

# Montana Organic Agriculture

1 response

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Name:

1 response

Lyman Bishop

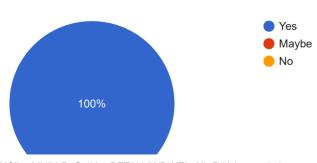
## Question 1: Organic Hot Spots

1 - a. What measures do you think should be taken to support agriculture, farmers, and help our Montana communities thrive?

1 response

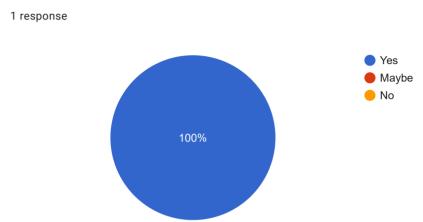
We need to allow farmers to dictate the rules of the industry and provide them options to sell their products at an acceptable profit margin.

1 - b. Did you know organic agriculture is recognized as a means of supporting economically resilient communities?

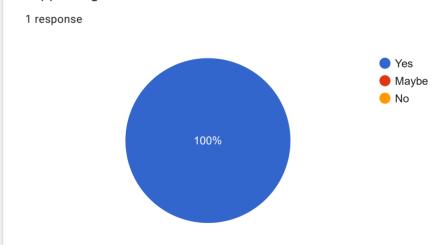




1 - c. Do you recognize and support organic agriculture as a means of promoting a healthy and safe environment?



1 - d. Do you recognize and support organic agriculture as a means of supporting the health of individuals?



# Question 2: Organic Certification Cost Share Program

2- a. What additional steps can the USDA take to increase the number of organic operations, including helping farms and ranches transition to organic?



The best the USDA can do is to get out of the way.

2- b. How do you respond to a federal agency unilaterally altering provisions in the Farm Bill or other legislation?

1 response

I do not recognize the authority of any federal agencies that seek to excessive authority over our state and my economic plan provides a means for the people of Montana to free themselves from financial manipulation on the part of the federal government.

## Question 3: Resilient Montana Meat Processing

3 - a. How do you respond to the need for mobile, more flexible, and more local meat and poultry processing?

1 response

I agree with this assessment and support it completely but I leave it to those in the industry to carry out such measures.

3 - b. One of the biggest challenges for meat processing in Montana is finding qualified labor. Miles Community College is developing a program that would put journeyman meat cutters on the meat processing floors and augment training with distance-learning coursework. This program seems like a win-win-win; how can you support this and similar initiatives?

1 response

My economic plan provides the means for every action the people wish to take.

3 - c. What's your plan for supporting and developing jobs for small agricultural businesses and rural communities?



My economic plan addresses this in detail.

#### Question 4: Soil and Carbon

4 - a. Should sustainable farmers and ranchers be compensated for their efforts to build healthy soil, protect clean water, and to mitigate the economic effects of more unpredictable and erratic weather events?

1 response

Yes

4 - b. Do you foresee opportunities for Montana's farmers and ranchers participating in carbon markets?

1 response

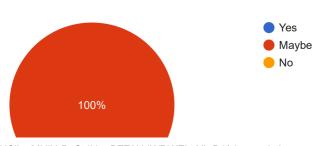
The carbon market is flawed. There is another way. See my economic plan.

4 - c. Should legislation be enacted that would research and promote healthy soil and provide cost-share for land-stewards who use soil health practices?

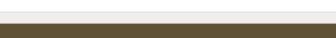
1 response

The idea that legislation can solve our problems is a logical fallacy. We must let the markets dictate what needs to be done at every level.

4 - d. Do you support federal funds to establish a state-based soils task force to promote healthy soils?







Question 5: Aging Farmers - Beginning Farmers

5 - a. What measures should be taken to support beginning farmers and ranchers?

1 response

I would say tax breaks but my economic plan will eliminate taxes all together.

5 - b. What measures should be taken to ensure that estate transfers are beneficial to heirs who continue farming?

1 response

Massive reform in our property tax rules and regulations.

5 - c. What measures should be taken to ensure that underserved populations, including tribal communities, have equal access to land and government assistance programs, such as research and business grants?

1 response

The tribes have fought for and obtained sovereignty. As such, it is not the responsibility of the United States, or any of the states therein to provide any such assistance programs other than those dictated by a free market.

#### Question 6: Pesticides in the Environment

6 - a. Should federal funds be used to research environmental glyphosate?

1 response

We must move away from all reliance on federal funding. This can be achieved through my economic plan and only through my economic plan.



6 - b. What can be done to mitigate environmental glyphosate contamination?

1 response

Any such actions must be dictated by those working in the industry.

#### Question 7: Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO's)

7 - a. What measures do you support to prevent GMO contamination of the organic seed and food supply?

1 response

Allowed farmers to dictate their own industry.

7 - b. Do you support holding the GMO patent holders liable for their products contaminating organic and other non-GMO seeds?

1 response

Yes

7 - c. How can GMO patent holders share the responsibility of preventing contamination of organic and other non-GMO seed and crops?

1 response

Lawsuits, court cases and penalties.

#### Question 8: Organic Research

8 - a. Should organic-focused research receive funding at a level commensurate with the percentage of organic food sales?

1 response

Yes, as dictated by my economic plan.



#### Question 9: National Organic Program

9 - a. Should the USDA enact rules established by the NOSB in a timely and proactive fashion?

1 response

Yes

9 - b. Do you support the enactment of the Organic Livestock and Poultry Practices rule, one established by the organic industry, by the USDA?

1 response

I am unfamiliar with the specifics of this rule but I support the idea that ranchers are capable of making these decisions for themselves.

#### Question 10: Resilient Organic Farming and Extreme Weather Events

10 - a. In what ways should farmers and ranchers be supported as they live with the realities of erratic climate conditions and "force majeure" or "Act of God" economic risks producers assume?

1 response

As entrepreneurs we are all subject to unforeseen circumstances and we must shoulder those risks individually. The same as we reap the benefits individually. Life is a risk, so is partaking in any entrepreneurial activity.

#### Question 11: Crop Insurance

11 - a. Do you support changing federal policy so that the determination of what cropping practices to use and how to use them will be left entirely to the farmer without having to fear the loss of crop insurance coverage?



Yes

# Question 12: Broadband Internet Access

12 - a. What should be done to increase reliable broadband internet access in Montana that meets business and household needs?

1 response

We must build and maintain new infrastructure funded as outlined in my economic plan.

12 - b. How should projects be funded to bring enough internet service to Montanans?

1 response

Read my economic plan.

12 - c. Do you support initiatives that would bring better internet service to Montanans?

1 response

Yes

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