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Selected Recent Research Publications in Agricultural Economics Issued by the United States Department of Agriculture and Cooperatively by the State Colleges¹

BARTON, GLEN T., AND ROGERS, ROBERT O. FARM OUTPUT. PAST CHANGES AND PROJECTED NEEDS. U. S. Dept. Agr. Agr. Inform. Bul. 162, 44 pp., illus. August 1956.

The volume of farm output needed in 1975 may be about a third larger than the output in 1951-52. Annual increases required between the two dates may be half again as large as occurred during the long-run period, 1910-12 to 1951-53, and about a fifth greater than the post-World War II annual increase registered from 1944-46 to 1951-53.

BIRD, RONALD. TAXES LEVIED ON FARM PROPERTY IN THE UNITED STATES, AND METHODS OF ESTIMATING THEM. U. S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 189, 47 pp. August 1956.

This report explains the current method of estimating these taxes and brings together the tax estimates through 1954, going back to 1909 for farm real estate taxes and to 1924 for farm personal property taxes. The first attempt to obtain a national estimate of the property taxes levied on farmers was made in October 1922 by the former Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

BOWLES, GLADYS K. FARM POPULATION—NET MIGRATION FROM THE RURAL-FARM POPULATION, 1940-50. U. S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 176, 174 pp., illus. June 1956.

A net of 8.6 million persons alive at both the beginning and end of the decade migrated from farms between 1940 and 1950. Net outmigration for 1940-50 was 31 percent, compared with 13 and 19 percent respectively for 1930-40 and 1920-30. In 1940-50, rates for children and for persons 25-44 were low in most areas; rates for those 10-19 in 1940 were highest in all areas. Rates of net outmigration were usually higher for nonwhite persons than for white.

BOWLES, GLADYS K., AND TAEUBER, CONRAD. RURAL-FARM MALES ENTERING AND LEAVING WORKING AGES, 1940-50 AND 1950-60—REPLACEMENT RATIOS AND RATES. U. S. Dept. Commerce and U. S. Dept. Agr. cooperating. Series Census-AMS (P-27), No. 22, 65 pp., illus. August 1956.

The number of men aged 20 to 64 in the rural-farm population in 1950 was about 6 million. If there is no net migration to or from farms of young men entering this working age group during 1950-60 and the number of farm job opportunities remains approximately the same as in 1950, only about 60 percent of the young men reaching working age would find economic opportunity on farms. If, as is probable, the number of farms continues to decline between 1950 and 1960, and mechanization continues to increase, an even higher number must seek employment in nonfarm areas.

¹Processed reports are indicated as such. All others are printed. Such publications may be obtained from the issuing agencies of the respective States.

BRODELL, ALBERT P., AND KENDALL, ALBERT R. LIQUID PETROLEUM FUEL CONSUMPTION FOR FARM PURPOSES. U. S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 188, 25 pp. July 1956.

In 1953, farm consumption of liquid petroleum fuel, including L. P. gas, was estimated at 8.8 billion gallons, or 27 percent more than the 7.1 billion gallons estimated for 1947. About 77 percent of the total used in 1953 was used as motor fuel.

CRECINK, JOHN C. TENANT FARMERS, SOUTH PLATTE VALLEY, COLORADO. HOW THEY GET FARMS AND ACCUMULATE CAPITAL. U. S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Res. Serv. ARS 43-18, 81 pp., illus. August 1956.

Personal farm interviews with 197 tenant operators in the spring of 1951, supplemented by census data and information from farm-record accounts data maintained by the Economics and Sociology Section, Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, formed the basis for this report. It was found that tenancy rates on irrigated lands are nearly twice as high as on surrounding dry land. Both related and nonrelated tenants received substantial family backing in getting established in farming. Their average beginning net worth in 1950 dollars was \$3,078. The livestock enterprise made the chief contribution toward accumulation of capital, followed by opportunity to accumulate, number of years experience as a farm operator, productivity of the farm, and its size.

FRICK, G. E., AND HENRY, W. F. PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY ON NEW ENGLAND DAIRY FARMS V. ADJUSTMENTS IN OBTAINING DAIRY HERD REPLACEMENTS. N. H. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 430, 73 pp., illus. August 1956.

