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Agricultural Economics Research in Asia and the Far East. The ECAFE/FAO Agriculture Division of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East. United Nations and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Bangkok, 1958. Columbia University Press, New York. 100 pages. 1960. 75 cents.

THIS STUDY examines the role of government agricultural economic organizations and brings together available information on current research work in Asia and the Far East.

Annual Review of World Production, Consumption, and Trade of Fertilizers—1959. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Columbia University Press, New York. 140 pages. 1960. $1.50.

THE PURPOSE of the review is to record and analyze the production, consumption, and trade of fertilizers in the world and in the different continents and countries. It is based on data received from governments up to November 1959.

Statistical Yearbook 1959. Statistical Office of the United Nations. Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Columbia University Press, New York. 618 pages. 1960.

THIS ELEVENTH ISSUE of the *Yearbook* contains data from more than 150 countries and territories that submitted statistics by completing questionnaires, and from others that made their national statistics available by means of published documents.

The State of Food and Agriculture, 1960. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Columbia University Press, New York. 182 pages. 1960. $2.00.

THIS ANNUAL reviews the world situation and outlook for agricultural production, changes in stocks, economic activity and demand for agricultural products, food supplies and consumption, international trade in agricultural products, farm prices and incomes, consumer prices and sales, agricultural policies and development plans, and commodity survey and outlook. It includes a section on programming for agricultural development and an annex which contains 17 tables.

Food Supply, Time Series. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Columbia University Press, New York. About 80 loose-leaf unnumbered pages. 1960. $1.00.

THIS BOOKLET, printed on loose leaves that are removable from its covers, contains data on food consumption from the Food Balance Sheets. It is a supplement to FAO periodicals that contain the latest available food balance sheets.

Selected Recent Research Publications in Agricultural Economics Issued by the United States Department of Agriculture and Cooperatively by the State Colleges and Universities [1]

ANDERSON, J. R., AND DILL, H. W., JR. LAND CLEARING AND DRAINAGE IN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA. U.S. Agr. Res. Serv. ARS 43–127, 47 pp., illus. January 1961.

Since World War II, farmers have cleared thousands of acres of land for agricultural uses in the middle Coastal Plain and tidewater counties of eastern North Carolina. Drainage activity is carried out by legally organized drainage districts, voluntary groups, and individual farmers. In Beaufort, Pitt, and Robeson Counties, where the four townships selected for detailed study are located, 43,000 acres have been cleared. In eastern North Carolina tile drains and open ditches are both used in draining farmland. Average cost of tiling was about $62 an acre compared with $25 to $30 for field drainage by open ditching. Where tile drains replaced open field ditches such advantages were observed as a saving of land and fertilizer and greater efficiency and convenience in operating tractor-drawn equipment.

BAUER, FREDERICK. HONEY MARKETING. Calif. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 776, 71 pp., illus. (Agr. Mktg. Serv. cooperating.) December 1960.

This bulletin provides an analytical description of marketing organization and practices of the honey industry and offers suggestions for changed practices and further studies.

COWHIG, JAMES, ARTIS, JAY, BEEGLE, J. A., AND GOLDSMITH, HAROLD. ORIENTATIONS TOWARD OCCUPATION AND RESIDENCE. A STUDY OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS IN FOUR RURAL COUNTIES OF MICHIGAN. Mich. Agr. Expt. Sta. Spec. Bul. 428, 34 pp. 1960. (Agr. Mktg. Serv. cooperating.)

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

This bulletin presents results of research that was conducted to provide information on occupational and educational plans and aspirations of rural high school graduates; to discover reasons they give regarding their intentions to leave or stay in the community; and to determine the influence of professional people in the rural community on these decisions.

COWHIG, J. D., AND STEWART, E. O. THE OLDER FARM FAMILY AND MEDICAL COSTS. U.S. Dept. Agr. Inform. Bul. 235, 40 pp. December 1960.

Data from a 1956 national survey of farm-family living expenditures were analyzed to show the pattern and level of medical expenditures of older farm families—those in which the farm operator was 65 years of age or older. Five selected items of medical expense were analyzed to determine differences associated with factors such as family size, region, color, and economic and educational level. Medical expenditures in 1955 were compared with similar data from a 1935 survey and with 1950 medical expenditures of a sample of urban families.

