stores & drug stores instead of actual grocery stores to purchase their food products.

**5. What is genetic diversity?**

**ANSWER:** Having a variety of different crops, or a variety of different types of the same crop

**6. Why is genetic diversity important?**

**ANSWER:** If we lack genetic diversity (and only grow 3-4 different main crops) it is easier for those crops to be wiped out by contamination/disease. However, if we grow many different crops or even different types of the same crop, this is less likely to happen.

**7. What is the current average age of a farmer? Why is this age a problem?**

**ANSWER:** 57 years old; We're losing our farming heritage (and losing the knowledge that comes along with these farmers)

**8. Why is it currently more appealing to farmers to sell their land rather than to grow crops on them?**

**ANSWER:** Farmers are currently finding it much more profitable to sell their land. They are not receiving enough money for their crops to make a living, so it is much more appealing for them to sell the land and immediately make a large amount of money.

**9. Why is food safety a concern when dealing with food security?**

**ANSWER:** As our world becomes more global, our food becomes much more at risk. We export food from all over the world; therefore it takes only *one* small instance of contamination from *one* farm to infect an entire global food system.

**10. How can we re-localize food systems? Why is re-localizing food systems a good thing?**

**ANSWER:** Bring food systems back to our national and state borders. That way the food is grown from home, doesn't have to be shipped long distances, helps local economies, helps the farmers to earn more money, etc.

## CHAD CARR- FOOD SAFETY

1. **What is food safety?**

**ANSWER:** The concept of using good manufacturing practices at home, on the farm and at the processing facility to ensure that we have as wholesome of a product (and as safe to consume of a product) as possible.

2. **What are the two most important food safety concerns for consumers?**

**ANSWER:** The safety and the quality of the product

3. **What key information should consumers understand when purchasing a food product?**

**ANSWER:** Although food products undergo extensive processing and safety procedures, it is impossible to produce a completely sterile product. Some responsibility, (specifically with raw products) lies on behalf of the consumers.

4. **What does HACCP stand for?**

**ANSWER:** Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points

5. **What was HACCP developed to do?**

**ANSWER:** To systematically account for risks throughout the production chain. To account for what is reasonably likely to occur from a pathogen, chemical or physical perspective throughout production.

6. **Why are intact meats (like steaks and roasts) currently a “hot” food safety issue?**

**ANSWER:** The steaks, roasts, etc. that are being sold today that are typically thought of as intact meat, are actually not. They’re being needle tenderized, or enhanced with other chemicals. This causes them to have a higher likelihood of becoming infected with foodborne pathogens.

7. **How can we more effectively communicate food safety to consumers?**

**ANSWER:** Through the media (both social media & mass media). Have famous cooks, like Paula Dean, express the importance of cooking meats to the correct temperatures on their TV shows, utilize social media networks like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube to promote food safety/offer food safety tips. (*Answers may vary*)

## DAN DOURTE- CLIMATE CHANGE

1. **What is climate change?**

**ANSWER:** The constant changing of our global climate

2. **How does climate change affect agriculture?**

**ANSWER:** It affects produce (chilling times), plant breeding and amounts and types of rainfall (more big storms; less steady rainfalls). Rainfall variability affects yield variability.

3. **How has climate change affected agriculture in the state of Florida?**

**ANSWERS:** Rises in sea levels have affected irrigation quality, even for people that weren’t farming close to the coast. However, on a more positive note, due to climate change, there’s been a strong pull for biofuel crops. This has brought many new farming opportunities to the state.

4. **What efforts/initiatives are currently taking place to address climate change?**

**ANSWER:** The USDA has funded many climate change projects focusing on corn & wheat production in the west and animal agriculture down south. Currently, there is also a row crop project happening to enhance extension capacity and to discuss climate change/variability with farmers in the Southeast. The project teaches producers how to prepare for a changing climate.

5. **How much is global temperature expected to change in the next hundred years?**

**ANSWER:** Between 2 and 10 degrees Fahrenheit by the year 2100.

6. **What are the global impacts of climate change?**

**ANSWER:** More competition for water resources (between rural and urban areas). Farmers in poorer, more rural places will be more susceptible to these impacts (less access to technology, etc.)

7. **What can we do about climate change?**

**ANSWER:** Encourage industry and agriculturalists to improve resource use efficiency. *(Answers may vary)*

## **HUGH THOMAS- WATER QUALITY**

1. **What is the mission of the Suwanee River Partnership?**

**ANSWER:** To assess and to work with land owners within the Suwanee River water management district to protect and conserve water resources in this area.

2. **How do we educate the general public on best management practices (BMPs)?**

**ANSWER:** We can educate the public by making them aware of water issues and how to protect these resources. This way, they'll be much more likely to adopt these best management practices.

3. **What are Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)?**

**ANSWER:** A concentration of a containment or pollutant that has been observed in a water body. It is a level that is set, whereby the natural ecosystem in that body of water can sustain whatever level of pollutant there is and sustain itself at the concentration.

4. **How are TMDLs developed?**

**ANSWER:** Developed by Florida Department of Environmental Protection to look at a wide range of water quality data related to a particular contaminant.

5. **What is the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Program?**

**ANSWER:** It's a best management practice (BMP) program established by UF/IFAS. It includes a series of BMPs for homeowners. The idea is that there are BMPs that are appropriate specifically for homeowners. It's a nine-step process, which involves placing the right plants in the right place in your yard's landscape.

**6. Why does water have a large impact on agriculture?**

**ANSWER:** Agriculture is second largest industry in Florida. Over the years, the irrigation of crops has become a necessary way of life for sustainable agricultural operations. Having a clean source of abundant water is needed for Florida agriculture. However, water use is also needed to sustain population growth (from an urban development standpoint). You have to balance the two of these, which are both critical issues (to the economy in Florida, and to the food supply across the world).