This publication is directed primarily toward developing information on the physical relationships involved in dairying and a method of using information about them in making economic decisions on how best to provide dairy-herd replacements. A dairyman needs to decide how he can best use his roughage, barn space, and labor, and his other production facilities, to achieve maximum income in view of his costs of production, price of purchased replacements, and price of milk. Milk-production rates were about the same for both raised and purchased cows. But New England dairymen would find it economically advantageous to shift from raising to buying replacements within the framework of current prices and technology.

GERHARDT, FISK, SCHOMER, HAROLD, WRIGHT, T. R. SEALED FILM LUG LINERS FOR PACKING BING CHERRIES. U. S. Dept. Agr. AMS-121, 8 pp., illus. September 1956.

Mylar and polyethylene films were used as sealed film box liners for the regular 15-pound standard wooden cherry lug. Mylar film required perforation at both 36° and 65° F. to prevent impairment of flavor. Polyethylene box liners required perforation at 65°. Decay was markedly reduced and stem freshness and fruit brightness were preserved by packaging cherries in sealed polyethylene film box liners.

GILLILAND, C. B., AND SMITH, T. B. AN ANALYSIS OF THE PEANUT SHELLING INDUSTRY, 1950-51 THROUGH 1952-53. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 134, 43 pp., illus. August 1956.

Activities of peanut-shelling plants varied little from year to year during the 3 years studied; in number of months of operation and in rate of receipts. Compared with 1950-51, the number reporting operations for 1951-52 was about 2 percent greater and for 1952-53 about 10 percent less. A similar comparison for volume cleaned and shelled shows 1951-52 with about 33 percent less and 1952-53 about 29 percent less. Yield of kernels in shelling is important, and obtaining maximum yield of peanuts for which prices are greater may determine a sheller's profit or loss.

GLASGOW, ROBERT B. FARM FAMILY INCOME: ITS DISTRIBUTION AND RELATION TO NONFARM INCOME. U. S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Res. Serv. ARS 43-34, 44 pp., illus. July 1956.

The median cash income of all farm families and un-related individuals in the United States during 1949 was \$1,564. Median incomes of \$1,500 or more were found in 225 State economic areas. Only 20 of these are in the 13 Southern States, and 11 are in Texas. The 135 areas with median incomes of less than \$1,500 are heavily concentrated in the South. Comparisons of farm-nonfarm income are made. In many areas, rural farm families make up only a small percentage of nonfarm families.

GROVE, E. W., AND CANNON, M. F. NEW INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM MARKETINGS AND HOME CONSUMPTION. U. S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Handb. 109, 34 pp., illus. July 1956.

Presents a new index of the volume of farm marketings and home consumption. Provides a complete set of sub-indexes in this new series. Gives detailed weight-period data on prices, quantities, and values underlying the index numbers.

HOCHSTIM, ESTHER S. SELECTED DATA RELATING TO WOMEN'S ATTITUDES TOWARD WOOL AND OTHER FIBERS IN SUITS, SKIRTS, AND SWEATERS AND IN HOME SEWING AND KNITTING. U. S. Dept. Agr. AMS-140, 17 pp. September 1956.

This preliminary report of an extensive study presents a preview of some of the major findings relating to women's use of and attitudes toward wool and other fibers in three items of clothing: fall, winter, and spring suits and skirts, and sweaters. Included are certain tables on moth-proofing, methods of cleaning and washability, sweater purchase, knitting, and home sewing. A full report is being prepared.

HOECKER, R. W., AND KRIESBERG, MARTIN. JOB ATTITUDES OF SUPERMARKET EMPLOYEES. U. S. Dept. Agr. AMS-142, 8 pp. September 1956.

Of the employees interviewed in 28 units of an eastern supermarket organization, 47 percent indicated they were satisfied with their jobs, 37 percent were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, and 16 percent were dissatisfied. Differences in opinions regarding job satisfaction among employees in different age, sex, job tenure, department of work, and other classifications are given.

HOWELL, L. D. INFLUENCE OF CERTIFICATED STOCKS ON SPOT-FUTURES PRICE RELATIONSHIPS FOR COTTON. U. S. Dept. Agr. Tech. Bul. 1151, 28 pp., illus. October 1956.

