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Selected Recent Research Publications in Agricultural Economics Issued by the United States Department of Agriculture and Cooperatively by the State Universities and Colleges¹

ALLEN, M. B. AND WILLIAMS, F. W. THE SOUTH-EASTERN VEGETABLE PROCESSING INDUSTRY: RAW PRODUCT PROCUREMENT, 1960. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 560, 11 pp. Aug. 1962. (Ga. Expt. Sta. cooperating.)

This is the second report of a study on the economic potentials of processing as an outlet for vegetables produced in the Southeast. Canners and freezers in seven States processed more than \$16 million worth of fresh vegetables in 1960. Plants in Tennessee, Georgia, and Florida processed 83 percent of the total volume.

Butz, W. T. Geographic structure of Milk Prices, 1960-61. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-71,11 pp. Aug. 1962.

Comparison of price maps of dealers' buying prices for fluid milk demonstrated a closer alignment of prices between distant markets and major supply areas during 1960-61 than in either 1953-54 or 1957-58. As in the earlier years, the 1960-61 price surface identified the Atlantic Coastal States as relatively high-priced markets. Buying prices in eastern markets were generally lower in 1960-61 than in 1957-58. The zone of lowest prices—less than \$4.00 per 100 pounds—was noticeably smaller in 1960-61 than during 1957-58, reflecting higher prices in northern Iowa, northern Illinois, and southern Wisconsin.

CHRISTIANSEN, J. R., COWHIG, J. D., AND PAYNE, J. W. EDUCATIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL ASPIRATIONS OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS IN THREE CENTRAL UTAH COUNTIES. Brigham Young Univ. Social Sci. Bul. 1, 32 pp. June 1962. EDUCATIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL PROGRESS OF RURAL YOUTH IN UTAH: A FOLLOW-UP STUDY. Brigham Young Univ. Social Sci. Bul. 2, 13 pp. Aug. 1962. (Econ. Res. Serv., cooperating.)

These cooperative studies were intended to determine (1) the social factors related to the plans of rural youth in three Utah counties to attend college, (2) the characteristics of parents of rural boys and girls who are considering college, (3) background factors related to the decisions of rural youth to enroll in college, and (4) the relationship between plans and actual behavior. Among findings: 35 percent of the youths who did not attend college and most who dropped out of college gave "lack of finances" as their reason; only 5 percent of the boys in high school named farming as their preferred future occupation—most named white-collar jobs; and, among young men not in school a year after high school graduation, about a fifth were working only part-time and none were employed in the white-collar jobs they aspired to in high school.

CHRISTIANSEN, R. A., HARTWIG, P. A., AND STANIFORTH, S. D. BANK CREDIT FOR AGRICULTURE IN WISCONSIN. Wis. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 557, 15 pp., illus., June 1962. (Econ. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

Banks serving agriculture in Wisconsin increased their farm loan volume more than 70 percent from 1950 to 1960, though the proportion of farm loans to total loans declined throughout the State. Today more loans are being made to finance farm machinery and livestock, and fewer to finance farm real estate, reflecting recent shifts in the financial structure of Wisconsin farms.

Cowhig, James D. farm operator level-ofliving indexes for counties of the united states, 1950 and 1959. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 321, 64 pp., illus. Sept. 1962.

Five items in the index formula were: (1) Average value of sales per farm, (2) average value of land and buildings per farm, (3) percentage of farms with telephones, (4) percentage of farms with home freezers, and (5) percentage of farms with automobiles. For each State, the index was substantially higher in 1959 than in 1950, but the relative position of the States had changed only slightly. The major change in the rank of States on the index was the higher position of States in the Mountain and Pacific divisions in 1959 than in 1950 and the correspondingly lower rank of States in the New England division. Arizona, California, Nevada, and Iowa ranked highest on the level-of-living index in 1959.