CRECINK, J. C., AND HOOVER, H. INCOMES AND RESOURCES OF RURAL FAMILIES IN THE CLAY-HILLS AREA OF MISSISSIPPI. Miss. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 604, 16 pp., illus. (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

Clay-Hills Area, comprising 18 counties in northeastern and east-central Mississippi, has for many years been characterized as a low-income area. One in three of the 59,000 open-country rural families received net money income of less than $1,000; and only 1 in 16 received more than $5,000. Underemployment, with the resulting low incomes, exists in the area mainly because of the low level of natural resources, relatively small operating units, and low level of investment. One-third or more of the farm and nonfarm families had incomes of less than $1,000.

CRUMLEY, B. B., AND COOPER, M. R. COTTON MERCHANDISING—COSTS, PRACTICES, AND PROBLEMS. Univ. Tex. and Tex. Technol. Col. (Agr. Mktg. Serv. cooperating.)

A healthy and progressive marchandising system, built upon a stronger program of research and education, can help make U.S. cotton more competitive in cost, quality, and sales efforts. One of the most important changes in merchandising cotton during the last two or three decades has been the increased use of instruments to measure or test the properties of cotton. In 1956–57 about 85 percent of the mill firms surveyed were using fiber tests in buying cotton. Relatively little change in differential pricing based on the measured properties has accompanied the increase in fiber testing.

DAVIS, E. G. THE ECONOMICS OF FARM MECHANIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES, 1950–1960. U.S. Dept. Agr. Libr. List 68, 16 pp. October 1960.

This selective bibliography is concerned with the costs of mechanization on the farm and the returns to the farmer either in reduction of labor costs or in the increased value of the crop.

FABER, F. L., PEDERSEN, J. R., AND GERALD, J. O. REPORTING EGG PRICES AT SHIPPING POINTS IN IOWA AND MINNESOTA. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 445, 47 pp., illus. January 1961.

This publication summarizes the results of research begun in 1957 to test the feasibility of developing a shipping-point price report and analyzes the reports issued during 1959. It supplements earlier research on egg pricing in New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, and St. Louis.

FISHER, C. D., SIDWELL, A. P., AND GOLUMBIC, CALVIN. SORTING RAISINS BY THE AIRSTREAM METHOD. AN EVALUATION OF MECHANICAL SORTING OF NATURAL-CONDITION RAISINS FOR MATURITY AND TRASH CONTENT. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 451, 16 pp., illus. January 1961.

A device has been developed that removes immature raisins and trash from a sample of natural-condition raisins in 10 minutes, compared with an hour of hand work by the usual method. The device uses an airstream to blow out the lighter, immature raisins and trash. In repeated tests it satisfactorily separated immature fruits and trash from mature, acceptable raisins. Results were more accurate than the usual hand-sorting method.

HENDERSON, P. L., BROWN, S. E., AND HIND, J. F. SPECIAL PROMOTIONAL PROGRAMS FOR APPLES. THEIR EFFECTS ON SALES OF APPLES AND OTHER FRUITS. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 446, 31 pp. January 1961.

Sales of apples and oranges rose during special promotion for apples in retail food stores. An improved research method was used to study sales of fruit associated with special promotion of apples in 72 supermarkets in 6 midwestern cities. The promotion emphasized either the use of apples in salads, pies, and other dishes, or the healthful qualities of apples. Sales of apples were 32 percent higher during promotion using the apple-use theme and 9 percent higher for the health theme, than for no promotion. Sales of oranges rose slightly when either theme for apples was used.

HESS, C. V. PROFITABLE ADJUSTMENTS FOR NEW YORK DAIRYMEN, MEDIUM-SIZED FARMS WITH HIGH-LIME SOILS, CENTRAL PLAIN REGION. N.Y. (Cornell) Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 952, 60 pp., illus. August 1960. (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

Presents an economic evaluation of alternative adjustments that dairymen might make on medium-sized dairy-cash-crop farms located on the Honeoye-Lima soils of the Central Plain Region in western New York. The current situation in the region was appraised with respect to the usual combinations of crops and livestock, current farm practices, income variability, and adjustment problems and resource situations that might influence farmers' ability to make appropriate changes in their farm organization and operations.

