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Assessing Food Production Potentials in the Final State of Stationary Populations

bу

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## Assessing Food Production Potentials in the Final State of Stationary Populations\*

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#### 1. Introduction and Overview

Since Malthus many authors have elaborated the nagging question "How many people can be provided with food on earth?". Thus, the purpose of this study is to explore and examine concepts which try to measure the food production potential of the earth.

Two groups of approaches characterize the literature. The first group derives its conclusions from comparing differing yield levels between countries, areas or agricultural experiment stations. One argues quite reasonably that through the application of modern technologies, low productivity land can be developed to higher yield levels. However, the theoretical maximum of food production is not specifically assessed. may lead to an underestimation of the earth's food production potential only because observed yield levels are the basis of the assesments made. Pertinent to this approach is that as soon as the extent of the cultivable land, yield, and comsumption levels are determined, the number of people to be nourished on earth can Because this approach has an insufficient be calculated. coverage in space and in time, it will not be considered further.

The second group of approaches is more recent and scholarly conceived. Botanists and agronomists have assessed quantitatively the actual and theoretical performances of the world's various natural vegetation and agricultural production systems. In Section 2 an attempt will be made in presenting the basic concepts with global assessments.

However, the natural scientists' approach is mostly applied to various aggregates of global, continental or agroclimatic zones which disregard national boundaries. This study is designed to transform and adjust global, continental and agroclimatic zones' estimations of the food production potential to country levels. The food production potential of countries is then related to estimations of its stationary population.

Various utilization rates of the food production potential are assumed. This permits exploration of the possible food consumption levels in the final state of a country's stationary population.

This study has to rely on many assumptions and generalizations. Some calculations and estimations lack the desirable accuracy. Further, the time horizon appears, compared to current problems of the world food economy, rather distant. But it is hoped that a better understanding of how to evaluate the food production potential of the earth, in the world's regions and countries is the consequence.

- Assessments of Global Production Potentials
- 2.1 Approaches in the Natural Sciences

A first attempt of assessing nature's production potential has already been made in 1862 by Liebig when he estimated the size of the primary production of plants on the earth. The next step in quantifying the earth's primary production was taken by botanists. Lieth (4, 5, 6) developed (1972) for the world a complex model of estimating primary productivity (biomass) for

the main types of vegetation (forests, savannahs, grassland, cultivated land, etc.). To model nature's production function at various latitudes and locations, an inventory of the world's climate represented the first step. Lieth used data on temperature, precipitation, evaporation of 1,000 metereological stations from all over the world. The results were presented and mapped in terms of dry matter production for the land and the sea. He estimated the earth's annual total dry matter production at 155 X 10° tons, of these 55 X 10° are produced in the sea and 100 X 10° tons on the land.

To get his share of the biomass, man is and has permanently been in competition with other living organisms. Further, only the smaller part of the annual biomass produced is accessible to man and edible. Therefore, man has to use his domesticated animals which convert for him some of the inaccessible fibrous material into edible food. Under several assumptions Lieth estimated the number of people which could be supported by the earth's ecological system at 7 to 15 billion people.

The approach of botanists has its virtues. It emphasizes that primary productivity or biomass production occurs independently of man, but differs in amount according to natural resources available at each location. However, the estimation of the world's total annual biomass production out of broadly defined vegetation systems remains, for the purpose intended, crude and too summary. One can rarely derive the proper share of food out of total biomass production which could be made

available to man.

#### 2.2 Approach of Agronomists

An estimation of the earth's food producing potential was undertaken in 1975 by Dutch agronomists of the University of Wageningen in the Netherlands (1). It was part of a project (11) "Food for a Doubling World Population" which was initiated in response to the Club of Rome's world-wide known study "The Limits to Growth."<sup>2</sup>

The theoretical framework of the assessment procedure was developed by the Dutch agronomist De Wit (12). He considered the photosynthetic potential of cultivated plants as a function of location, latitude and an inventory of the world's climate (solar energy, monthly air temperature, precipitation, evatransporation, leaf canopy, etc.). The results were summarized in a table for a standard crop<sup>3</sup> (conceived as a C3 plant). The authors Buringh, van Heemst and Staring (1, p. 27) described the procedure as follows: "indicating for the middle of every month of the year the daily totals of photosynthesis on every clear (PC) and overcast (PO) day of various latitudes. PC and PO can be derived from this table for any location by linear interpolation. totals, calculated on the basis of the light climate, can only be reached when the average temperature is reasonable. This is presumed to be the case when the average temperature is 10°C or higher."

They used the following apparatus of formula to estimate the mean monthly gross photosynthesis (CAR):

(1) CAR = ID (F - PO + (1 - F)  $\cdot$  PC) \* where

CAR = Gross Photosynthesis expressed in kg carbohydrate per month and hectare,

ID = the number of days in the month;

F = the fraction of the time when the sky is overcast and

(2)  $F = 1 - h - H^{-1}$  where

h = mean monthly sum of hours of sunshine, local data;

H = the monthly sum of maximum hours of sunshine.

Carbohydrates are transformed into Dry Matter (DM) by multiplying with the factor 0.65 which yields:

(3)  $DM = 0.65 \times ID (F - PD + (1 - F) - PC)$ .

The formula can only be applied, however, when the average temperature is for more than three months higher than 10°C and is written as:

(4) DMY = DM X MD where

DMY = Dry Matter production per Year and

MO = Number of Months above 10°C subject to MO≥3.

The so calculated potential dry matter production contains still the roots, stems, leaves, flowers, and fruits. Under the assumption that the dry matter production is composed as follows: Roots and stubble (25% of DM), straw (37.5% of DM), grain (37.5%

<sup>&#</sup>x27;This formula was later changed into: (1a) CAR = ID (F² · PO + (1 - F²) · PC) to permit a non-linear interpolation between the two states of the sky (clear or overcast). The formula now takes into account all diffuse radiation and may lead at some locations to higher estimations of food production potentials (9). In this contribution only the original calculations based on formula (1) have been considered.

of DM) with 2% as harvest loss and a moisture content of the grain of 15% the maximum production in grain equivalents is then calculated:

(5) MPGE = DMY  $\times$  (0.75 X 0.5 X 0.98 / 85) X 100 or MPGE = 0.432 X DMY.