CROSSWHITE, W. M., AND VAUGHN, G. F. LAND USE IN THE RURAL-URBAN FRINGE: A CASE STUDY OF NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE. Del. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 340, 28 pp., illus. July 1962. (Econ. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

This study was initiated to provide information for the regional planning program of northern New Castle County, Delaware. Land use in this county is becoming increasingly urban. Careful planning for the future becomes mandatory as urban demand for land increases and the availability of open land decreases. Since 1950, urbanization has brought land prices in rural districts to the approximate level that exists close to cities. But property taxes levied against land and improvements are low. More than 12 percent of the acreage under study was tax exempt.

Dubov, I., and Andrilenas, P. A. Agreements for producing and marketing tennessee hogs and feeder pigs. Tenn. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 335, 15 pp. Nov. 1961. (Econ. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

Farm management and farm marketing practices of Tennessee producers of hogs in areas where vertical integration is likely to occur were studied to determine the

¹ State publications may be obtained from the issuing agencies of the respective States.

incidence, nature, and outlook for contractual arrangements and agreements in the areas. Industry sources estimate the total number of hogs produced in Tennessee under agreements at less than 1 percent of the total for the State. Contract production of hogs is still in an experimental stage so far as provisions of agreements are concerned. The lack of uniformity in the agreements covered in this report suggests that, as the number of contractees increases, contractors may find it desirable to standardize their contracts.

Garlock, F. L., and others. The balance sheet of agriculture, 1962. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Inform. Bul. 270, 24 pp., illus. Aug. 1962.

Equities of farm operators and other owners of farm assets reached \$179.6 billion on January 1, 1962, up \$5.1 billion from a year earlier. Gross farm income of about \$40 billion was nearly \$2 billion higher in 1961 than in 1960. Although expenses rose, realized net income of farm operators increased by more than \$1 billion, close to 10 percent.

Greene, C. H., and Davis, G. B. Labor Perform-Ance Standards in Seed Warehousing. Oreg. Agr. Expt. Sta. Spec. Rpt. 135, 19 pp. Aug. 1962. (Econ. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

This report, dealing with labor and equipment performance standards, is the first of a series on costs and efficiencies in seed processing. A later report will consider equipment and facilities costs. These and time standards will be used to synthesize models of seed processing plants to determine what effect length of season, annual volume, methods used, and kinds of seed have on costs of processing.

Hansing, F. D. Contract egg production and use of credit by selected egg producers in mississippi. Miss. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 644, 16 pp. April 1962.

The rapid increase in egg production since 1955 has undoubtedly been due in part to the development of egg contracting, first introduced in Mississippi about 1957. It has brought larger-size units of production, lower costs, and an expanded market. If development continues in this direction, capital requirements of egg producers in Mississippi will increase, and local credit institutions will be requested by such producers to provide additional financing.

HARP, H. H., AND DUNHAM, DENIS F. CONVEN-IENCE FOODS IN THE GROCERY BASKET. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Bul. 22, 8 pp. Sept. 1962.

Many convenience foods (defined as foods that before retailing have undergone some preparation ordinarily done in the home) save money as well as time and energy. Frozen orange juice concentrate, instant coffee, and frozen chicken chow mein, for example, are less expensive than their "home prepared" counterparts.

Jones, H. B., and Thompson, J. C. Marketing costs and labor productivity in commercia egg packing plants. Ga. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. N.S. 93, 51 pp. June 1962. (Econ. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

Presents an analysis of marketing costs and labor efficiency based on operating conditions found in 17 commercial egg packing plants in 1959. Owners, directors, and management of egg marketing firms will find in this report: (1) A framework for evaluating costs in their present egg handling operation, (2) data showing the potential of labor if expansion or reorganization is contemplated, and (3) guides for firms or groups interested in setting up an egg packing operation either as an independent company or as a subsidiary enterprise.

MANCHESTER, ALDEN C. THE ORGANIZATION OF THE NEW YORK CITY WHOLESALE FRUIT AND VEGE-TABLE MARKET. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 542, 36 pp. June 1962. THE ORGANIZATION OF THE WHOLESALE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE MARKET IN DALLAS, FT. WORTH, HOUSTON, LITTLE ROCK. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 558, 57 pp. Aug. 1962. THE ORGANIZATION OF THE WHOLESALE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE MARKET IN PITTSBURGH. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 557, 26 pp. Aug. 1962. THE ORGANIZATION OF WHOLESALE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE MARKETS IN DENVER, SALT LAKE CITY, EL PASO, ALBUQUERQUE, AND BUTTE. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 541, 68 pp. June 1962. (Agr. Expt. Stas. of Mont., N. Mex., and Utah cooperating.)

