



AgEcon SEARCH
RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL & APPLIED ECONOMICS

The World's Largest Open Access Agricultural & Applied Economics Digital Library

This document is discoverable and free to researchers across the globe due to the work of AgEcon Search.

Help ensure our sustainability.

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search

<http://ageconsearch.umn.edu>

aesearch@umn.edu

*Papers downloaded from **AgEcon Search** may be used for non-commercial purposes and personal study only. No other use, including posting to another Internet site, is permitted without permission from the copyright owner (not AgEcon Search), or as allowed under the provisions of Fair Use, U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 U.S.C.*

APPENDICES

PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF SURVEY

Carlisle A.R. Pemberton

(Lecturer, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad)

This section presents some preliminary results from the survey of farmers in Antigua undertaken as part of the Case Study. This survey was designed to provide information on farmers in Antigua, especially on their attitude to farming, their goals and aspirations and their response to different supply variables.

These preliminary results will include, along with the tables, a brief description of relevant methodological techniques utilized.

Enterprises Carried Out

The farmers were asked to state the enterprises on their farm in order of importance. Table 1 gives the most important enterprises on the 100 farms

Table 1. Enterprises Named the Most Important on Farms, 1976

Enterprises	No. of Farms ¹
Cotton	34
Vegetables	26
Root Crops	17
Beef	3
Dairy	9
Tree Crops	11
Total	100

¹These are the number of farms on which the enterprise was most important.

Average Farm Size

Table 2 presents the size distribution of farms in the survey, along with the mean size of the farm families.

Table 2. Size Distribution of Farms in the Survey, and Mean Family Size

Farm Size (acres)	No. of Farms	Mean Family Size
0 - .99	16	5.47
1 - 1.99	35	5.6
2 - 2.99	27	4.08
3 - 3.99	9	-
4 - 4.99	5	-
5 - 15	8	-
Total	100	(Overall Mean) 5.16

Note: - = Number of observations too small to obtain reliable mean.

Table 3. Number of Farmers Engaged in Off-Farm Employment

Approx. % of Time in Off-Farm Employment	No. of Farmers
0	30
25	14
50	20
70	28
No response	8
Total	100

As seen in Table 3, 30 per cent of farmers stated that they did not engage in off-farm employment. The number of females in the sample was 25 (out of the total sample of 100). Among these females 50 per cent of them stated that they did not engage in off-farm employment.

Income Levels of Farmers

Table 4 gives the distributions of farm and off-farm income of farmers in the survey.

Table 4. Distribution of Farm and Off-Farm Income of Farmers, 1976

Income Level (\$)	Off-Farm Income No. of Farmers at Level	Gross Farm Income No. of Farmers at Level
0 - 500	41	39
501 - 1,000	12	31
1,001 - 2,000	12	16
2,001 - 3,000	10	4
3,001 - 5,000	11	7
5,001 - 10,000	3	3
No response	11	0
Total	100	100

Age of Farmers

Table 5 gives the age distribution of farmers interviewed in the survey.

Table 5. Age Distribution of Farmers

Age Level	No. of Farmers	Age Level	No. of Farmers
> 69	11	30 - 39	6
60 - 69	23	20 - 29	2
50 - 59	37	< 20	0
40 - 49	21	Total	100

Goals and Aspirations of Farmers

A major objective of the survey was to obtain a picture of the goal orientations and levels of aspirations of farmers in Antigua. This was achieved by utilizing the measurement procedures devised by Kilpatrick and Cantril (1960).

Cantril's method was devised to get a picture of the goals and aspirations of individuals in their own terms. The aim is to do this in such a way that, without sacrificing authenticity or prescribing boundaries of fixed categories, it would still be possible to make meaningful comparisons between different individuals, groups and individuals and societies.

Cantril developed what he called the Self Anchoring Striving Scale, to measure aspiration levels and also obtain goal orientations. The respondent is asked to define, on the basis of his own assumptions and goals, the two extremes or anchoring points of the spectrum, on which the scale measurement is derived. The technique consists of first asking two open-ended questions. The first is: All of us want certain things out of life, what are your wishes and hopes for the future if you are to be happy?

It is assumed that responses to this question are concrete expressions of meaningful life goals. After responses to this question are recorded, the following question is asked: Now taking the other side of the picture, what are your fears and worries about the future? Statements of fears and worries may give clues to a subject's goals, since they may be opposite to the goal states that he would like to achieve. The results of these two questions are given in Tables 6 and 7.