However, the conditions of growing crops are rarely optimal in the world's agricultural regions. Nutrients are missing or the water supply is the limiting factor. A proper soil inventory had to be developed. From the world's soil (and water) inventory, the authors introduced reduction factors for poor soils and for water deficiencies. The basis for applying reduction factors (ranging from 0 to 1) have been maps of 222 broad soil regions of FAD/UNESCO which had a scale of 1:15,000,000. The areas, with respective water deficiencies, were derived from related studies on water availabilities. The lowest of both limiting factors were then applied to reduce the tabulated photosynthetic performance in each of the 222 soil regions.

Pertinent to this approach of estimating the MPGE is the appraisal of the potential agricultural land and an assessment of the potentially irrigable arable land (1, p. 50). The MOIRA elaboration includes further assessments of development cost categories, the distribution of land productivity classes and the topography of soils (lowland, upland, deserts, mountains) in the world's regions. More details can be derived from the source. The final calculation of the MPGE for the world in total can be

found in Table 1.

#### 2.3 Global Assessments and Comparisons

Nature has had millions of years time to maximize biomass production on earth. Thus, nature maximizes at each location and climate the sun light's energy by a diversity of plants. The more optimal the growth conditions, the higher is the biomass production and the diversity of contributing plants. This is revealed in the rich variety of plants growing in lushy tropical forests and the very small number of plants and tiny biomass production in the world's deserts and tundras.

However, production targets of nature are not identical with those of man. Man has, compared to nature, at his disposal only a reduced number of cultivated plants which guarantee his survival, because he can not live from tree branches, leafs, ferns, moss, etc. Therefore, man has been forced to increase food production by enlarging his share of cultivated plants in total biomass production.

By converting nature's annual biomass production and the food production (actual and potential) into energy units (Joule [J]), one can compare the respective dimensions of the botanists' and agronomists' approaches (Table 2). In 1964-66 world food production represented only 3.2% of total biomass production. The above assessed food production potential would finally represent 38% of total biomass production on land (12).

#### 2.4 Approaches Developed by FAO/IIASA

The methodology developed by the Wageningen group has been

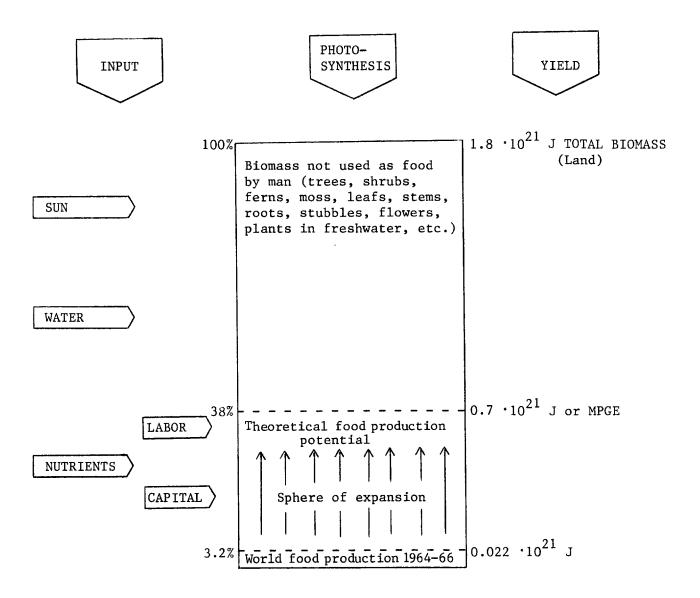
Table 1: The Absolute Maximum Production of Grain Equivalents (MPGE) World, Continents

Region	Arable land <sup>a</sup> 1982 Milli	Potential agricultural cropland on Hectares	MPGE tons/ hectare/ year	MPGE 10 <sup>9</sup> t	MPGE in %
South America	139	617	18.0	11.1	22.3
Australia	47	226	10.4	2.3	4.7
Africa	183	762	14.3	10.8	21.8
Asia	506	1,081	13.2	14.3	28.6
North and Central America Europe	273 322	629 399	11.3 10.5	7.1 4.2	14.2 8.4
World	1,473	3,748	13.4	49.8	100.0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Includes permanent crops. The arable land of the U.S.S.R. has been divided into 182 million hectares for Europe and 50 million to Asia.

Source: MOIRA, p. 25-49. -FAO, Production Yearbook 1983.

Table 2: Estimated Annual Biomass<sup>a</sup> Production on Earth<sup>b</sup> compared with the World Food Production in 1964-66<sup>c</sup> and the World's Absolute Maximum Production in Grain Equivalents (MPGE)<sup>c</sup> in Joule (J)<sup>d</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>According to Lieth (1972). <sup>b</sup>Without biomass produced in oceans. <sup>c</sup>MOIRA.

dDry matter production and grain equivalents have been converted into energy units (1 Joule = 0.2388 cal) under-adopting the following conversion ratios: one g of dry matter = 4.23 kcal and one g of grain equivalent = 3.3 kcal.

further pursued by a group of researchers of FAO/IIASA (3, 8). They differ in details of the climatic and soil inventory, e.g. they use for assessing the food producing potential a soil map of larger scale (1:5,000,000 instead of 1:15,000,000). Instead of estimating the production potential in 222 broad soil zones, they consider agroecological cells of 10,000 hectares in each of the 117 developing countries (without China). Instead of a standard crop, they assess the performance of several suitable food crops. Finally, the FAO/IIASA research group distinguishes different levels of inputs (low, medium or high). The intention is to determine those countries which don't even have at the high input level enough food in the year 2000. However, conclusions for the long run are difficult to draw because the high input level is neither quantitatively defined nor is the underlying production function explained.

The FAD/IIASA approach is not followed here despite finer details in soil and climate inventory and the broader range of food crops considered. The FAD/IIASA approach has the disadvantage that it covers only one part of the world. Further, it can not be derived from the study how the various crops were aggregated and which proportion of the food production potential in each agroecological cell should be mobilized by the year 2000 to meet the food requirements.