HESSER, L. F., AND JANSSEN, M. R. CAPITAL RATIONING AMONG FARMERS. Ind. (Purdue) Agr. Expt. Sta. Res. Bul. 703, 16 pp., illus. November 1960. (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

Farmers tend to use successively smaller proportions of the credit available to them as their net worths increase. More favorable attitudes towards credit, higher knowledge scores, and relatively less conservatism due to uncertainty were associated with smaller indexes of internal capital rationing.

HUGHES, W. F., AND MAGEE, A. C. SOME ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF ADJUSTING TO A CHANGING WATER SUPPLY, TEXAS HIGH PLAINS. Tex. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 966, 27 pp., illus. October 1960. (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

The principal short-run physical effects of a decline in water levels are reflected by a reduction in well capacities. The long-run effect is a depleted water supply. The types of special practices or adjustments induced by or associated with the decline in water supplied include: (1) increasing hours of pump operation, (2) lowering pumps, (3) installing additional wells, (4) installing closed water-distribution systems, (5) installing smaller pumps in old wells, (6) decreasing acreage of summer-irrigated crops and increasing acreage of crops irrigated in fall and winter, (7) staggering grain-sorghum planting dates, (8) concentrating available water supply on cotton, (9) irrigating alternate rows, and (10) reducing number of acres of cropland irrigated per farm.

INMAN, B. T. AND SOUTHERN, J. H. OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN LOW-PRODUCTION FARM AREAS. A STUDY OF INCOMES, EMPLOYMENT, AND RESOURCES. U.S. Dept. Agr. Agr. Inform. Bul. 234, 38 pp., illus. November 1960.

In representative study areas—north-central and western Florida, north-central New Mexico, northern Lower Peninsula of Michigan, Clay Hills of Mississippi, Eastern Ozarks of Missouri, northeastern Tennessee, and northeastern Texas—about half the rural families had net annual incomes of less than $2,000 compared to a fifth of the rural families for the Nation as a whole. The proportion of the income of farm families that came from farming ranged from 20 percent in Texas to 50 percent in Mississippi. Chronic low incomes of families in the study areas result from (1) limitations in employment capabilities and capacities of the individuals; (2) lack of adequate farm resources to permit adoption of modern farming methods; and (3) impediments that hinder adjustments which would bring about fuller utilization of resources.

LARKIN, L. C. FARM AND RETAIL PRICES FOR BEET SUGAR. U.S. Dept. Agr. AMS-424, 4 pp., illus. November 1960.

The farmer's share of the retail value of beet sugar in 1959 was the same as in 1950 despite increases in farm price, retail price, and farm-retail price spread. Consumers paid about 11.4 cents a pound for beet sugar in large cities in 1959, an increase of 1.5 cents from 1950. Average farm price rose 0.5 cent, and farm-retail spread rose 1.0 cent. Because of the greater rise in wages of factory workers, a day's pay would buy 48 pounds more in 1959 than in 1950.

LERAY, N. L., WILBER, G. L., AND CROWE, G. B. PLANTATION ORGANIZATION AND THE RESIDENT LABOR FORCE, DELTA AREA, MISSISSIPPI. Miss. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 606, 24 pp., illus. October 1960. (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

This is the second of a series dealing with farm labor and technology on large cotton plantations in the Delta Area. The sample for this phase of the study includes 172 Negro families living on 40 plantations having cotton allotments of 300 acres or more in 1957. The seasonal nature of cotton production is reflected in the average number of days worked and the earnings reported by plantation residents. If more productive use is to be made of manpower on large plantations, additional opportunities for farm or nonfarm employment are needed.

MCGRATH, E. J. THE MARKET FOR SOUR CREAM. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rept. 448, 36 pp., illus. January 1961.

Trend of sour cream sales is definitely upward. Sales of cultured sour cream in 1957, reported in a national mail survey, amounted to 73 million pounds. This quantity represented at least 90 percent of the U.S. total. Ninety-seven percent of the distributors and processors who returned the questionnaire said their volume was larger in 1957 than in 1956. Sales increased further in 1958 and 1959.