Main purpose of this bulletin is to show the relationships between prices of spot cotton and of futures contracts, the relation of the quantity and quality of cotton in certificated stocks to spot-futures price spreads, and the nature and extent of variations in the classifications of cotton included in certificated stocks; and to indicate the influence of these and other factors on spot-futures price relationships for cotton.

HUGHES, WILLIAM F., AND MAGEE, A. C. CHANGES IN INVESTMENT AND IRRIGATION WATER COSTS, TEXAS HIGH PLAINS, 1950-54. Tex. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 828, 8 pp., illus. Mar. 1956. (In cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture.)

This report is based on a farm survey conducted in June 1955 and designed to ascertain changes in investment and operating costs required to keep abreast of the changing situation in water supply. The 1954 average water cost per acre more than doubled the 1947-49 average learned from an earlier study. Additional capital investment on farms making improvements in irrigation facilities averaged \$7,600 in the sandy-land area, \$5,664 in the heavy land area, and \$6,642 for all farms surveyed.

HUNTER, D. L., KAUFER, FRANCIS, AND MEYER, C. H. THE EFFECT OF APPLE HANDLING METHODS ON STORAGE SPACE UTILIZATION. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 130, 18 pp., illus. July 1956.

Smaller labor costs, smaller crews, and less bruising and damage to fruit are some of the advantages of today's more mechanized methods of handling apples. But a storage plant operator should not decide to change from one handling method to another solely on the basis of the gross revenue. Three sizes of storage rooms were studied—two were typical of many found in older multiple-story plants and one was of modern design.

JAY, J. E., AND ENGER, M. R. RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION OF ROUGH RICE IN LOUISIANA AND TEXAS. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 136, 15 pp., illus. September 1956.

Three methods of handling rice were studied—in sacks, bulk handling in boxcars, and bulk handling in covered hoppers. The first method was by far the most expensive in terms of labor costs. Loading and unloading a boxcar of sacked rice cost \$30, compared with \$7.62 for bulk handling in boxcars, and \$5.20 for bulk handling in covered hopper cars. With complete conversion to bulk storage and handling methods, it would be possible to install more efficient loading spouts and receiving pits for covered hopper cars.

JOHNSON, T. D., BLACKMORE, W. E., SIEDSCHLAG, E. W., AND RICHEY, P. S. GRAIN MARKETING FACILITIES AND PRACTICES IN SOUTH CAROLINA. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 138, 41 pp., illus. October 1956.

Additional good storage space is needed on farms in South Carolina for about 36 million bushels of grains remaining on farms 1 month or longer and in off-farm fa-

cilities to replace about half a million bushels of poor storage space. Major improvements are needed in off-farm facilities in 12 counties and minor improvements in 20 counties. In 13 counties, the quantity of grain moving from farms or the location of good elevators in adjacent counties would make new grain-handling facilities financially hazardous.

KRIESBERG, MARTIN, AND LEIMAN, MARTIN. IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SUPERMARKET MANAGERS. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 125, 45 pp., illus.

In stores tested in the experiment, the new practices resulted in improved employee relations and better work methods. These improvements led to more effort going into store merchandising and increased sales per man-hour. Conformance to company directives in the test stores increased from 50 percent before to 79 percent after the new practices were introduced.

MORTENSON, W. P. TRENDS IN THE POULTRY INDUSTRY . . . EFFECTS ON THE MIDWEST. North Central Regional Pub. 73, 88 pp., illus. (Wis. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 523.) (Agr. Expt. Stas. of Ill., Ind., Iowa, Kans., Ky., Mich., Minn., Mo., Nebr., N. Dak., Ohio, S. Dak., Wis., and U. S. Dept. Agr. cooperating.) June 1956.

Striking trends have taken place in the poultry industry during 25 years. Purpose of this bulletin is (1) to describe the trends, (2) to point out the principal contributing reasons, and (3) to present ideas as to what trends we may expect in future.

NADEN, K. D., AND JACKSON, G. A., JR. FINANCING WESTERN BROILER PRODUCTION. Calif. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 753, 32 pp., illus. May 1956.

Examines sources of financing used by producers in Washington, Oregon, Utah, and California; analyses credit plans; and shows effects of the plans on industry development. Data collected from 44 major financing agencies concerned (1) relation of the agency to the broiler industry, (2) cost of credit, (3) conditions and practices for financing products, and (4) amount of credit used.