Similar studies seem to have been undertaken for the U.S.S.R. by Soviet scientists (2, 7). However, the methodology, data and results have, until now, not been accessible to the

general public. This is mentioned here only as an indication of how appealing the methods of estimating food production potentials have been.

- 3. Food Production Potentials or the Theoretical Maximum of Food Production
- 3.1 Theoretical Yield Potentials in Countries

As mentioned above, the estimation of food production potentials in the MOIRA-Study started from 222 soil zones. The aggregation of grain equivalents was conducted as continental and world totals (Table 1). The disaggregation to country levels is planimetrically done in the following Figures 1 to 6. The appendix contains the elaborated country data in three tables.

The published maps of soil zones in the MOIRA-study had to be disaggregated and allocated to very uneven sized countries. The allocation is easy if a country belongs only to one soil zone. Some countries have extremely rugged national boundaries which hampers planimetric accuracy. Most of the larger countries belong to several soil zones (like Brazil, China, the U.S.A., and U.S.S.R.). Brazil has 16 soil zones, China 13, the U.S.A. has 17, but the U.S.S.R. has 30 different soil zones. To give only one example of the diversity of production conditions in large countries: the highest yield class in the U.S.A. has 22.6 tons of GE per hectare, however, the lowest reaches only a theoretical yield of 5.2 tons. Therefore, in most countries a complex weighting of the various soil zones had to be pursued. To minimize possible differences between MOIRA's continental and the

planimetrically derived country results, some, but minor balancing calculations, were applied. Additionally, tiny islands, many small states, the small Levantine countries (Israel, Jordan, Lebanon), countries on the Arabic peninsula (Yemen [North and South], Oman), both Koreas and Switzerland have been excluded. Presently, these countries do not cover more than 1% of the world grain (or food) production.

The MOIRA-Study distinguishes six land productivity classes (Table 3). Forty-five percent of the world's potential agricultural land has theoretical yields of more than 15 tons of grain equivalents. It is concentrated in areas where neither frost nor extended droughts interrupt the year's vegetation period, typical for the lower latitudes in Latin America, Asia and large parts of Africa. The special distribution of six land productivity classes among all continents is revealed in Figure There are a few countries which have a potential of less than five tons GE per hectare (Mongolia, Mali, and Niger) or more than 25 tons GE/hectare (Egypt and Bangladesh). The countries of Europe, Turkey, China, Japan, Argentina and the United States have on the average a theoretical yield potential of up to 15 tons GE per hectare of their partly large territories. countries, Chile and Australia reach only 10 tons GE per hectare whereas many tropical countries can reach more than 15 and 20 tons GE per hectare.

Moreover, it has to be mentioned that the estimations of the food producing potential are based on potential agricultural land

Table 3: Distribution of Soil Productivity Classes in Million Hectares, Maximum Production in Grain Equivalents (GE)

Region		Productivity Class (GE/tons/hectare) in Million Hectares					
	<u>∢</u> 5	>5-10	III >10-15	>15-20	>20-25	>25	
South America							
Australia, New Zealand	60	<b>68</b>	26	19	49		
Africa	93	92	95	33 <b>5</b>	135	5	
Asia	197	51	352	214	135	69	
North & Central America		342	87	144	48		
Europe			224				
Total 3,602	362	704	892	1,011	556	77	
in %			25				

Source: MOIRA, p. 39.

25.0 - 24.9 t 25.0 - 30.0 t 30.0 t (only irrigation)

MPGE/PAL in tons per bectare

(Calculated from MOIRA)

Figure 1: Maximum Production of Grain Equivalents (MPGE) per Hectare of Potential Agricultural Land (PAL)

-- not on actually cultivated land which is only 40% of the total potential. Thus, one can reasonably assume that the actual crop land use already covers in each country the more fertile soils.

This permits the conclusion that the <u>theoretical</u> yield potential on the actual crop land must be much higher than on the potential crop land.

#### 3.2 Present Grain Yields Versus Potential Yields

More than half of the energy directly consumed by the average man is derived from cereals. One half of all arable land is devoted to the cultivation of grain. Thus, cereals best represent the general agricultural yield level achieved in all countries. The present grain yields have been expressed in Figure 2 as a fraction of the MPGE per hectare of potential agricultural land. According to this calculation only the Scandinavian countries and the Netherlands used in 1981-83 between 50% and 60% of the theoretical yield potential. In most parts of Europe, North America, China, Mongolia and Japan, the present cereal yields reach only between 30% and 40% of the theoretical yield potential. In developing countries — with few exceptions (Afghanistan, Chile, Iran, Nepal) — only less than 20% of the theoretical yield potential has been used.

Increases of food production occur by rising yields and expansions of cultivated areas. The still available land reserves differ between continents and among countries. But even in the densely populated countries of Europe (and Nepal) the

Figure 2: Present Grain Yield Levels (1981/1983) as Fraction of the Maximum Production of Grain missing or excluded values Equivalents per Hectare of Potential Agricultural Land (MPGE/PAL) 0.500 - 0.600 © 0.049 0.050 - 0.099 0.100 - 0.199 0.200 - 0.299 0.300 - 0.399 (Calculated from MOIRA)

present utilization of the theoretical yield potential is between 30% and 40% in five countries. In most of Europe, the utilization rate of the theoretical potential in Figure 3 is still below 30% and 20%. In North America, China and Japan, the utilization is also below 20% of the potential. The large dotted areas in tropical South America and Africa indicate a large unused potential.

There are two main alternatives in each country to mobilize the food production potential. In some countries it can be done primarily by area expansion, in others mainly by yield increases. Mostly, both alternatives are according to their economic feasibility pursued. The many existing obstacles and the strategies to be followed depend on the specific situation in each country. Generalizations are not very revealing.

The Dutch agronomists have stressed several times in their studies that several technical, political, economic, social and ecological constraints have to be overcome before the theoretical maximum of food production (or parts of it), can be attained.

The evidence of these constraints do not call for repetition.

