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

BERNITZ, ALEXANDER. THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN EAST GERMANY. U.S. Dept. Agr. Econ. Res. Serv. ERS-Foreign-5, 24 pp., illus. 1961.

Indications are that East Germany will not achieve its 1965 goal of equaling West Germany's agricultural or per capita consumption levels, but improvements can be expected in yield, productivity, and quality of product. Prospects for 1960–61 appear unfavorable. Official Government appeals during June stressed the need for farmers to make up recent losses by working longer hours until the situation is again normal.

BROWN, LESTER R. THE JAPANESE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY. U.S. Dept. Agr. Econ. Res. Serv. ERS-Foreign-7, 32 pp., illus. 1961.

With a population half that of the United States and a land area smaller than California, Japan produces 80 percent of her own food. Food crops occupy 90 percent of the agricultural land, with feed grains, forage crops, and agricultural raw materials for industry in a minor position. In the past decade, Japan has been the principal U.S. agricultural market, with shipments, chiefly of wheat, barley, corn, cotton, hides and skins, tallow, and soybeans, averaging $390 million annually.

CSORBA, J. J., AND BUTLER, G. G. DAIRY COWS: HOUSING AND METHODS OF MILKING. U.S. Dept. Agr. Econ. Res. Serv. ERS–15, 31 pp. 1961.

New techniques in milking, handling, feeding, and housing have been extremely effective in reducing the labor necessary for milking cows. Pipeline milking, bulk tanks, automatic feeding, milking parlors, and loose housing are among the most important innovations that have increased milk production per man, or per man-hour of labor, during the last 15 years. In 1958, with mechanical milkers, three times as many cows were milked per hour in a stanchion barn and more than four times as many in a modern herringbone milking parlor, as in 1938.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. GRAIN MARKETING IN THE SOVIET UNION, WITH EMPHASIS ON WHEAT. U.S. Dept. Agr., 57 pp., illus. 1961.

Report of a USDA technical study group that visited Russia in 1960 to study grain handling, storage, and processing operations and research in the Soviet Union.

EGBERT, A. C., AND HEADY, E. O. REGIONAL ADJUSTMENTS IN GRAIN PRODUCTION. A LINEAR PROGRAMING ANALYSIS. U.S. Dept. Agr. Tech. Bul. 1241, 66 pp., illus. 1961. Supplement to Tech. Bul., 58 pp. 1961.

This report is first in a series of exploratory studies, regional in nature, analyzing the farm surplus situation and the corollary adjustment problems of agriculture. Wheat and feed grains are discussed. Brief explanations of the methods used to collect and estimate the data are given. Included in the supplement are mathematical models, proofs, methods of data collection and estimation, and supplementary tables.

ELEFSON, R. V., AND RAUP, P. M. FINANCING FARM TRANSFERS WITH LAND CONTRACTS. Minn. Agr. Expt. Sta., Sta. Bul. 454 (North Central Regional Pub. 122), 32 pp., illus. 1961.

Use of the installment land contract has increased in the North Central Region in the last 15 years. Together with other similar forms of low-equity financing, including the deed of trust with power of nonjudicial sale and low downpayment mortgage, the land contract has emerged as a possible aid in meeting the growing problem of financing land ownership in modern agriculture. The laws and practices of 13 States are covered in this report.

FARNWORTH, CONSTANCE H., AND MEARS, LEON G. U.S. FARM PRODUCTS FIND MARKET AND COMPETITION IN VENEZUELA. U.S. Dept. Agr. Foreign Agr. Econ. Rpt. 1, 28 pp., illus. 1961.

In 1960, Venezuela replaced Cuba as our No. 1 Latin American market for farm commodities. Products originating in practically all of our 50 States find a market there. The United States in turn is the principal market for Venezuela's exports. However, competition building up during recent years from third suppliers and from increased domestic production and protectionism have begun to cause concern among U.S. farmers and traders.

FULLER, T. E. DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS OF A RURAL AREA IN NORTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDUSTRIAL PLANT. Pa. Agr. Expt. Sta. A.E. and R.S. 26, 113 pp., illus. (Mimeographed.) (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.) 1961.

Report describes and analyzes the economic effects on agriculture of the location of an industry in a rural area. Curtiss-Wright recently located on a 50,000-acre block in Clearfield, Elk, and Cameron Counties, Pa. Most of the land was in forest, largely State owned. Geographic location of plant draws workers from at least a five-county area, parts of which are important agriculturally.

