Journal of Agricultural Cooperation

Volume 8 1993

Articles

Risk and Equity in Agricultural Cooperatives
Claudia Parliment and Zvi Lerman ........................................... 1

What Do We Know About the Economic Efficiency of Cooperatives: An Evaluative Survey
Richard J. Sexton and Julie Iskow ............................................ 15

Formula Price Contracts as an Alternative to Forward Integration by Farmer Cooperatives
Jeffrey S. Rojer and Sanjib Bhuuyan ........................................ 28

Factors That Influence the Commitment of Members to Their Cooperative Organization
Joan R. Fulton and Wiktor L. Adamowicz ................................. 39

Origins of a Current Conflict? An Examination of Stock-Nonstock Cooperative Law
Diane Rizzuto Suhler and Michael L. Cook ............................... 54

Invited Paper

The Mission of the Agricultural Cooperative Service: Commitments, Crises, and Possible Futures
Randall E. Torgerson ............................................................. 63

ACS Mission and Clientele: Perspective of a Former Administrator
Ronald D. Knutson ............................................................... 73

The Mission of the Agricultural Cooperative Service:
A Discussion
Bernard L. Sanders ............................................................. 78

Classic Review

True Farmer Coöperation
Reprint from World's Work, May 1923
Aaron Sapiro ................................................................. 81

Aaron Sapiro's Theory of Cooperatives: A Contemporary Assessment
Roger G. Ginder .............................................................. 93

A Comment on Sapiro's 'True Farmer Coöperation'
Leon Garoyan ................................................................. 103
A Message from the Publisher

The National Council of Farmer Cooperatives continues to strengthen its efforts to promote agricultural and cooperative research, and publishing the Journal of Agricultural Cooperation is a key activity in this effort. Clearly, the Journal, in its seven years of publication, has made a significant contribution in encouraging research on cooperative topics and in exchanging research results among individuals in universities, cooperatives, and government.

This eighth volume contains five articles on a wide variety of cooperative topics, an invited paper by Randy Torgerson on the mission of the Agricultural Cooperative Service, and a classic reprint by Aaron Sapiro on his California plan of cooperative marketing. Two reaction papers follow both the invited paper and the classic reprint.

In this 1993 volume, Jim Rhodes, from the University of Missouri, has continued his outstanding work as Journal editor—a job that requires dedication, a wellspring of expertise in both research and publishing, and many hours of work. Those of us at NCFC greatly appreciate his contribution.

I also want to thank the nine members of the Journal's editorial board, the authors who contributed articles to this issue, and the twenty-four cooperative researchers who reviewed all submitted manuscripts. I look forward to further contributions from these and other cooperative researchers and educators as NCFC continues to work with the academic community in the publication of this journal.

Wayne A. Boutwell
President
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
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