



**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.*

## Lament on Bad Writing

Oh woe to the reader of ponderous journals  
who works to extract all the well hidden kernels  
of truths so unbold, conclusions too trite,  
of messages simple, results without light  
Hidden they must be, beneath all the jargon,  
for knowledge like this we are sure is no bargain

True bargains are scarce and, if to be found,  
the reader must slog o'er the mountainous mound  
of bad lit, to be able to know what he's found

This is it! he will cry  
Ah, but how would he know  
such a gem, he will sigh  
if the mountain of bad lit had not been so high?

Along comes McCloskey, to throw out a line  
to writers who write as if all have no minds  
Avoid wordy and boring, use one word for two,  
Be active! Not passive The simple will do  
The readers will shun you if you cannot be brief  
The writing you peddle is giving them grief!  
So clean up your act, with yourself make a pact,  
to useless bad lit you will never go back

*Barbara Stucker*

---

Stucker is an economist (not a poet) with the Agriculture and Trade Analysis Division, ERS. The poem was prompted by a review of Donald McCloskey's *The Writing of Economics* in the Spring 1987 issues of the Journal.

# LAND ECONOMICS

Founded 1925

Editor Daniel W Bromley

explores the relationship between economics and natural and environmental resources emphasizing conceptual and/or empirical work relevant to public policy Contributors include scholars and researchers in the fields of natural resource economics, conservation and pollution, public finance regional economics land reform transportation industrial organization and agricultural policy The "Comment and Reply" section serves as a forum for debate and discussion of articles Readers are kept informed of major publications with reviews and a current list of published books

ISSN 0023-7639

Published quarterly by The University of Wisconsin Press

Subscribe now or recommend a subscription to your library A detailed brochure will be sent upon request

## RATES

Individuals \$20/yr,  
(must prepay)  
Institutions \$40/yr  
Foreign subscribers add \$5.50/yr  
for regular postage, or \$15/yr  
for Airmail delivery

## REPLY TO

Journal Division  
The University of Wisconsin Press  
114 North Murray Street  
Madison Wisconsin 53715  
USA  
(608) 262-4952

Volume 14, Issues 2 and 3

## europaean review of agricultural economics

### In issue: 14-2

- T TH KOOPMANS An application of an agro-economic model to environmental issues in the EC A case study  
J D LANDHEER The ratio of fat value to non-fat value of milk An econometric model of effects of intervention price changes in the EC  
G GIOS AND C MIGLIERINA Cost structure and integration in the agro-food sectors A comparative study in EC countries  
N C BALTAS Supply response for Greek cereals  
S PAUL A cost function analysis of wheat production in India  
H CARAVELI-IOANNIDIS Farm income disparity in Greece and membership of the EC

### Book Reviews

### In issue 14-3

- R H GEBAUER Socio-economic classification of farm households - conceptual, methodical and empirical considerations  
L A WINTERS The political economy of the agricultural policy of industrial countries  
S C BLANK Evaluating international price relationships using causal models  
R HARTHOORN and G A A WOSSINK Backward and forward effects of Dutch agriculture  
A A ANDRIKOPOULOS, J A BROX and TH A GEORGAKOPOULOS Short-run expenditure and price elasticities for agricultural commodities the case of Greece, 1951 - 1983

### Book Reviews

## Editor

Kees Burger  
Economic and Social Institute  
Free University, P O Box 7161  
1007 MC Amsterdam, Netherlands

## Special issues

are being planned on the following topics  
Computers and farmbusiness  
Agriculture and the environment  
Transition strategies for the liberalisation of agricultural markets

## Subscription rates for Volume 14 (1987)

- Libraries/Institutions DM 159,- US\$ 77,-  
- Individual (prepaid)\* DM 70,- US\$ 32,-  
- Single Issues DM 42,-

Add postage per issue DM 2 (for F R G) or DM 2.80 (for all other destinations)

\* For private use only Order directly from Walter de Gruyter (Not valid for German Swiss and Austrian residents)

Payment via Mastercard (Access)/Eurocard/American Express Card accepted

Subscriptions and single orders via booksellers and subscription agents, or directly from

Walter de Gruyter & Co  
P O B 110240  
D-1000 Berlin 11, F R G

Walter de Gruyter Inc  
200 Saw Mill River Road  
Hawthorne NY 10532, U S A

**mouton de gruyter**

Berlin New York Amsterdam

# AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS



The Journal of the International Association of Agricultural Economists

**Editor-in-Chief:**

DOUGLAS D HEDLEY, P O Box 60/KBY PSM, Pasar Minggu, Jakarta Selatan, Jakarta, Indonesia