GARLOCK, F. L., HANSING, F. D., SCOFIELD, W. H., AND OTHERS, UNDER DIRECTION OF N. J. WALL. THE BALANCE SHEET OF AGRICULTURE, 1961. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Inform. Bul. 247, 23 pp., illus. 1961.

During 1960, value of farm assets rose to about $206.1 billion from about $204.8 billion in 1959. Land values continued to rise in all regions except the Corn Belt. The realized net income of farm operators from farming was $11,700 million—about a 4-percent increase over 1959.

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

Despite higher incomes, farmers appeared to be in a tighter cash position, owing to continued decline in farmers' liquid assets and debts and reduction of about $475 million in farmers' expenditures for motor vehicles and machinery.

GIBSON, W. L., JR. RENTING FARMS IN SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA. Va. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 523 (Southeast Land Tenure Research Committee Pub. 38), 36 pp. 1961. (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

This is a descriptive study of farm rental arrangements in Southampton and Halifax Counties, Va., compared with those of 20 years ago. Tenants, part owners, and owners were interviewed in order to compare farms operated under different forms of tenure. Most farms in both counties are leased under a share-rent agreement—a ½-share lease in Southampton and a ¼-share lease in Halifax County. In Halifax County, share rental arrangements remained essentially unchanged over the years. In Southampton County, however, share leasing shifted away from a ⅓-share lease in earlier years.

GRONBECH, GERTRUDE. CONSUMPTION TRENDS AND PATTERNS FOR VEGETABLES, POTATOES, SWEETPOTATOES, AND DRY BEANS AND PEAS. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Handb. 215, 57 pp., illus. 1961.

In the last 50 years, per capita consumption of vegetables has increased about 15 percent, but use of potatoes, sweetpotatoes, and dry beans and peas has decreased substantially. During the next 10 years, per capita use of vegetables and potatoes is expected to remain about the same as at present, but some further shift to processed items is expected. Use of sweetpotatoes and of dry beans and peas may continue to decline.

HALL, RICHARD. IMPACT OF UREA ON OILSEED MEAL MARKETS U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 472, 19 pp., illus. 1961.

Urea as a source of nitrogen for rumen synthesis of protein seems unlikely to replace natural proteins in mixed feeds in any substantial degree, but its use is expected to increase relatively more in the next few years than use of natural proteins. Consumption is expected to rise from about 81,000 tons in 1959 to 125,000 tons in 1964, equivalent to about 10 percent of the projected level of protein ingredients fed to ruminants.

HESSER, L. F., AND JANSSEN, M. R. USE OF CREDIT BY FARMERS IN CENTRAL INDIANA. Purdue (Ind.) Agr. Expt. Sta. Res. Bul. 718, 8 pp., illus. 1961. (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

In 1958, insurance companies were the main source of real-estate credit for farmers. Long-term loans held by individuals were next in volume. Nearly half the volume of non-real-estate credit to farmers was by commercial banks. Production credit associations supplied the next largest volume. Banks and production credit associations extended 68 percent of the non-real-estate loans to farmers in central Indiana.

HOUSE, P. STATE ACTION RELATING TO FARMLAND ON THE RURAL-URBAN FRINGE. U.S. Dept. Agr. Econ. Res. Serv. ERS—13, 23 pp. 1961.

This report summarizes legislation enacted or considered by various State legislatures in an effort to cope with the problems of taxing agricultural lands lying in the path of urban expansion. Pertinent sections of State laws and bills that deal with criteria for assessing such farmland are quoted in full or in part. Several States have sought to handle the problem without enabling legislation through special instructions to local tax assessors. Samples of these instructions in tax assessors manuals are contained in the appendix. No attempt is made to evaluate either the desirability or the effectiveness of these various measures.

LOWENSTEIN, FRANK, AND WITTMAN, CHARLES H. FIBERS USED IN TEXTILE MANUFACTURES ENTERING UNITED STATES FOREIGN TRADE—QUANTITIES OF THREE MAJOR FIBERS USED U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 491, 30 pp., illus. 1961.

The total volume of trade in manufactures of basic textile fibers—cotton, wool, and manmade—more than doubled in the 1920–60 period. Measured in tons of fiber equivalent, textile exports exceeded imports in every year except 1960, when, due chiefly to increase imports of manufactured textile products, imports exceeded exports by 58 million pounds.