METZLER, W. H., AND SARGENT, F. O. MIGRATORY FARMWORKERS IN THE MIDCONTINENT STREAMS. U.S. Dept. Agr. Prod. Res. Rpt. 41, 62 pp., illus. December 1960.

A survey in six cities in southern Texas which have large settlements of migratory labor revealed that although migratory workers showed considerable skill in the timing and direction of their movement, practically all were underemployed. During 1956, they averaged only 131 days of work. Heads of households averaged 174 days. Problems of child support, regulation of child labor, and maintenance of educational opportunity are important aspects of the migratory movement. A comprehensive program to improve the timing of those who migrate is desirable to resolve these problems.

PINE, W. H., AND SCOFIELD, W. H. THE FARM REAL ESTATE MARKET IN KANSAS. Kans. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 428, 20 pp., illus. January 1961. (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

Few of the tracts sold in four areas of Kansas in 1956 were large enough for economic farm units. About half had no buildings, and three-fourths had been farmed as parts of larger farms. Health, age, financial situation, and plans to buy other land were primary reasons for selling. Three-fourths of the buyers were active or retired farmers. Two-fifths of the buyers lived within 5 miles of the tracts they bought; they tended to pay higher prices than those living farther away.

PODANY, J. C. COSTS OF PACKING CALIFORNIA PEACHES IN 1959. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 443, 19 pp., illus. December 1960.

Total costs of packing California Red Haven and Early Elberta peaches in 1959 averaged slightly over 70 cents per 20-pound lug. Packing costs in individual sheds ranged from 64.7 cents to 80.8 cents a lug. Packing materials averaged nearly 60 percent of all costs, labor about 25 percent, and overhead about 15 percent.

REESE, ROBERT B., AND MILLER, E. B. GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF WESTERN FROZEN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 441, 40 pp., illus.

About two-thirds of the commercial pack of frozen fruits and vegetables, excluding citrus products, originated in California, Oregon, Washington, and Idaho in 1954 and 1955. More than 60 percent of the western pack moved to points east of the Mississippi River. In individual trading centers, the market for western products shifted with changes in transportation cost and service relationships. Periodic appraisals of the share of the market held by western products would signal problem areas, focus attention on causes, and help in evaluating proposed solutions.

RISLEY, R. F. AND BRIGHT, IMOGENE. MINIMUM WAGES IN GROCERY STORES. SELECTED EXPERIENCES IN NEW YORK STATE U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 439, 20 pp., illus. November 1960.

Average hourly labor costs rose less than 4 percent in stores that had been paying under $1 when New York State raised the minimum wage for retail grocery stores from 90 cents to $1 an hour. After the order became effective in January 1958, average weekly man-hours declined 14 percent in the stores affected by the order but also declined from 7 to 9 percent in the unaffected stores.

TAYLOR, M. M. RURAL PEOPLE AND THEIR RESOURCES, NORTH-CENTRAL NEW MEXICO. N. Mex. Expt. Sta. Bul. 448, 28 pp., illus. October 1960. (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

Study was based on a sample of 171 rural nonfarm and 63 rural farm households. The study area has long been in a chronic and serious low-income position. Small subsistence farms are characteristic. In 1954, more than two-thirds of the farms were less than 30 acres in size but accounted for less than 1 percent of the total land in farms. Nearly 59 percent of the sample farm households and 55 percent of the nonfarm households had cash incomes of less than $2,000 in 1956. A high percentage of the incomes was from sources other than employment; nearly 20 percent of the sample households were receiving public assistance; 30 percent were receiving either unemployment compensation or public welfare, or both.

THUROCZY, N. M. IMPACT OF THE ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY ON THE LOCATION OF GRAIN EXPORT FACILITIES. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 442, 26 pp., illus. December 1960.

Direct overseas exports of U.S. grain from Great Lakes ports soared from 4 million bushels in 1958 to 90 million bushels in 1959, the St. Lawrence Seaway's first year of operation. Atlantic ports shipped 15 million bushels less in 1959 despite a gain of 140 million bushels in total grain exports. The Seaway had little or no effect on Gulf and Pacific ports. If exports continue below the level considered necessary for profitable operation of elevators at Atlantic ports, and if they cannot convert their operations to long-term storage, some of these elevators will close. Port facilities have been expanded at Gulf and Lake ports to handle increased volumes of grain.