**Aims and Scope:**

This journal publishes articles covering the range of work done on agricultural economics, divided into three categories (1) Disciplinary work: improvement of theories, techniques and descriptive knowledge of economics and its contributing disciplines such as statistics, mathematics and philosophy (2) Multi-disciplinary subject matter areas energy, technical change, institutional change, natural resources, farm management, rural communities, marketing, human development and the environment - areas which are important to fairly well-defined groups of public and private decision-makers facing well-defined sets of problems (3) Problem solving the definition, solution and management of specific practical problems Work in each of these three categories may deal with teaching, extension and out-reach, consulting, advising, entrepreneurship, and administration, as well as research All of these may require knowledge of values, non-monetary as well as monetary The Editor and Editorial Board, under the general direction of the IAAE's President, Executive Committee and Council, are charged with implementing journal policy to serve members of IAAE around the world

Subscription Information 1988 Vol 2 (4 issues) US\$ 118 000 / Dfl 236 00

## COMPUTERS AND ELECTRONICS IN AGRICULTURE

An International Journal

**Editors-in-Chief**

J.R. LAMBERT, Clemson, SC, USA and S.W.R. COX, Hitchin, Herts, UK

An international scientific journal reporting on the application of computers, instrumentation and control to research, development and production in world agriculture The scope of the journal covers any application of computers or electronics to instrumentation, control or management of agricultural processes, activities, equipment, enterprises or systems (e.g. control of the crop drying process, management of irrigation activities, instrumentation or control of tillage equipment, software or management of breeding in a livestock enterprise, hardware and software for automation of a dairy production system)

Hardware and software aspects of computers are included Electronic coverage includes instrumentation, data acquisition and control of any facet of agriculture The term agriculture is interpreted broadly to include horticulture, forestry, veterinary medicine, crop and livestock production

The journal is of interest not only to agricultural scientists working in academic environments, government research and agricultural extension, but also to professionals working in related disciplines to agriculture such as electrical engineers, computer scientists and physicists

Subscription Information 1988 Vol 3 (4 issues) US\$ 118 00 / Dfl 236 00



For further information and a free sample copy write to

**ELSEVIER SCIENCE PUBLISHERS**

P O Box 211, 1000 AE Amsterdam, The Netherlands

P O Box 1663, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163, USA

**Suggestions to Contributors for Submitting Manuscripts to *The Journal of Agricultural Economics Research***

- 1 **SOURCE.** Indicate how the material submitted is related to the economic research program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and its cooperating agencies. State your own connection with the program.
- 2 **CLEARANCE.** Obtain any approval required in your own agency or institution before sending your manuscript to one of the editors of *The Journal of Agricultural Economics Research*. Attach a copy of such approval to the manuscript.
- 3 **ORIGINALITY OF MATERIAL.** It is our policy to print original material. We consider alternative treatments of material published elsewhere, but such treatments need to differ substantially from the original approach. When submitting your manuscript, identify related material either published or submitted for publication.
- 4 **ABSTRACT.** Include an abstract and at least three keywords when you submit your article. The abstract should not exceed 100 words. It should report the major findings of your research.
- 5 **NUMBER OF COPIES.** Submit three good copies.
- 6 **TYPING.** Double space everything, including abstract, footnotes, and references.
- 7 **FOOTNOTES.** Number consecutively throughout the article.
- 8 **REFERENCES.** Check all references carefully for accuracy and completeness. Cite references in the text by using underscored numbers in parentheses that correspond to items in the reference section at the end of your article.
- 9 **CHARTS AND OTHER ARTWORK.** Use charts sparingly. Keep design as simple as possible. Submit all artwork in draft rather than in final form, accompanied by neatly prepared pages with essential data for replotting.

**American  
Journal of  
Agricultural  
Economics**  
November 1987

*Edited by Peter J. Barry*

*University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois*

*Published by the American Agricultural Economics Association*

Articles: Abbott, Paarlberg and Sharples, "Targeted Agricultural Export Subsidies and Social Welfare"; Brorsen, Chavas and Grant, "A Market Equilibrium Analysis of the Impact of Risk on the U.S. Rice Industry"; Hartley, Nerlove and Peters, "An Analysis of Rubber Supply in Sri Lanka"; Hayes and Schmitz, "Hog Cycles and Countercyclical Production Response"; Helms, Bailey and Glover, "Government Programs and Adoption of Conservation Tillage Practices on Non-Irrigated Wheat Farms"; Gallagher, "U.S. Soybean Yields: Estimation and Forecasting With Nonsymmetric Disturbances"; Brown and Pheasant, "Sources of Cyclical Employment Instability in Rural Counties"; Rosenthal, "The Necessity for Substitute Prices in Recreation Demand Analyses"; Majd, "Land Reform Policies in Iran"; plus other articles, comments, and book reviews.



Annual membership dues (including Journal) \$45. Annual library subscription rate \$65. Individual copies \$14.50. Contact: AAFA Business Office, 80 Heady Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50011. Published in February, May, August, November, and December.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE  
1301 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005-4700

BULK RATE  
POSTAGE & FEES PAID  
USDA  
PERMIT NO. G-145

\*\*\* Please Circulate to All Employees \*\*\* B-01-01  
D. J. FUSONIE  
DIRECTOR  
ERS REFERENCE CENTER  
DA