LYNCH, JOHN V., AND FERREE, PAUL J. THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY OF BOLIVIA. U.S .Dept. Agr. Econ. Res. Serv. ERS-Foreign-1, 19 pp., illus. 1961.

Almost two-thirds of the Bolivian people work in agriculture, yet a third of the food is imported. The chief agricultural imports are grains, sugar, and vegetable oils. The United States and Argentina are the principal sources of wheat; sugar is imported mainly from Peru. Agricultural development has been slow, but under the agrarian reform law of 1953 the Bolivian Government envisions greater opportunities for those engaged in agriculture.

MAITLAND, SHERIDAN T., STANSBERRY, ROBERT R., JR., AND FRIEND, REED E. THE HIRED FARM WORKING FORCE OF 1959. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Inform. Bul. 238, 53 pp., illus. 1961.

About 3.6 million persons did some farmwork for wages in 1959. This was 15 percent fewer workers than in 1958, but they worked on the average more days to produce the 1959 agricultural output. The increase in days worked, plus slightly better nonfarm earnings, brought average annual earnings from farm and nonfarm work to $1,038, up from $961 in 1958.

MARTIN, ROBERT G. RAW SUGAR. WEIGHT AND POLARIZATION CHANGES DURING BULK SHIPMENT FROM PUERTO RICO. U.S. Dept. Agr. Econ. Res. Serv. ERS–7, 12 pp. 1961.

Comparisons made during 1957–60 show that changes in weight and polarization in sugar in transit from shipping terminals in Puerto Rico to mainland ports have been decreasing in size since 1957. The decline in value to Puerto Rico producers from weight and polarization changes in 1960 amounted to about $230,000; total value of the sugar shipped was $91 million.

MATHIS, ANTHONY G., JOHNSON, ROBERT W., AND ANDERSON, ELSIE D. SELECTED PROBLEMS IN BUTTERFAT SAMPLING AND TESTING. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 482, 34 pp. 1961.

Report of eight studies to determine how and to what extent the use of different techniques in sampling and

testing butterfat may affect test results. Results of the studies provide a basis for increased confidence in methods of testing and verifying tests of milk delivered to plants by milk producers.

MURRAY, KENNETH L. THE AGRICULTURE SITUATION IN RUMANIA. U.S. Dept. Agr. Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-Foreign-4, 29 pp., illus. 1961.

Despite government policies in favor of heavy industry, nearly two out of every three of Rumania's people still make their living in agriculture. The average diet has improved somewhat in recent years, but two-thirds of the total calories still are derived directly from grains. The moderate increase in farm production since prewar days has not been sufficient, except for sugar and vegetable oils, to supply significantly larger quantities of food.

NALE-POVIC, JOSEPH G. TRAFFIC PATTERNS IN DOMESTIC WATER TRANSPORTATION OF FARM PRODUCTS AND SUPPLIES. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 465, 56 pp., illus. 1961.

An analysis, by major agricultural commodity groups, of transportation of agricultural products by coastwise, lake, and river traffic shows that, in 1957, 44 percent of the traffic on domestic waterways moved on the rivers, 29 percent was coastwise traffic, and 17 percent lake traffic. These figures represent gains of 125 percent and 29 percent in river and coastwise traffic, respectively, and a loss of 22 percent in lake traffic since 1949.

PATTY, GORDON. AGRICULTURE AND TRADE OF PARAGUAY. U.S. Dept. Agr. Econ. Res. Serv. ERS-Foreign-6, 15 pp., illus. 1961.

Subsistence farming is prominent in Paraguay despite considerable progress in commercial agriculture. Agriculture accounts for half the labor force, more than a third of the national income, and two-thirds of all export value. Poor distribution of population and insecurity of land tenure, together with inadequate transportation and marketing facilities, have been factors in delaying agricultural development.

PAVELIS, G. A., JOHNSON, H. P., SHRADER, W. D., AND TIMMONS, J. F. METHODOLOGY OF PROGRAMING SMALL WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT. Iowa Agr. and Home Econ. Expt. Sta. Res. Bul. 493, pp. 122–160, illus. 1961.