POATS, F. J., AND PARKER, R. W. MARKETING MOLASSES FOR LIVESTOCK FEED. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 132, 23 pp., illus. Sept. 1956.

Relatively satisfactory prices for molasses in comparison to other feeds has encouraged feeders to mix molasses with such low-value feeds as corncobs, straw, and cotton stalks and hulls. The extent to which feed costs were reduced by mixing molasses with other feeds depended largely on the size of feeding operations and the volume of bulk molasses that could be delivered at one time. Improved appearance of animals fed molasses was mentioned frequently by feeders as a reason for using it.

PORTER, W. F., AND METZLER, W. H. AVAILABILITY FOR EMPLOYMENT OF RURAL PEOPLE IN THE UPPER MONONGAHELA VALLEY, WEST VIRGINIA. W. Va. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 391, 43 pp., illus. June 1956.

Of a sample of 2,287 persons 14 years of age and over, 16 percent were found to be either looking for work or potentially available for work at time of survey—at a time when the State ranked first in the percentage of in-

sured workers who were unemployed. Nine in 10 of the workers preferred full-time nonfarm work. Few of those available had had any specialized vocational training but some had been employed in nonfarm work.

POWELL, J. V., AND BERBERICH, R. S. MARKETING TREE NUTS—TRENDS AND PROSPECTS. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 139, 38 pp., illus. October 1956.

By 1975, consumption of tree nuts in this country is likely to exceed present supplies. With the rise in consumption, production is expected to increase. If per capita consumption of tree nuts remained at 1955 levels, population increases alone would insure an annual domestic consumption of over 300 million pounds, shelled basis, by 1975. However, per capita consumption is expected to increase because of improved marketing methods and greater consumer education concerning use of nuts.

REDMAN, JOHN C., AND OLSON, RUSSELL O. ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN FEEDING DAIRY COWS. Ky. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 648, 34 pp., illus. July 1956.

This report discusses the feeding problem in its theoretical framework; the technical relationships within the problem—substitution between feeds, diminishing returns to feed, price ratios, ascertaining the most profitable feeding system, and relation of other managerial problems to dairy-feeding decisions.

SHAFFER, PAUL, AND ANDERSON, DALE. UNLOADING AND RECEIVING PRODUCE IN RETAIL FOOD STORES. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 129, 13 pp., illus. August 1956.

Researchers found that by using pallets, 163 cases of produce could be handled per man-hour. Only 56 could be handled when the cases were unloaded by hand and carried into the store on handtrucks. Comparisons were also made of 1- and 2-man crews unloading produce with and without conveyors. Production per man-hour is greater for the 1-man crew, but there are factors in favor of a 2-man crew. A separate watermelon-handling study evaluated 4 methods and types of equipment.

SHAFFER, PAUL, AND WISCHKAEMPER, PAUL. COST AND SALES RESULTS OF ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF HANDLING BANANAS AT RETAIL. U. S. Dept. Agr. AMS-149, 10 pp., illus. October 1956.

Analyzes five methods of preparing bananas at retail in terms of their effects upon labor costs, materials costs, and costs of consumer damage to bananas. Analyzes 2 of the 5 methods in terms of their effects upon sales volume. Data were collected in seven stores.

SMITH, H. V., AND HERRMANN, L. F. CHANGING PATTERNS IN FLUID MILK DISTRIBUTION: TYPES OF MILK, CHANNELS OF SALE, TYPES AND SIZES OF CONTAINERS. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 135, 138 pp., illus. August 1956.

Milk distributors in many parts of the country are selling increasing proportions of their milk in half-gallon and gallon containers in place of quarts; in paper containers in place of glass. In nearly all the markets studied, homogenized milk was rapidly replacing regular milk. Milks to which vitamins have been added are generally homogenized.

STEWART, CLYDE E., AND HUFFMAN, ROY E. RESOURCE NEEDS AND INCOME POTENTIALS ON NEWLY IRRIGATED FAMILY-OPERATED FARMS, LOWER MARIAS PROJECT, MONTANA. *Mont. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul.* 521, 90 pp., illus. June 1956. (Production Economics Research Branch, ARS, cooperating.)