**7. What is currently being done to communicate water issues in the state of Florida?**

**ANSWER:** The Suwanee River Partnership has worked with agriculturalists and those in the urban sector to coordinate communication on water issues. In addition, the Suwanee River Partnership works to make agriculturalists aware of how much water agriculture needs, why they need it, and if they are using it efficiently.

**8. Explain the current battle for water going on between North Florida and South Florida**

**ANSWER:** This current battle deals with the transferring of water from North Florida to South Florida (and South-Central Florida). There was a recommendation by the Governor's Council of 100 that North Florida had an overabundance of water that they should share with South Florida. However, there isn't really adequate water in North Florida to be able to do this. North Florida is going through a drought and needs water to provide for population growth in this area.

**MICHELLE WILLIAMSON- IMMIGRATION/THE FLORIDA STRAWBERRY INDUSTRY**

**1. Explain the lack of awareness that Florida strawberry producers have experienced from people in the community.**

**ANSWER:** Most people in the urban areas do not understand the processes these farmers go through to produce the food and fiber they need. They also do not understand the economic importance that agriculture plays on the communities that we live in.

**2. What is the biggest challenge Florida strawberry producers face?**

**ANSWER:** Water issues. Being so close to the urban population, this causes many people to think farmers are wasting resources and causing severe impacts to the environment (run-off, sinkholes, etc.).

**3. What is the advantage to farming in or close to urban areas?**

**ANSWER:** Gives the farmers access to a good market for their product.

**4. How do we educate the public on the agriculture industry?**

**ANSWER:** We should take every opportunity we have to educate the public on what farmers do on their farms. Invite the public out to these farms and let them see first hand how agriculture plays a major role in their daily lives.

**5. What happened to the Florida strawberry industry during the 2010 winter freezes?**

**ANSWER:** In 2010, there were 11 days of temperatures below freezing. To protect the strawberries, farmers watered these crops continually. This ended up causing sinkholes and dry wells throughout the community. This in turn caused a lot of bad publicity for the strawberry industry.

**6. How did the media respond to the 2010 winter freezes?**

**ANSWER:** The event was unprecedented, which caused a strong media response. Many sinkholes and dry wells occurred as a result of these freezes. This also caused much attention from the media.

**7. How did farmers respond to the media during the 2010 winter freezes? What could they have done differently?**

**ANSWER:** Many farmers were unprepared to respond to questions from the media because they had never dealt with an event like this before. They responded to the media without knowing the correct answers to the questions they were given. In the future, they should not comment if they do not have an answer to the question they are given. They should let difficult questions be answered by the grower's associations so that the message is consistent across the board.

**8. What is the role of labor in the Florida strawberry industry?**

**ANSWER:** Labor is one of this industry's most vital needs. Growing strawberries requires a very intensive hand labor process. Includes planting, weeding and harvesting. Nothing is done mechanically. Takes 1.25 people per acre to grow a strawberry crop.

**9. What is the role of immigration in agriculture?**

**ANSWER:** Many Americans not willing to work in the field in agricultural jobs. Immigration allows a person to come into this country and secure jobs that many Americans are not willing to do.

## **MICHAEL OLEXA- THE AG POLICY PROCESS**

**1. How many branches of government are there? Name each of these branches of government.**

**ANSWER:** Legislative, executive, judicial and administrative.

**2. What is known as the fourth branch of government?**

**ANSWER:** The administrative branch

**3. What are the two different types of rulemaking?**

**ANSWER:** Formal and informal rulemaking

**4. Laws are \_\_\_\_\_ for policy. (Fill in the blank)**

**ANSWER:** Packages

**5. What is the Administrative Procedure Act (APA)?**

**ANSWER:** Provides citizens with specific checks to "check" an agency if they have over-reached their own authority. (For example: the Department of Transportation wants to put an exit ramp through your family cemetery. As a

citizen, you have standing to challenge the agency and let them know you don't like this.)

**6. What three types of law does agricultural law involve?**

**ANSWER:** Practice law, government law and education law

**7. During what time period did traditional agricultural law begin, and under what president?**

**ANSWER:** The 1930s; Franklin Delano Roosevelt

**8. Why did agricultural law begin during the time period that it did?**

**ANSWER:** It happened during the 1930s because of the Great Depression. The entire economy was collapsing and there was a need to stabilize the agricultural base.

**9. What famous court case transferred power from the states to the federal government?**

**ANSWER:** Wickard v. Filburn

**10. What is the biggest agricultural issue currently happening within the state of Florida?**

**ANSWER:** Water resources. There's currently a water battle between North Florida and South Florida.

### **TREVOR SMITH- BIOMASS**

**1. What is biomass?**

**ANSWER:** A plant grown for the purposes of producing energy

**2. What species of plant are used for biomass?**

**ANSWER:** Eucalyptus, energy cane, sorghum, etc.

**3. What crops cannot be used for biomass?**

**ANSWER:** Plants on the noxious weed list

**4. How can we regulate biomass?**

**ANSWER:** Because plants used for biomass share many characteristics with weeds (they grow fast, they don't require much water or fertilizer, etc.), it is important to determine whether plants are invasive or not. After determining this, safeguarding measures can be developed to keep the plant contained within the permitted area. If the plant is invasive, it won't get permitted at all.

**5. What is the 25 x 25 program?**

**ANSWER:** By 2025, 25% of energy production in the U.S. will come from renewable sources. Encourages the growth of the biomass industry in Florida.

**6. What current struggle does Florida face when dealing with biomass?**

**ANSWER:** Currently there are no active biomass plants within the state of Florida, so it's difficult for the public to see the advantages/benefits of using biomass as an alternative energy source.