

**Kentucky  
Candidate  
Information  
Survey**



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**Robert Conway**

**COMMISSIONER  
OF AGRICULTURE**

*Democrat Primary - May 21*

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**Joe Trigg**

SECTION 1	BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION	
<i>Education</i>	Bachelors Degree from the University of Kentucky	BS in Computer Science, AS in Explosive Ordinance Disposal
<i>Occupation</i>	Operations Manager for C and S Transportation (Lawrenceburg, KY) - Former Regional Manager for GE Capital	Retired US Air Force (over 30 years of service), founder of Trigg Enterprises and co-owner of Lakeway Liquor LLC, a locally owned, family business
<i>Family</i>	Wife: Millie (37 years) Sons: Jason, Haley, Austin, and Tucker, One grandson: Cole Patrick	I am happily married to my wife, Ali, who works in our local school system. We have one son, Joseph, who is now a freshman in college.
<i>Civic/Religious Involvement</i>	Elder/Choir of Midway Pres. Church, Georgetown Choral Society and Community Theater, Former: G'town Jaycees, Chamber of Commerce, KY Motor Trans. Assoc. Longtime youth sports coach.	My family attends First Baptist Church, in Glasgow. I am currently serving my third term as a Glasgow City Council member. I am a lifelong DAV member.
<i>Personal Interests</i>	Hunting, Fishing, avid University of Kentucky Basketball Fan, Season Ticket Holder of University of Kentucky Football and Cincinnati Reds.	I have managed an "innovated" greenhouse for over 30 years, including hydroponic and aquaponic gardening. I was a driving force behind the KY State University Tilapia Research Project.
SECTION 2	RESPONSES	
<i>What do you see as the most important issue facing Kentucky agriculture?</i>	"The most important issue facing Kentucky agriculture is the loss of Kentucky's farmers to other vocations and the loss of the small Kentucky family farm. Kentucky has struggled to successfully transition away from the tobacco industry."	"Small and medium sized farmers are being shut out of the conversation and the profits, thus adding to the fact that young people are not seeing a career in agriculture as a viable option for their future."
<i>What innovation(s) do you propose to better market Kentucky-grown products?</i>	"I would like to expand the Kentucky Proud brand to incorporate more products from large and small family farms. I would like to see these products marketed to other states and other countries. Together we can do better."	"What is grown and raised in Kentucky, should be processed here and Kentucky farmers should see those profits. We must put money into local processing centers and find ways to help farmers move into value added markets."
<i>What will you do to improve rural Kentucky and the vitality of the small family farm?</i>	"We need to find a way to re-invent Kentucky agriculture by incorporating hemp, medical marijuana, solar and green technologies into the agricultural sector. We need to educate and encourage a whole new generation of potential farmers."	"Hemp and medical marijuana should be under the KDA and grown under a quota system, much like tobacco was years ago, allowing small and medium sized farmers to expand their farms and make real money."
<i>What would your top three priorities be if elected as Commissioner of Agriculture?</i>	"Incorporate hemp, medical marijuana, solar and green technologies into all of Kentucky's farms, regardless of size, and aid in the redesign of our rural and farm education programs."	"1. Increase the opportunities for processing agricultural products in the state. 2. Implement quota system for hemp and medical marijuana under the KDA. 3. Develop apprenticeship programs for young people interested in a career in agriculture."

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<p><i>What ideas do you have to increase Kentucky's exports of agricultural products?</i></p>	<p>"I would work hand-in-hand with the Kentucky legislature to work on tariff rates. I would also work with the state transportation industry to bring back many of the exiting trucking companies that have recently left the Commonwealth for neighboring states."</p>	<p>"More processing centers in the state would open opportunities for farmers to sell value added items, and finished agriculture products, not just across the country but across the globe."</p>
<p><i>What are your proposals to diversify Kentucky's agriculture industry?</i></p>	<p>"The state must work to move past the tobacco industry. It's been hard on our farmers for the last two decades. I am all for any alternative crops and the growth of any products that will bring this relief."</p>	<p>"Hemp and medical marijuana would not only diversify the industry but improve economics. Increasing processing facilities would allow for broad expansion in finished and value-added items."</p>
<p><i>After four years, what will your office have accomplished to improve life in Kentucky?</i></p>	<p>"The completion of my first term will feature a rebirth for this state's farmers. The state is filled with "for sale" signs as many of our farmers are exiting the industry. I will make farming a choice vocation again."</p>	<p>"Kentucky agriculture is a cornerstone of Kentucky. When farms are successful, more money goes into the economy, community ties get stronger, people eat better and become healthier."</p>
<p><i>What strengths do you possess that make you the best candidate for this office?</i></p>	<p>"I have managed hundreds of employees and multi-million dollar company budgets. I also have an extensive farming background. I am the only candidate that possesses both of these needed traits. I am the most qualified candidate."</p>	<p>"My military career has given me the leadership skills necessary to lead the KDA, to evaluate and make decisions and to be innovative in not only the way we think, but the actions we take."</p>
<p><i>Why would you be more effective in this office than your opponent(s)?</i></p>	<p>"I think that my business, management, and agricultural backgrounds make me the most qualified candidate, regardless of party affiliation."</p>	<p>"We can't keep waiting for someone else to speak up for Kentucky farmers, it must be one of us. The view from the farm looks different than it does from Frankfort, and I will bring that vision."</p>
<p><i>To know you more personally, what issue(s), unrelated to the office you seek, are you passionate about?</i></p>	<p>"I am passionate about education. I was the former chairman of the Scott County School Board and I know that the education of our state's youth is vital to its future."</p>	<p>"I work to support veteran's issues and options for sustainable energy. I am also passionate about supporting education, in all facets, and healthcare for Kentuckians."</p>

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