3.3 Food Production Potential in the State of a Stationary World Population

Past experience has shown that as development progresses in education, health, and income levels, fertility and population growth slows down. Thus, recent estimations assume that the human population will not grow indefinitely. Some countries in Central Europe have already reached the state of a stationary

-20-(Calculated from MOIRA as Present Fraction of MPGE/PAL x Present Fraction of PAL) **X** 5 **∨** 0.02 0.03 - 0.04 0.05 - 0.09 0.10 - 0.19

Figure 3: Present Utilization (1981/1983) of the Maximum Production of Grain Equivalents

population. The World Bank (13) has estimated for every country (excluding countries with a population of less than one million) the hypothetical size of stationary populations in millions of people. The nature of these estimations is described by World Bank as follows: "provide a summary indication of the long-run implications of recent fertility and mortality trends on the basis of highly stylized assumptions" (13, p. 282).

The hypothetical size of the stationary population for the world as a whole is estimated at eleven billion people. The food production potential was estimated at 49.8 billion tons of grain equivalents or 4.52 tons of grain equivalents per capita of the stationary population. The minimum food requirement of the average person can be set at 3,000 kcal per day or 1.095 X 10<sup>4</sup> which corresponds to 332 kg of grain equivalents per year. Therefore, deducting seed and waste, a per capita production of more than 400 kg are unconditionally necessary. However, this level guarantees only the survival and supposes that food is evenly distributed among the population. Taking into account that the income distribution is skewed to the left, 800 kg of grain equivalents would certainly increase safety levels and minimize the extent of malnutrition among the population.

The maximum food which can be used in an affluent society which converts grain, roots, tuber and byproducts of industrial processing into livestock products, alcoholic or non-alcoholic beverages, and feed for all kinds of pets will not be much above two tons GE per capita. The theoretical food production

potential is, therefore, with 4.5 tons at least two times above the possible maximum use of food. Utilization rates of 50% and 30% of the food production potential would still yield 2.2 respectively 1.35 tons of grain equivalents per head of the stationary world population. It has to be added that the estimation of the food production potential does not include livestock products from grazing areas or all food from the sea or inland waters.

These global considerations have one big disadvantage.

Neither do they take into account the present uneven distribution of food between countries nor do they indicate what the probable future food consumption levels will be in each country.

3.4 Food Consumption Levels in Countries at Stationary Population

Fopulation and income densities per unit of cultivable land determine in each country the state of technologies and the attainable food consumption levels. But population growth and the generation and/or transfer of technical progress does not grow everywhere at the same rate, or grow in the locationally required proportions. Therefore, income and food consumption levels between countries differ enormously. This has been so in the past and there is no convincing reason to assume that food consumption in the final state of a stationary world population would have everywhere the same levels. Therefore, the three utilization rates of the food production potential (10%, 30%, 50%), as described in Section 3.2 and mapped in Figure 3, are

used in the sequence of the following assessments.

To better identify those countries where food consumption levels are absolutely insufficient at the final state of a stationary population, six food consumption classes have been built (Figure 4). The lowest two classes (\$\leq\$ 199, 200-400 kg) represent insufficient food consumption levels, the next two classes (400-599, 600-799) are medium food consumption levels, and all classes above 800 kg GE indicate richer states of food consumption. The dotted areas in Figure 4 are those with a possible per capita production of more than one ton, which permits people to strive for a balanced diet. At the low utilization rate of 10% of the food production potentials all countries in Oceania, most countries of the Americas, but only a few in Africa, Asia or Europe would provide more than one ton of grain equivalents per capita.

The darker shadowed areas characterize those countries where in the final state less than 400 kg or even less than 200 kg GE would be available. In both cases, hunger, undernourishment and malnutrition would prevail. However, if one considers a higher utilization rate of 30% the remaining countries in America (except Salvador) and in Europe are moving out of the more heavily shadowed areas, which represent zones of widespread hunger, undernourishment, and malnutrition (Figure 5). Likewise, as in America and Europe, more countries in Africa and Asia surpass with a 30% utilization rate of the food production potential, the minimum food requirement stipulated above, at 400

-24missing or excluded values 8 4 666 - 008 [][] 🔾 199 kg 200 - 399 kg 600 - 799 kg 400 - 599 kg GE in kg per Capita 

Figure 4: Grain Equivalents (GE) available per Capita of Stationary Population Assumption: 10 % Utilization of MPGE (Calculated from MOIRA)

Figure 5: Grain Equivalents (GE) available per Capita of Stationary Population Assumption: 30 % Utilization of MPGE (Calculated from MOIRA)

kg GE per person. Europe utilizes, doubtlessly, the highest percentage of its total food production potential (yield potential X area potential). Some countries are already approaching the 40% level (Figure 3). Some countries, with their grain yields, have already surpassed the 50% yield potential (Figure 2). Weighting both factors and their underlying trends, it does not seem entirely unfounded to examine what happens to consumption levels in single countries when one assumes that the utilization of the food production potential is increased to 50% (Figure 6). For three countries of Africa (Rwanda, Ethiopia, and Mauritania) and two in Asia (Nepal and Saudi-Arabia), the food consumption level would not reach 200 kg/GE/capita. Saudi Arabia. will certainly have like at present the purchasing power to buy from the international market. In Mauritania and Nepal the not calculated livestock economy based on ruminants plays a large Therefore, the net effects would be less than calculated. role. Less than 400 kg/GE/capita would be available in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Niger, and Nigeria. The first group of countries embraces 348 millions and the second counts 1,188 millions of the stationary population or 3.2% and 10.8% respectively of the world's total.4

Before one tries to assess the present and possible future situation in those countries, one has to be aware that the estimations are based on several assumptions.

 For the sake of simplifying the calculations, no trade in food and agricultural commodities between surplus and

missing or excluded values 800 - 999 kg \$1000 kg 600 - 799 kg 200 - 399 kg 94 665 - 004 GE in kg per Capita

Figure 6: Grain Equivalents (GE) available per Capita of Stationary Population Assumption: 50 % Utilization of MPGE (Calculated from MOIRA)

deficit countries has been assumed.

