



2017 Discussion Meet Questions

1. Farmers are a shrinking percentage of the population. How can Alabama Farmers Federation and American Farm Bureau help first-generation farmers and ranchers get started in agriculture?
2. With a growing demand for US farm products abroad, how can agriculture overcome public skepticism of foreign trade to negotiate new trade agreements and open new world markets?
3. Formation of family farm corporations is common practice. How can Alabama Farmers Federation and American Farm Bureau work to ensure that the public's positive perception of the family farm is not lost?
4. How can farmers and ranchers maintain their buying power with the continued trend of input supplier and provider consolidations?
5. How can the Alabama Farmers Federation and American Farm Bureau help members with increasing legal and regulatory obstacles so they can focus on farming and ranching?

Note: We will use these questions for the 2017 preliminaries (to be held at the Commodity Conference), for the 2017 Collegiate Discussion Meet, the 2017 Discussion Meet Finals (held at the Annual Meeting), and the winners of these events will use these questions in national competition in January and February 2018.