These 4 are the latest in a series describing wholesale fruit and vegetable markets in more than 50 U.S. cities.

McConnell, D., Schmidt, J. R., Staniforth, S. D., and Christiansen, R. A. Relative profitability and order of adoption of soil conservation practices. Univ. Wis. Dept. Agr. Econ. Res. Bul. 237, 40 pp., June 1962. (Econ. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

On a representative 180-acre farm in southwestern Wisconsin, the most profitable single conservation practice is estimated to be terracing in combination with an optimum livestock program, producting from \$350 to \$3,076 more in net farm income than any of the other 7 practices considered. By combining the five most profitable practices, net farm income would be still further increased.

Reese, R. B. and Adelson, Sadye F. food consumption and dietary levels under the pilot food stamp program, detroit, mich., and fayette county, pa. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Econ. Rpt. 9, 17 pp. June 1962. (Econ. Res. Serv. and Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

The nutrition of needy families and the distribution of farm products have both improved in these two areas since the Federal Food Stamp Program coupons were introduced there in the summer of 1961.

ROGERS, G. B., AND BARDWELL, E. T. REDUCING COSTS OF HANDLING AND HAULING LIVE CHICKENS FROM FARMS TO PROCESSING PLANTS. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-81, 12 pp. Aug. 1962. (N.H. and Mass. Agr. Expt. Stas. cooperating.)

Preliminary results are given of the cost phase of a study of handling and hauling live poultry from farm to processing plants in New England during 1957–59. In 1957 it cost 330 processing plants \$4.6 million to bring in 470 million pounds of poultry from farms. The present procurement system is characterized by excess capacity and duplication of travel and expense.

SHAPIRO, HARVEY. TAXATION OF TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURE. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-86, 17 pp. Aug. 1962.

In Maine, houses are exempt from personal property taxes until they are 6 months old; in New Hampshire, they become taxable at 24 months. Tractors are taxed in 34 States; 7 States completely exempt farm machinery and tools. These and other State-to-State differences in tax treatment of farm personal property are discussed. Exemptions by State and region are compared in the following categories: Farm tools and machinery, livestock, poultry, growing crops, stored crops and seed, tractors, and farm trucks and automobiles used in agriculture.

SOXMAN, R. C., AND HOLDER, S. H., JR. OFFICIAL SPOT COTTON QUOTATIONS, WHERE AND HOW QUOTED. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 547, 68 pp. June 1962.

Recommendations for improving spot cotton quotations in the 14 designated cotton markets include eliminating several markets, using weights, based on relative quantities of cotton produced in the regions and handled by individual markets, to average the quotations, and limiting markets to quoting only those qualities handled within the market. The 14 markets in 1959–60 were not well balanced as to size, overall suitability, and geographical representation.

Townshend-Zellner, Norman. The California Raisin industry: Prices, Returns, Economic Adjustments. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Econ. Rpt. 11, 54 pp. July 1962.

Studies recent developments in the California raisin industry (1) to determine the effects of industry organization and marketing practices on prices and returns, and (2) to provide information to help solve problems generated by these developments.

TROTTER, W. K., POATS, F. J., AND WOLFF, I. A. NEW INDUSTRIAL CROPS—SOME ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Econ. Rpt. 10,45 pp., illus. June 1962.

Economic potentials of three types of new industrial crops are evaluated: Annual pulp crops to supply raw material for the pulp and paper industry, oilseeds that are sources of unique industral oils, and guar, a summer

legume and source of natural gum Pulp crops studied included kenaf, sesbania, crotalaria, sorghum, and okra. Oilseeds studied included high erucic acid oilseeds, high petroselinic acid oilseeds, cape marigold, Indian ironweed, and balsam apple.