- 2. The present rigidity of national boundaries prevents large international migrations of agricultural people from taking place. To give an example: From the "overcrowded" Rwanda, people could migrate to neighbouring countries like Tanzania or Zaire which will use, in the final state, a much lower level of their food production potential. Whether larger migrations finally will take place seems at present a very speculative reflection.
- 3. As the recent experience shows (13), declines of population growth will probably be stronger than the present estimations indicate. The various governments' population policies initiated in the last decade in developing countries will, with high probability, become with some culturally determined delays more effective in the future.
- 4. The accuracy of the estimations at country levels based on MOIRA's soil and climate inventory should not be overvalued. There may be, in parts of the countries, overestimates as well as underestimates of the food production potential. It is assumed that they cancel each other out.
- 5. The final state of a stationary world population will occur under present norms of population growth at the end of the next century. However, in most of the developing

countries, this is happening 50 years earlier. That gives ample time to adjust the resources to the requirements in the poorest of the food-deficit countries. However, even after all adjustments have been made, the food consumption levels in the final stationary state of the world population will probably remain uneven as today. But it should be a lesser problem to raise the standards of food consumption in the poorest countries.

#### 4. Conclusion

The present very hypothetical calculations and estimations certainly do not have the state of accuracy one would wish to have. The presented results suggest that the world is not, even in the very long-run, running out of food. The present wisdom permits the conclusion that there will be no unconstrained population growth. Therefore, if man continues to use all his wit and sagacity, he has very good chances to produce all the food he really needs.

#### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup>The Dutch agronomists framed the food production potential of the earth (or the theoretical maximum of food production) as the (Absolute) Maximum Production of Grain Equivalents (MPGE). If not expressively referred to MOIRA, the three terms are used interchangeably.

2In my review of the MOIRA-Study, I tried to deal with both parts of the model (11). Despite the importance of the book, the multidisciplinary approach was obviously a hindrance for broader and deeper reviews in agricultural economic journals. economists used the agronomic part of the rather complex economic MDIRA-model to examine whether the food production potential would permit to provide people in 106 geographical units (countries) with sufficient food in the year 2009 (1, pp. 306-326). Under the various assumptions of the model the simulated results for aggregated regions showed that in the year 2009 over one billion people would not reach the minimum food standard set at 300 kg grain equivalents per capita unless massive food aid or capital transfers would be initiated.--However, the concern in this study is not the effect of specific policies in a fixed time period for highly aggregated regions. The aim is to assess and to compare for single countries the food production potential with estimated stationary populations. Therefore, our approach is much more modest.

The standard crop is conceived as a C3 plant, "with the properties of a cereal" (1, p. 27). The ratio of straw to grain is calculated at 1:1. It is known that some C4 plants, like sugarcane, have higher photosynthetic performances and are normally grown in the warmer climates. However, the optimal mix of crops at each location will finally be determined by the profitability of and the demand for crops and not by their photosynthetic efficiency. Further, one has to be aware that the conceived "standard crop" is a theoretical concept developed to cover all food crops and all regions of the world. Because of cereals' worldwide importance in cultivation and human food, they are used in this study as an indicator for the various utilization rates of the food production potential or the MPGE.

\*The listed countries which have probably at a 50% utilization rate of the food production potential insufficient food consumption levels if the present trends persist are also described as critical countries in the FAO/IIASA study (8). This seems to vindicate the planimetric calculations made here.

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#### APPENDIX

- Table 1: Maximum Production of Grain Equivalents (MPGE), Potentials of Agricultural Land and Yields (MOIRA)
- Table 2: Present Grain Yield Levels (1981/83) as Fraction of the Maximum Production of Grain Equivalents per Hectare of Potential Agricultural Land (MPGE/PAL)
- Table 3: Grain Equivalents (GE) Available per Capita of Stationary Population at Various Utilization Rates of the Food Production Potential
- Table 4: The Hypothetical Size of the Stationary Population

Table 1: Maximum Production of Grain Equivalents (MPGE), Potentials of Agricultural Land and Yields (MOIRA)

COUNTRY	(1) MPGE (10 <sup>6</sup> t	(2) PAL ) (10 <sup>6</sup>	, - ,		(5) L (t/ha) . Med.	(6) Number of Regions
Europe Norway Sweden Finland Denmark Ireland United Kingdom Netherlands Belgium France Germany F.R. German D.R. Poland Czechoslovakia Switzerland Austria Hungary Portugal Spain Italy Yugoslavia Romania Albania Bulgaria Greece U.S.S.R.(Eur. Part) U.S.S.R.(Asian Part) U.S.S.R. (Total)	15.0 81.4 52.9 126.3 27.1 124.7 372.9 148.6 1862.1 1356.7 1356.7 1379.1 1917.9 12379.4 12379.4	2.2.6.0.6.6.90.0.2.0.1.0.3.0.2.1.1.2.6.2.0.4 2.2.0.1.0.3.0.2.1.1.2.6.2.0.4 2.2.1.0.3.0.2.1.1.2.6.2.0.4 2.2.1.0.3.0.2.1.1.2.6.2.0.4 2.2.1.0.3.0.2.1.1.2.6.2.0.4 2.2.1.0.3.0.2.1.1.2.6.2.0.4	0.2 * 10.0 * 10.	770034.101990* 11111111111111111111111111111111	6.75.44 10.49.84 112.64 112.64 110.27 110.27 110.27 110.27 110.27 110.27 110.44 110.27 110.44	334123248525414234546143460
Turkey Syria Traq Saudi Arabia Tran Afghanistan Takistan India Tepal Tri Lanka Tangladesh Tongolia Thina Thina Thailand Tampuchea Tietnam Torea (Rep.) Torea Peoples Rep.) Tapan Talaysia Thilippines Thoresia	144.7 66.6 159.9 201.9 52.4 3027.1 66.7 255.7 114.9 510.8 199.6 6.9 298.0 248.0 134.2 1818.9	11.80.52.54.966.05.21.995.10.46.83.02 13.03.03.03.03.03.03.03.03.03.03.03.03.03	66.8.0+3.3.0** 8.8.8.0+3.3.0** 2.0.9.0.0** 14.0.0.3.3.8.8 14.0.0.4.7.7.3.3.8.8 14.0.0.4.7.7.3.8.8	19.780.1 120.01.1 11.129.2 11.129.2 11.129.2 11.129.2 11.129.2 11.129.2 11.129.3 11.	12.7.5.5.1 12.5.25.1 12.5.29.3.1 18.1.9.2.7.7.3.3.8.1 17.1.9.2.7.7.3.3.8.1 17.1.9.2.7.7.3.8.1 17.1.9.2.1.9.1 17.1.9.2.1 1	5341336911133324241111114