The area selected to demonstrate watershed planning was the 480-acre Nepper Watershed in Monona County, Iowa. Interests of farmers in watershed planning centered around finding oportunities to obtain the benefits of increased productivity and additional benefits from reduced sheet erosion, gully erosion, or flood damage to onsite crops. The county was interested in reducing or eliminating the expense of maintaining a bridge damaged frequently by flood runoff. Forty-seven landtreatment activities and three structural activities are considered for programing.

PHILLIPS, RICHARD. FEED INDUSTRY FINANCING AND CONTRACT PROGRAMS IN IOWA AND SURROUNDING STATES. Iowa Agr. and Home Econ. Expt. Sta. Spec. Rpt. 28, 19 pp., illus. 1961.

The 26 feed manufacturers studied had a total of 120 financing and contract programs in operation—56 informal financing agreements, 46 formalized contractual programs, and 18 integrated programs with the companies sharing production risks with farmers. The 120 programs accounted for about 18.6 percent of total sales of hog, beef, and poultry feeds in the 6-State area in 1959.

RINEAR, EARL H. THE HATCHERY INDUSTRY: STRUCTURE, ECONOMIC CHANGES, PROBLEMS. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 483, 31 pp., illus. 1961.

Number of hatcheries declined more than 50 percent from 1935 to 1959, but average size of firm increased. The decline in numbers is expected to continue. Success of individual firms will depend on the ability of management to improve utilization of capacity, to lower costs, and to offer chick and poult lines which are generally acceptable. Hatching under franchise agreements has enabled many hatcheries to improve their operating performance and their competitive position.

ROSS, JAMES E. TRENDS IN PHILIPPINE AGRICULTURAL TRADE. U.S. Dept. Agr. Econ. Res. Serv. ERS-Foreign-3, 41 pp., illus. 1961.

Agricultural production in the Philippines in 1960 was about twice the prewar level. In agricultural trade, the big change in the past decade has been from imports of food commodities to relatively more imports of farm raw materials. Philippine imports of agricultural commodities annually amount to about $100 million; agricultural exports amount to over $300 million, or 70 percent of all export earnings.

ROSS, JAMES E., AND KIRBY, RILEY H. SOUTH KOREA'S AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY. U.S. Dept. Agr. Econ. Res. Serv. ERS-Foreign-2, 26 pp., illus. 1961.

Agriculture supports over 60 percent of the population of South Korea, and accounts for about 40 percent of the gross national product and about 15 percent of the foreign trade earnings. Per capita agricultural production has been increasing since the Korean conflict, but is still substantially below the prewar level. With continuation of present programs and with economic assistance from the United States, production should continue to develop at a moderate rate, but the country will remain a net importer of agricultural commodities for several years.

ULSAKER, N. L., BACK, W. B., AND LAGRONE, W. F. RESOURCES AND INCOMES OF RURAL FAMILIES IN THE OZARK PLATEAU OF NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA (A DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS). Okla. Agr. Expt. Sta. Processed Ser. P–377, 55 pp., illus. 1961. (Mimeographed.) (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

This section of Oklahoma is characterized by rough, hilly terrain. Therefore, its productive soils are limited. Rural families depend greatly upon nonfarm sources of income such as off-farm work, pensions, and welfare. Labor and land are both underemployed. Nonland capital tends to be the first limitation to more efficient resource use.

U.S. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE. FARM PRODUCTION: TRENDS, PROSPECTS, AND PROGRAMS. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Inform. Bul. 239, 102 pp., illus. 1961.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1961

In the last decade, total farm production expanded at an unprecedented rate—27-percent increase. This change occurred despite a decrease in the acreage of land used for crops and a sharp decrease in the quantity of farm labor used. Increased use of fertilizer and lime, the number of tractors, the quantities of pesticides, formula feeds, and many other purchased inputs contributed, as did technological innovations. The prospect for the 1960's is for excessive farm production unless measures are taken to curb production; a growing population and high levels of exports are not likely to offset continued increases in yields of crops and livestock.

U.S. Economic Research Service. FARM COSTS AND LOCATION. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Inform. Bul. 230, 85 pp., illus. 1961.

Contains estimates of costs and returns for 1960 and earlier years on 34 important types of commercial farms in 19 major farming areas in the United States, and analyses of changes in production, income, and costs of each of these types of farms in recent years. An annual publication.

Waldorf, Wm. H. OUTPUT PER MAN-HOUR IN FACTORIES PROCESSING FARM FOOD PRODUCTS. U.S. Dept. Agr. Tech. Bul. 1243, 36 pp., illus. 1961.