Chief emphasis here is on the necessary resources and the incomes that may be expected under several methods of developing an irrigated farm. Five illustrative plans are analyzed and compared. All plans assume 150 acres of class 2 land, of which 140 acres are irrigated. Results on owner-operated farms suggest desirability of emphasizing cash crops in early years of development. Later, these crops may be replaced partly by a livestock enterprise.

TOOTHMAN, J. S. SURVEY OF DISTRIBUTION PRACTICES FOR PREPACKAGED FROZEN MEAT. U. S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 137, 23 pp., illus. September 1956.

Prepackaging meat at central locations may offer economies and merchandising advantages over methods now used in retail stores. Rapid sales growth of frozen meats and meat products emphasize the importance of expanding the facilities for processing and improving the methods of handling. To market the quantity of frozen red meat that trade observers estimate will be marketed within 5 years would require facilities for handling a pack equivalent to 75 percent of the 1955 commercial pack of all frozen foods.

U. S. AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. CAPACITY OF REFRIGERATED WAREHOUSES IN THE UNITED STATES OCTOBER 1, 1955. U. S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 193, 35 pp., illus. October 1956.

On October 1, 1955, the national gross refrigerated capacity was 813 million cubic feet, an increase of 65 million cubic feet since the 1953 survey. The 10-year growth from 1945 to 1955 was 167 million cubic feet. Regional gains ranged from 114,000 cubic feet in the Mountain States to 20 million on the west coast.

U. S. AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. FARM POPULATION—ESTIMATES FOR 1956. U. S. Dept. Agr. AMS-80 (1956), 10 pp. August 1956.

About 22,257,000 people lived on farms in the United States in April 1956—not far from the estimate for 1955. The drop in farm population continued the longtime down trend, reducing farm residents to 13.3 percent of the total population by 1956.

U. S. AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. FEDERAL MILK MARKETING ORDERS—THEIR ESTABLISHMENT, TERMS, AND OPERATION. U. S. Dept. Agr. Misc. Pub. 732, 40 pp., illus. October 1956.

Effective application of the Federal milk order program depends upon free, full, and informed participation by all interested parties in the public proceedings which govern the orders. This report furnishes the needed information about Federal milk orders.

U. S. AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. MARKETING COSTS AND MARGINS FOR FRESH MILK. U. S. Dept. Agr. Misc. Pub. 733, 15 pp., illus. October 1956.

The price paid by consumers for fresh milk went up about one-fifth from 1947 to 1955; the price received by farmers was about the same in both years. The higher price to consumers was due to increases in marketing costs—largely in payrolls, supplies, and equipment. Farmers received in 1955 only 45 cents of each dollar spent by consumers for fresh milk, and marketing charges were 55 cents.

VERMEER, JAMES. CHANGES IN COSTS ON SPRING WHEAT FARMS. U. S. Dept. Agr. Production Research Rept. 4, 39 pp., illus. September 1956.

Two groups of factors have had opposite effects on changes in costs on spring wheat farms since 1940. Continuously rising prices of goods and services used in production and the increasing proportion of these goods and services purchased from nonfarm sources have caused farm costs to rise at an accelerated rate. Conversely, larger farms and increased efficiency production through mechanization and other technological improvements have held down costs. Net effect has been an increase in cost per farm and costs per unit of production.

Statistical Compilations

U. S. AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. FRUITS—NONCITRUS, BY STATES, 1949-55; REVISED ESTIMATES, UNITED STATES, 1934-55. PRODUCTION—USE—VALUE. U. S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 192, 88 pp. September 1956.

U. S. AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. POTATOES—SWEETPOTATOES. REVISED ESTIMATES BY STATES 1949-55, ACREAGE, YIELD, PRODUCTION, PRICE AND VALUE, FARM DIPOSITION AND JANUARY 1 STOCKS. U. S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 190, 31 pp. August 1956.

U. S. AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. PRODUCTION EXPENSES OF FARM OPERATORS, BY STATES, 1949-55. U. S. Dept. Agr. AMS-85 (revised 1956), 16 pp. October 1956.

U. S. AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. PRODUCTION OF MANUFACTURED DAIRY PRODUCTS, 1955. U. S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 199, 42 pp. November 1956.

U. S. AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. TREE NUTS, BY STATES, 1949-55—REVISED ESTIMATES, PRODUCTION, USE, VALUE. U. S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 195, 14 pp. October 1956.

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