Table 6. Goal Orientations of Farmers: Wishes and Hopes

Response	% of Farmers*
A. Economic	
1. Make more money	51
2. Be regularly employed	11
3. Own more (house, land, taxi, etc.)	41
4. Make enough money to get by	12
5. To feed family	12
B. Non-Economic	
6. Maintain good health	22
7. Attain family well being	20
8. Get more leisure	8
9. Get better job	6
C. Other	35

*Percentage of farmers giving the particular response.

Table 7. Goal Orientations of Farmers: Fears and Worries

Response	% of Farmers*
Having poor health	16
Loss of grazing lands for animals	9
Political uncertainty	11
Children's future	6
Poor weather	11
Lack of regular job	8
None	23
Other	28
No response	17

*Percentage of farmers giving the particular response.

The respondent is then presented with a 10-rung "picture ladder" and is instructed to let the top of the ladder represent the best possible life, and the bottom the worst possible life. He is asked to indicate where he thinks his life is on the scale at the present time; then he is asked where he thinks his life will be in five years.

The response to the second question (latter level in five years) provides a generalized measure of the level of aspiration of the respondent. The ideal goal or best possible life, and the low level goal - the worst possible life - are in terms of the respondent's own conceptions. Hence, the respondent's level of aspiration is given with respect to the goals he would like to see achieved in his life. It can be assumed that the level of aspiration stated here represents an average value of the levels of aspiration for the various goals comprising his goal structure. The results of the questions on aspirational levels are given in Table 8.

Table 8. Aspiration and Occupational Satisfaction Scores for Farmers*

Aspiration:	Mean Ladder Level
1. Present life level	5.14
2. Life level in five years	6.77
Occupational Satisfaction:	
1. Present level	7.46

*Based on ladder levels: 10 - the best possible life (or occupation) to 0 - the worst possible life (or occupation).

Occupational Values of Farmers

A modification of the method of Kilpatrick, Cummings and Jennings (1964) was used in the investigation of occupational values. Kilpatrick *et al.* utilized an adaptation of the Self Anchoring Scale to obtain some open-ended information on

occupational value orientations. The respondent is again shown a picture of a ladder, but this time the top of the ladder represents the best possible occupation, and the bottom the worst possible occupation, and the respondent is asked: Where on the ladder do you feel that your occupation of farming stands at the present time? The answer to this question provides a measure of occupational satisfaction. The results of this question are presented in Table 8.

The respondent is then asked about the factors about farming that cause him to give the occupation the particular ladder level stated. Answers here provide a picture of occupational value orientations in terms of the respondent's own conception. The results of this question are given in Table 9.

Table 9 Occupational Values of Farmers

Response	% of Farmers*
1. Provides independence (be own boss)	52
2. Provides food	24
3. Provides good living (reasonable income)	34
4. Personal liking	7
5. Cuts down on cash needs in home	8
6. Accustomed to it	11
7. Provides regular employment	11
8. Other	11

*Percentage of farmers giving the particular response

Some farmers also presented some negative aspects of farming such as the weather uncertainty and the occupation being "hard work", but since the number of farmers giving these responses was less than six, no tabulation is provided.

Supply Factors

The farmers were presented with a list of factors and asked to state, in order of importance, the factors they considered as being important in affecting their decision as to which crop they grew. The question was: What factors do you consider in deciding on the crops you are going to cultivate when you are preparing for planting? (List in order of importance.)

Assured market ...; Knowledge of crop ...; Price ...;
Weather condition; Availability of planting material ...;
Other factors (to be named by Respondent)

Two other factors were named by respondents: (i) the need to provide food for their families and (ii) the need for weed control.

Table 10 provides the results obtained.

Table 10. Factors Affecting Choice of Crops

Factor	% of Farmers Rating Factor Most Important	% of Farmers Rating Factor Second Most Important
Assured market	23	20
Knowledge of crop	20	25
Price	11	22
Weather	34	3
Availability of planting material	2	21
Need to provide food for family	9	7
Weed control	1	2
Total	100	100

Need for a Farmers' Organization

The farmers were asked whether they would support an association formed to look after the welfare of farmers. In the sample, 72 farmers (72 per cent) said that they would support such an organization, while 20 farmers (20 per cent) said that they would not support such an organization. Eight farmers failed to give a response to the question.

General

The interviewers reported that the information collected in the survey was in most cases very reliable. This would mean that some confidence can be put in the results as representing the true feelings of the farmers interviewed. Further analysis of the survey will be presented at a later date.

References

- Kilpatrick, F.P. and Cantril, H. "Self Anchoring Scaling: A Measure of Individuals' Unique Reality Worlds", Journal of Individual Psychology, 16, 521-542, 1960.
- Kilpatrick, F.P., Cummings, M.C. Jr. and Jennings, M.K. The Image of the Federal Service. The Brooking Institution, Washington D.C., 1964