VAN ARSDALL, R. N. THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF MANURE FROM CONFINEMENT FINISHING OF HOGS. Ill. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 687, 20 pp., illus. May 1962. (Econ. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

Confinement systems of hog production on 72 Illinois farms on which hogs were grown and finished in confinement during 1959 and 1960 are evaluated. Three methods of handling hog manure are discussed: (1) The use of straw or other dry bedding material and the subsequent handling of manure as a solid; (2) the confinement of hogs on a bare concrete floor, handling the manure as a liquid to be stored and later applied to cropland; and (3) the handling of manure as a liquid to be discarded in a manure lagoon.

VLASIN, R. D., PENDLETON, W. C., AND HEDRICK, J. L. THE EFFECTS ON FARM OPERATING UNITS OF LAND ACQUISITION FOR CONTROLLED-ACCESS HIGHWAYS. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-69, 80 pp. June 1962.

Reports a 3-year history of 80 farms crossed by a 33-mile segment of Iowa Interstate Route 35 south of Des Moines. Constructed on new rights-of-way, it took all or part of six sets of farm buildings and just under 7 percent of the farmland in the 80 operating units sampled. After 3 years, more than half the farms had failed to regain their original size. In spite of help to farmers from the Iowa Highway Commission, the highway substantially increased the scattering of fields in individual farms crossed.

WITTE, A. M., Solberg, E. D., and Martin, L. R. LAND-USE PLANNING AND ZONING IN ARKANSAS RURAL AREAS: LEGAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS. Ark. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 657, 76 pp., illus. June 1962. (Econ. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

This is a survey of the role of land in Arkansas' economic development, and how planning and zoning powers can be used to insure its best use.

WOOTEN, H. H., GERTEL, KARL, AND PENDLETON, W. C. MAJOR USES OF LAND AND WATER IN THE UNITED STATES, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO AGRICULTURE SUMMARY FOR 1959. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Econ. Rpt. 13, 54 pp. July 1962.

During the last 30 years, 30 million acres or more of poorly adapted cropland have been shifted to forest and pasture, while 10 million acres of new land have been brought into cultivation. This report is one of a series published at 5-year intervals that show acreages of land used for crops, pasture and range, forest, and other purposes. Information on acreages irrigated and dry farmed, acreages drained, and other water-use practices.

Statistical Compilations

Conservation Needs Inventory Committee, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Basic statistics of the national inventory of soil and water conservation needs. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 317, 164 pp. Aug. 1962.

Crop Reporting Board, U.S. Statis. Rptg. Serv. sorghums: Acreage, yield, production, price,

VALUE; BY STATES, 1929-1958. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 320, 61 pp. July 1962.

STRICKEN, P. E., AND HINSON, W. C. EXTENT OF SPRAYING AND DUSTING ON FARMS, 1958 WITH COMPARISONS. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 314, 28 pp., May 1962.

U.S. Economic Research Service. Grain and Feed statistics through 1961. U.S. Dept. Agr Statis. Bul. 159, revised, 114 pp. June 1962.

Contributors

(Continued from inside front cover.)

MARTIN E. ABEL of the Price Research and Methods Section, Economic and Statistical Analysis Division, ERS, is engaged in an econometric investigation of the feed-livestock sector.

WAYNE D. RASMUSSEN, Chief of the Agricultural History Branch, Economic and Statistical Analysis Division, ERS, was recently named Book Review Editor of this journal. His Branch has completed a centennial history of the U.S. Department of Agriculture—Century of Service: The First 100 Years of the U.S. Department of Agriculture—which will be published later this year.

W. B. SUNDOUIST is Leader of Dairy Adjustment Investigations in the Lakes States, Farm Economics Division, ERS, with field headquarters at St. Paul, Minnesota, where he is conducting studies of farmers' decisions in production response.



AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS RESEARCH

Is published quarterly by the Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. The printing of this publication has been approved by the Bureau of the Budget, Feb. 10, 1959.

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C. 20 cents a single copy, 75 cents a year, domestic, \$1 foreign.