THE CHANGING STRUCTURE
OF AGRICULTURE

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VIEW FROM THE TRACTOR SEAT

• CHANGES

• DRIVERS OF CHANGE

• POLICY OPTIONS
CHANGES

- Thumbnail of Anita, Iowa
- Bi-modal size of farms
- Vertical integration by commodity
DRIVERS of CHANGE

• Economic

• Political

• Societal
ECONOMIC DRIVERS

• Declining real value of commodities

• Globalization

• Capital

• Markets
POLITICAL DRIVERS

• Political power
• Bureaucracy tax
• Patents for biologicals
• Monopoly tools
• Capital gains tax
SOCIETAL DRIVERS

• Financial mores

• Changing “culture” in agriculture
POLICY OPTIONS

• Do nothing
• Biological patents
• Anti-trust
• Regulations
• Applied research
• Capital gains tax
• Rural regional leadership
KEY

• The key to a vibrant, caring, proactive agriculture is the empowerment of people.

• It is the removal of barriers to change, the creation of the knowledge to compete and the stimulation to innovate that will enhance the ever changing structure of agriculture