THUROCZY, N. M. MARKETING MARGINS FOR MEDIUM-GRAIN RICE. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 444, 23 pp., illus. December 1960.

While marketing margins on most foods were increasing sharply, wholesale margins for medium-grain rice declined 22 percent and retail margins 4 percent. Farmer's share of the wholesale price increased from an average of 78 percent for 1948–49 through 1950–51 to an average of 84 percent for 1956–57 through 1958–59, and his share of the retail price increased from 39 to 43 percent.

U. S. AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE. SUPPLEMENT FOR 1956–60 TO FARM-RETAIL SPREADS FOR FOOD PRODUCTS. U. S. Dept. Agr. Supp. for 1956–60 to Misc. Pub. 741, 40 pp. January 1961.

Brings up to date the statistics on farm food market basket presented in Part III of Farm-Retail Spreads for Food Products, Misc. Pub. 741, issued in November 1957.

Statistical Compilations

DUROST, D. D. INDEX NUMBERS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION BY REGIONS, 1939–1958. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 273, 37 pp., illus. December 1960.

GOODWIN, J. W., PLAXICO, J. S., AND LAGRONE, W. F. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS, COSTS, AND EXPECTED RETURNS: ALTERNATIVE CROP AND LIVESTOCK ENTERPRISES: CLAY SOILS OF THE ROLLING PLAINS OF SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA. Okla. Agr. Expt. Sta. Processed Ser. P–357, 54 pp., illus. September 1960. (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

HALDEMAN, ROBERT C., BENNETT, ROBERT M., CORLEY, JOSEPH R., FOSTER, RALPH O., AND HUNTER, JOHN H., JR. GRAIN TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS FOR THE NORTH CENTRAL REGION. U.S. Dept, Agr. Statis, Bul. 268, 131 pp., illus. Aug. 1960.

HODGES, E. F. ANIMAL UNITS OF LIVESTOCK FED ANNUALLY, 1909 TO 1959. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 271, 12 pp., illus. October 1960.

HODGES, E. F. LIVESTOCK-PRODUCTION UNITS, 1910–1958, AND CONSUMPTION OF FEED BY LIVESTOCK, 1955–1958. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 275, 31 pp., illus. December 1960.

MISSISSIPPI AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION. STATISTICAL SUPPLEMENT, LOW INCOME FARM STUDY, CLAY-HILLS AREA OF MISSISSIPPI. Miss. Agr. Expt. Sta. AEc. M. R. 30, 95 pp. January 1961. (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

PARSONS, M. S., ROBINSON, F. H., AND STRICKLER, P. E. FARM MACHINERY: USE, DEPRECIATION, AND REPLACEMENT. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 269, 37 pp. October 1960.

TEXAS AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION. PRODUCTION COSTS AND EXPECTED RETURNS; ALTERNATIVE CROP AND LIVESTOCK ENTERPRISES; CLAY SOILS IN THE NORTHERN PORTION OF THE ROLLING PLAINS OF TEXAS. Tex. Agr. Expt. Sta. MP–445, 54 pp., illus. September 1960. (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1961

Reorganization of USDA Economics Services

A reorganization of the agricultural economics services in the U.S. Department of Agriculture was announced by Secretary Orville L. Freeman in February, to become effective April 3. The reorganization brings economic research and statistical reporting functions into two new agencies—Economics Research Service and Statistical Reporting Service. Economic functions and activities before the reorganization were scattered in Agricultural Marketing Service, Agricultural Research Service, and Foreign Agricultural Service. A Director of Agricultural Economics heads both new agencies. Dr. Willard W. Cochrane has been named Acting Director. The names of the administrators of the two new agencies had not been announced at the time this journal went to press in late March.

Activities of the new agencies involve an extensive organization of approximately 1,800 employees more than 800 of whom are outside Washington, D.C. Much of the work is done in cooperation with State departments of agriculture and land-grant colleges and universities.

Growth Through Agricultural Progress

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS RESEARCH

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