Table 1 (continued)						
COUNTRY	(1) MPGE	(2) PAL	(3) MPGE	/PAL (t	(5) :/ha)	(6) Number of
	(10 <sup>6</sup> t)	(10 <sup>6</sup> ha	a) Min.	Max.	Med.	Regions
Africa						
Morocco	86.6	13.9	0.0**	9.7	6.2	3
Algeria	95.6	18.1	0.0**	9.7	5.3	$\tilde{4}$
Tunesia	35.3	4.8	0.0**	9.7	7.4	4
Libya	36.8	5.2	0.0**	7.0	7.0	2
Egypt	133.0	4.9	0.0**	28.0	28.0	2
Mauritania	2.7	0.8 3.5	0.0** 0.0**	3.3 16.9	3.3 16.9	2
Senegal Mali	58.3 208.0	22.7	0.0**	19.7	9.2	<u>ح</u> لا
Burkina Faso	116.1	10.8	0.4	11.0	10.8	2
Chad	103.4	19.1	0.0**	16.4	5.4	4
Sudan	417.3	70.1	0.0**	21.5	6.0	7
Niger	301.5	12.7	0.0**	11.0	2.4	2 2 2 4 2 4 7 3 3 1
Guinea	210.1	11.8	11.0	19.7	17.8	3
Sierra Leone	30.9	1.8	16.9	16.9	16.9***	7
Liberia	58.3 303.0	3.5 15.7	16.9 11.0	16.9 19.7	16.9*** 19.3	ገ <b>ጃ</b>
Ivory Coast Ghana	303.0 146.4	10.2	11.0	19.7	14.4	1 3 4 2 2
Togo	36.2	2.9	11.0	16.4	12.5	ź
Benin	52.7	4.4	11.0	16.4	12.0	2
Nigeria	412.7	33.9	0.4	17.6	12.2	4
Cameroon	222.9	14.7	11.0	17.6	15.2	3
Centr. Afr. Rep.	314.7	19.9	11.0	16.4	15.8	3 2 3 5 8 5 3.
Gabon	162.3	9.7	16.4	17.6	16.7	٥
Congo	251.8 1837.0	13.9 98.0	16.4 16.4	25.5 25.5	18.1 18.7	) g
Zair <b>e</b> Ethiopia	91.7	10.7	0.0**	17.2*	8.6	5
Somalia	86.7	12.2	0.0**	14.7	7.1	3
Uganda	196.4	9.1	21.5	21.5	21.5***	1
Kenya	267.3	14.3	0.0**	21.5	18.8	3
Rwanda	24.5	1.1	21.5	21.5	21.5***	1
Burundi	24.5	1.1	21.5	21.5	21.5***	1
Tanzania	806.0	37.9	14.7	21.5	21.3	2 6
Angola	995.8	61.0	3.1	20.7	16.3	0 7
Zambia	713.0 48.0	37.4 2.7	17.3 17.6	20.7 17.6	19.1 17.6***	3
Malawi Mozambique	632.7	33.2	17.6	20.7	19.1	3
Namibia	133.7	14.4	0.0**	17.3	9.4	4
Botswana	251.9	21.3	3.9	19.8	11.8	3 4
Zimbabwe	268.6	14.8	17.3	20.7	18.1	
Swaziland	18.3	0.9	19.8	19.8	19.8***	
Lesotho	32.0	1.6	19.8	19.8	19.8***	
South Africa	480.6	32.1	3°.1*	19.8	15.0	4 2
Madagascar	335.0	25.2	9.0	17.7	13.3	۲
North and Central Amer	<del></del>	_				•
Canada	1218.2	173.5	0.0**	8.8	7.0	8
U.S.A.	4292.5	371.6	5.2	22.6 21.2	11.6 15.7	17 10
Mexico	839.1 60.8	53.6 2.7	5.2 21.2	24.6	15.7 22.5	3
Guatemala El Salvador	21.2	0.9	24.6	24.6	24.6***	1
Honduras	93.2	3.9	23.8*	24.6	23.9	3 2
Nicaragua	134.5	5.5	23.8*	24.6	24.5	2
Costa Rica	74.3	3.0	24.6	24.6	24.6***	· 1
Panama	100.9	4.1	24.6	24.6	24.6***	1
Cuba	92.3	4.4	21.2	21.2	21.2***	1
<u> Haiti</u>	31.9	1.3	24.6	24.6	24.6***	· 1 · 1
Dom. Rep.	79.6	3.3	24.6	24.6	24.6***	
Jamaica	10.7	0.4	24.0	24.0	24.0***	1

COUNTRY	(1) MPGE (10 <sup>6</sup> t	(2 PAL ) (10 <sup>6</sup>		(4) GE/PAL ( Max.	(5) (t/ha) Med.	(6) Number of Regions
South America						
Venezuela Guyana French Guyana Suriname Columbia Ecuador Peru Bolivia Paraguay Brazil Argentina Chile Uruguay	640.1 39.6 93.2 905.0 75.8 550.4 562.8 293.2 6534.8 1095.5 59.7 114.6	29.4 1.9 4.4 38.5 30.7 33.2 348.3 90.1 4.6	17.1 17.1 17.1 18.7* 3.0* 1.0* 11.4 12.6 2.0* 1.0* 24.8	24.4 24.4 24.4 24.7 23.5* 25.6 19.4* 25.6	21.9 21.4 20.8 21.5 23.7 17.0 16.3 18.8 12.2 9.6 24.9	4322656966942
Oceania						
Australia Papua New Guinea New Zealand Fiji	1942.0 284.4 139.0	201.3 16.9 10.7	0.0** 16.8 1.3*	21.3 16.8 16.6	9.6 16.8*** 13.0	19 1 4
Solomon Is. New Caledonia Manuatu	277.0	13.7	20.2	20.2	20.2***	1
/orld	49918	3714	0.0**	30.0++	13.4	222

Region C (High Mountain) Region D (Desert, Tundra)

The planimetrically derived values are strongly distorted because the share of arable land is very small.

