**United States General Accounting Office** 

GAO

Report to the Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, House of Representatives

September 1990

## **FARM PROGRAMS**

Conservation Compliance Provisions Could Be Made More Effective





United States General Accounting Office Washington, D.C. 20548

Resources, Community, and Economic Development Division

B-240470

September 24, 1990

The Honorable E (Kika) de la Garza Chairman, Committee on Agriculture House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In response to your request and subsequent discussions with your office, this report discusses the Department of Agriculture's administration of the conservation compliance, sodbuster, and swampbuster provisions of Title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985.

As requested by your office, we obtained oral comments from the Department of Agriculture. Department officials generally agreed with a draft of the report. We plan to distribute this report today to the Secretary of Agriculture and other interested parties.

This report was prepared under the direction of John W. Harman, Director, Food and Agriculture Issues (202) 275-5138. Other major contributors to this report are listed in appendix II.

Sincerely yours,

J. Dexter Peach

Assistant Comptroller General