



**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](mailto: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.*

# DO YOU KNOW?

*James Patterson On...*

## INTRIGUING FACTS & NUMBERS

**THAT** the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta confirmed 8 cases of bubonic plague in the United States during 1987.

**THAT** over 150 smoking liability suits have been filed against U.S. tobacco companies since 1978.

**THAT** Farm Aid III, held in Lincoln, Nebraska, on September 19, 1987, grossed \$3.3 million. Television viewers pledged \$1 million, 69,000 people paid \$20.75 to attend the concert (\$1.4 million), \$600,000 were earned in advertising revenues, \$200,000 were donated by charitable organizations and sales of T-shirts and other items earned \$100,000. To date the largest recipient of farm aid donations is the National Council of Churches. NCC has received nearly \$2 million to provide emergency services in rural areas.

**THAT** three states account for nearly 20 percent of our nation's 87 million acres of woodland. Texas, Missouri, and Georgia have 6.4, 4.9, and 4.2 million acres of woodland respectively.

**THAT** there are approximately 60 manufacturers of industrial robots in the United States. Robotics manufacturers are concentrated in the Midwest with over one half of the manufacturers in Michigan.

**THAT** Idaho farmers lost \$1.7 million in sheep and lambs to predators during 1986.

**THAT** 384 million pounds of catfish were produced in Mississippi during 1986.

**THAT** Alaska farmers earned over \$750,000 from sales of reindeer meat and byproducts in 1986.

**THAT** Georgia apiculturalists sold \$1.3 million worth of queen bees in 1986.

**THAT** agricultural employers of 11 or more hand-laborers must provide toilets, potable drinking water and hand washing facilities in the field in compliance with OSHA's field sanitation standard. OSHA estimates compliance cost for a typical agricultural employer at \$1.09 per worker per day.

*James Patterson is an agricultural Economist with the Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA*

**THAT** the first State Agricultural Experiment Station was the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, established in Connecticut by Act approved July 20, 1875

**THAT** there are eight federally guaranteed loan programs within the Department of Agriculture including farm operating and ownership loans, soil and water loans to individuals, business and industrial loans, and loans for alcohol fuel and biomass, community antenna television, rural electrification and telephones.

**THAT** 1985 commercial landings of edible and non-edible fish by U.S. fishermen totaled 6.3 billion pounds and were valued at \$2.3 billion. Fishermen in Alaska and Louisiana accounted for 46 percent of all commercial landings with 1.2 billion and 1.7 billion pounds, respectively.

**THAT** the first crop limitation law in the U.S. was passed October 16, 1629, by the Virginia General Assembly. The law limited planting of tobacco.

**THAT** over 70 percent of the commercial timberland in the U.S. is privately owned. In contrast, over 90 percent of Canadian Timberland is owned by the Canadian Government.

**THAT** over 4 million mink pelts were produced in the U.S. during 1986 with Wisconsin accounting for 28 percent of production.

**THAT** Arkansas farmers produced 41 percent of the nation's rice crop in 1986 harvesting 55.1 million hundredweight from 1 million acres.

**THAT** on Monday, October 19, 1987, more than \$500 billion of corporate equity vanished in six and one-half hours. On that day the Dow Jones Industrial average declined 508 points. During the New York Stock Exchanges' trading day, corporate equity dissolved at the rate of \$1.28 billion per minute.

**THAT** 23 billion pounds of poultry were federally inspected in 1985. Ante- and post-mortem condemnations total over 445 million pounds.

**THAT** in a dry ton of cage layer poultry manure there are 80 pounds of nitrogen, 90 pounds of phosphorus and 56 pounds of potash on average.

**THAT** the U.S. exported \$43 million worth of breeder chicks for the year ending September 30, 1985. At the same time, \$209 billion worth of fresh, processed chicken was exported.

**THAT** 3.5 billion hours were required to perform all farm work in the U.S. in 1985. In contrast, in 1975 it took 5 billion hours to perform the nation's farm work.

**THAT** more than 600 billion pounds of domestically produced pesticides were exported in 1984.

**THAT** Americans patronized over 125 thousand fast food outlets during 1985.

**THAT** New Mexico is the nation's largest chile producer with over 22,000 acres yielding nearly 40,000 dry ton equivalents of peppers. The 1986 crop is estimated at \$37 million. By the way, chile is the correct spelling in the Land of Enchantment. ☐