Source: MOIRA. - Own calculation.

Minimax=Maximax, because only one megion, in some cases small deviation from average MPGE/PAL without Irrigation only with Irrigation

Table 2: Present Grain Yield Levels (1981/83) as Fraction of the Maximum Production of Grain Equivalents per Hectare of Potential Agricultural Land (MPGE/PAL)

		, per mesemble		5-100100101	Land (MFGE/FAL)
COUNTRY	(1) Grain- yield (kg)	(2) in % of yield- potential	(3) Arable land (1000 ha) a)	(4) in % of ·land- potential	(5) in % of total potential
Europe					
Norway Sweden Finland Denmark Ireland United Kingdom Netherlands Belgium France Germany F.R. German D.R. Poland Czechoslovakia Switzerland Austria Hungary Portugal Spain Italy Yugoslavia Romania Albania Bulgaria Greece U.S.S.R.	3606 37723 4983 49835 5146 5255 514623 46234 462	0.60 0.57 0.50 0.48 0.58 0.35 0.35 0.35 0.35 0.35 0.35 0.35 0.35	840 2982 2368 2645 972 6992 831 18766 7466 5008 14829 5170 1583 53550 20498 12323 7838 10532 4153 3962 232282	0.34 0.24 0.25 1.00** 0.37 0.66 0.45 0.42 0.70 0.83 0.82 0.99 1.00** 0.79 1.00** 0.96 1.00** 0.64 0.80 1.04	0.20 0.14 0.13 0.40 0.18 0.29 0.23 0.16 0.35 0.29 0.21 0.34 0.51 0.28 0.35 0.07 0.13 0.27 0.22 0.27 0.12 0.20
Turkey Syria Iraq Saudi Arabia Iran Afghanistan Pakistan India Nepal Sri Lanka Bangladesh Mongolia China Burma Lao Thailand Kampuchea Vietnam Japan Malaysia Philippines Indonesia	1915 1039 911 1407 1207 1341 1664 1435 1687 24001 1036 2036 3399 14960 23300 23300 2357 1695	0.15 0.14 0.06 0.07 0.24 0.09 0.32 0.03 0.03 0.16 0.09 0.12 0.09 0.12 0.16	27452 5683 5450 1129 13700 8054 20410 168370 2331 2171 9133 1262 100897 10068 888 19026 7105 4830 4338 11180 19930	1.00** 0.64 0.52 1.00** 0.35 0.77 0.93 1.00** 1.00** 0.72 1.00** 0.04 0.33 0.51 0.12 0.33 0.65 0.21	0.15 0.09 0.03 0.07 0.08 0.21 0.08 0.07 0.32 0.12 0.07 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01

Table 2 (continued)

COUNTRY	(1) Grain- yield (kg)	(2) in % of yield- potential	(3) Arable land (1000 ha a)	(4) in % of land - )potential	(5) in % of total potential	
Africa Morocco Algeria Tunesia Libya Egypt Mauritania Senegal Mali Burkina Faso Chad Sudan Niger Guinea Sierra Leone Liberia Ivory Coast Ghana Togo Benin Nigeria Cameroon Centr. Afr. Rep. Gabon Congo Zaire Ethiopia Somalia Uganda	941 596 882 4254 4256 5741 608 1306 1307 1207 1208 1208 1208 1208 1208 1208 1208 1208	0.15 0.11 0.12 0.06 0.15 0.04 0.05 0.08 0.17 0.08 0.07 0.08 0.07 0.03 0.06 0.07 0.06 0.07 0.05		0.60 0.41 0.940 0.520** 0.024 0.18 0.18 0.18 0.198 0.15 0.41 0.055 0.055 0.09**	0.09 0.05 0.12 0.02 0.08 0.03 0.04 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.02 0.05 0.01 0.02 0.03 0.01 0.02 0.03 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.02 0.03 0.01	
Kenya Rwanda Burundi Tanzania Angola Zambia Malawi Mozambique Namibia Botswana Zimbabwe Swaziland Lesotho South Africa Madagascar	1565 1460 1135 1175 1147 474 1706 1165 478 1157 1157 1157 1157 11648	0.07 0.08 0.05 0.05 0.03 0.07 0.03 0.04 0.06 0.06 0.04 0.11	6030 2310 1010 1306 5190 3500 5158 2332 3080 660 1360 2680 139 298 13620 3006	0.66 0.16 0.92 1.00** 0.14 0.06 0.14 0.86 0.09 0.05 0.06 0.18 0.15 0.19 0.42 0.12	0.05 0.05 0.05 0.05 0.01 0.01 0.06 0.01+ 0.01+ 0.01+ 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.05	

Table 2: (continued)

COUNTRY	(1) Grain- yield (kg)	in % of yield- potential	(3) Arable land (1000 ha) a)	(4) in % of land- potential	in % of total potential
North and Central Canada U.S.A. Mexico Guatemala El Salvador Honduras Nicaragua Costa Rica Panama Cuba Haiti Dom. Rep. Jamaica	America 2351 4076 2272 1459 1558 1398 1719 2079 1009 2336 965 3579 1527	0.34 0.35 0.14 0.07 0.06 0.06 0.07 0.08 0.04 0.11 0.04 0.15 0.06	46201 190270 23525 1786 725 1767 1262 626 582 3213 897 1442 267	0.27 0.51 0.44 0.66 0.81 0.45 0.23 0.21 0.07 0.73 0.69 0.44	0.09 0.18 0.06 0.05 0.05 0.03 0.02 0.01+ 0.08 0.03 0.07 0.04
South America Venezuela Columbia Ecuador Peru Bolivia Paraguay Brazil Argentina Chile Uruguay	2015	0.09	3757	0.13	0.01
	2477	0.11	5676	0.15	0.02
	1793	0.08	2512	0.79	0.06
	2156	0.12	3516	0.11	0.01
	1203	0.07	3375	0.10	0.01
	1358	0.03	1940	0.11	0.01+
	1593	0.08	73985	0.21	0.02
	2353	0.19	35450	0.39	0.07
	2149	0.22	5528	0.89	0.20
	1813	0.07	1448	0.31	0.02
Oceania Australia Papua New Guinea New Zealand	1280	0.13	44878	0.22	0.03
	1442	0.09	372	0.02	0.01
	4573	0.35	461	0.04	0.01