The annual rate of growth of output per man-hour in food-processing industries from 1947 to 1958 was 2.7 percent, about the same as the yearly rate in the private nonfarm sector. During the same period, net output per man-hour in farming grew at an average annual rate of 6.2 percent.

Weidenhamer, Margaret. WOMEN'S ATTITUDES TOWARD COTTON AND OTHER FIBERS IN CLOTHING. U.S. Dept. Agr. Mktg. Res. Rpt. 493, 111 pp. 1961.

Reports results of survey of women's ownership of selected garments, their appraisals of different fibers, their use of informal attire for various activities, their problems in buying clothes, and details of their most recent shopping experiences.

White, J. H., Bolton, B., Wiegmann, F. H., and others. BUDGETS FOR MAJOR FARM ENTERPRISES IN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER DELTA OF ARKANSAS, LOUISIANA, AND MISSISSIPPI. La. Agr. Expt. Sta. D.A.E. Cir. 281, 129 pp. 1961. (Mimeographed.) (Agr. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

Crop and livestock enterprise budgets are divided into two parts—present technology and advanced technology. Enterprise budgets for crops are arranged by farm size and soil type. Each crop enterprise has three tables of information: (1) Estimated costs and returns per acre; (2) monthly distribution of labor requirements per acre; and (3) annual labor, power, and machinery requirements per acre.

Zimmer, J. M., and Stewart, C. E. FARM PRODUCTION PRACTICES AND INPUTS, STRAWBERRY VALLEY PROJECT, UTAH. Utah Agr. Expt. Sta. Mimeo. Rpt., 35 pp. 1961. (Econ. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

Gives summary tables for the main irrigated field crops in the area—alfalfa, barley, wheat, corn for silage, sugarbeets, green peas for canning, and sweet corn for canning. The statement comprises three main sections: (1) Labor, power, and equipment used, by operations; (2) farm practices; and (3) machinery and equipment on farms.

Statistical Compilations

Butler, C. G., and LeGrande, C. W. MILK: COWS ON FARMS, PRODUCTION PER COW, AND TOTAL PRODUCTION, BY MONTHS, 1930–59. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 289, 61 pp. 1961.

Crop Reporting Board, U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Rptg. Serv. CHICKENS AND EGGS, FARM PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION, CASH RECEIPTS, GROSS INCOME; COMMERCIAL BROILERS, PRODUCTION, GROSS INCOME. REVISED ESTIMATES—BY STATES, 1955–59 INCLUDING NUMBERS ON FARMS JANUARY 1, 1956–60. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 287, 26 pp. 1961.

Crop Reporting Board, U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Rptg. Serv. FIELD CROPS, BY STATES, 1954–59; ACREAGE, YIELD, PRODUCTION; REVISED ESTIMATES. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 290, 66 pp. 1961.

Crop Reporting Board, U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Rptg. Serv. MEAT ANIMALS: FARM PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION, AND INCOME, BY STATES, 1955–59, REVISED ESTIMATES. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 284, 37 pp. 1961.

Crop Reporting Board, U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Rptg. Serv. SEED CROPS, BY STATES, 1954–59. REVISED ESTIMATES; ACREAGE, YIELD, PRODUCTION, PRICE, VALUE. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 288, 31 pp. 1961.

Crop Reporting Board, U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Rptg. Serv. TURKEYS: FARM PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION, CASH RECEIPTS, GROSS INCOME, BY STATES. REVISED ESTIMATES 1955–59, INCLUDING NUMBERS ON FARMS JANUARY 1, 1956–60. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 286, 19 pp. 1961.

Farm Economics Division, U.S. Dept. Agr. Econ. Res. Serv. CHANGES IN FARM PRODUCTION AND EFFICIENCY. A SUMMARY REPORT. U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 233, Rev. July 1961, 47 pp., illus.

Crop Reporting Board, U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Rptg. Serv. POTATOES, SWEETPOTATOES, BY STATES AND SEASONAL GROUPS; CROPS OF 1954–59, ACREAGE, YIELD, PRODUCTION, PRICE, VALUE, FARM DISPOSITION, STOCKS (REVISED ESTIMATES). U.S. Dept. Agr. Statis. Bul. 291, 41 pp. 1961.

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