<sup>\*\*</sup> Calculated share of utilisation of potential land is higher than 1;
 therefore correction to maximum share 1.00.
+ smaller than 0.005,
a) including permanent cultures,

Source: MOIRA. - FAO Production Yearbook Vol. 38, Rome 1984. Own calculations,

Table 3: Grain Equivalents (GE) Available per Capita of Stationary Population at Various Utilization Rates of the Food Production Potential

COLBANDA	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
COUNTRY	Stationary population	MPGE/Capita/kg of stationary	J	capita		
	(Mill.)	population (100%)	10%MPGE	30%MPGE	50%MPGE	
Europe						
Norway Sweden Finland Denmark Ireland United Kingdom Netherlands Belgium France Germany F.R. German D.R. Poland Czechoslovakia Austria Hungary Portugal Spain Italy Yugoslavia Romania Albania Bulgaria Greece U.S.S.R.	48556950248908241579160237	3750 10125 10600 4200 4500 2136 1600 2700 5210 2759 3500 35816 3100 32583 3714 5355 4655 2819 2837 2837 2837 2837 2837	375 1013 1060 450 450 214 160 270 350 350 371 375 276 3775 276 3775 276 2773 2773 2773 2773 2773 2773 2773	1125 3038 3180 1260 1350 641 810 1563 1050 1145 975 11146 695 1300 1300 1300 1301	1875 5063 5300 2250 1068 800 1350 2605 1380 1750 1908 1550 1625 2866 1857 2158 1717 2850 1417 2850 2167 5688	
Asia Turkey Syria Iraq Saudi Arabia Iran Afghanistan Pakistan India Nepal Sri Lanka Bangladesh Mongolia China Burma Lao Thailand Vietnam Japan Malaysia Philippines Indonesia	111 42 68 62 159 76 377 1707 71 454 51461 115 111 171 128 127 370	1306 1595 2353 655 1270 684 1066 1773 42 2094 23000 2312 3139 7421 4604 1304 2328 7515 1055	131 160 235 7 127 68 107 177 209 56 2300 231 460 130 233 752 492	392 479 706 20 381 205 320 532 138 169 6900 694 2226 1381 391 698 2255 317	653 798 1177 33 635 342 532 887 1047 282 1156 1570 3711 2302 1164 3758 528 2458	

Table 3: (continued)

				<del></del>	
COLDINOV	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
COUNTRY		MPGE/Capita/kg of stationary population	k 10%MPGE	g GE per 30%MPGE	capita 50%MPGE
	(11111.)	(100%)		<i>y</i> 0/11.	JOJOHN GE
<u>Africa</u>					
Morocco Algeria Tunisia Libya Egypt Mauritania Senegal Mali Burkina Faso Chad Sudan Niger Guinea Sierra Leone Liberia Ivory Coast Ghana Togo Benin Nigeria Cameroon Centr. Air. Rep. Congo Zaire Ethiopia Somalia Uganda Kenya Rwanda Burundi Tanzania Angola Zambia Malawi Mozambique Zimbabwe	70 11 11 12 13 14 14 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 16 16 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17	1243 807 1842 1762 1762 16176	1068 40 378 220 175 53 93 689 2264 1927 100 772	5781 300 2316	621 403 921 881 601 188 806 2488 1657 2341 1862 3750 969 2417 2612 880 1059 1804 1715 1215 12600 5340 1991 1101 873 2463 4444 1135 1950 1991 1991 1991 1991 1991 1991 199
Mozambique Zimbabwe Lesotho South Africa Madagascar	82	7720	772 434 457 391		3860 2169 2280 1955 3102

Table 3: (continued)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(1.)	(-)
	Stationary	MPGE/Capita/kg	•	(4)	(5)
COUNTRY	population	of stationary	K	g GE per	Capita
	(Mill.)	population (100%)	10%MPGE	30%MPGE	50%MPGE
North and Central	<u> America</u>				
Canada	33	36909	3691	11072	18454
U.S.A Mexico	292	14702	1470	4411	7351
Guatemala	199 25	4216	422	1265	2109
El Salvador	17	2440 1235	244	<u>73</u> 2	1220
Honduras	17	5471	124 547	371 1641	618
Nicaragua	12	11250	1125	3375	2735 5625
Costa Rica Panama	5 4	14800	1480	4440	7400
ranama Cuba		25250	2525	7575	12625
Haiti	15 14	6133 2286	613	1840	3067
Dom. Rep.	15	5333	229 533	686	1143
Jamaica	4	2750	275	1600 825	2667 1375
South America				<del></del>	
Venezuela	46	13913	1391	1.401	<b>6</b> 6
Columbia	62	14597	1460	4174 4379	6956 7308
Ecuador	27	2815	282	844	7298 1407
Peru Bolivia	49	11224	1122	3367	5612
Paraguay	<b>22</b> 8	25591	2559	7677	12795
Brazil	304	36625 21496	3663	10988	18313
Argentina	54	20296	2150 2030	6449	10748
Chile	21	2857	286	6089 857	10148 1429
Uruguay	4	28750	2875	8625	14375
Oceania				<del></del>	
Australia	21	021.76	2212		
Papua New Guinea	10	92476 28400	9248 2840	27743	46623
New Zealand	4	34750	2040 3475	8520 10425	14200 17375
			J.12	1042)	17373

Source: MOIRA.- World Bank, World Development Report 1984.-Own calculations.

Table 4: The Hypothetical Size of the Stationary Population

Country Categories	Millions
Low income countries	5,863
Middle income countries	2,397
Upper-middle income coutries	1,338
High income oil exporters	96
Industrial market economies	828
East European nonmarket economies	523
World	11,039

Source: World Bank, World Development Report 1984.