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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 Colleges¹

Barker, Randolph. USE OF LINEAR PROGRAMMING IN MAKING FARM MANAGEMENT DECISIONS. Cornell Univ. Agr. Expt. Sta., Ithaca, N.Y., Bul. 993, 42 pp., April 1964. (Econ. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

Describes the application of linear programming on two individual farms in New York State. A brief description of each farm is followed by a discussion of the problems considered and the solutions obtained. Further details relative to the construction of the models and selection of appropriate data are presented in appendixes.

Bird, Alan R. POVERTY IN RURAL AREAS OF THE UNITED STATES. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Econ. Rpt. 63, 46 pp., November 1964.

In 1959, approximately 17.4 million rural people were living in poverty (families with incomes less than \$3,000 or individuals with incomes less than \$1,500). If poverty is to be reduced, two general types of programs seem to be needed. These are programs to raise the economic status of families and programs to develop, consolidate, or otherwise upgrade public services such as schools, hospitals, roads, and water supplies.

Bohall, Robert W., Raymond O. P. Farrish, and Joseph C. Podany. PACKING MATURE GREEN TOMATOES: COSTS, EFFICIENCIES, AND ECONOMIES OF SCALE IN THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY OF TEXAS. U.S. Dept. Agr., Mktg. Res. Rpt. 679, 45 pp., November 1964.

Packers of mature green tomatoes from the Lower Rio Grande Valley could achieve considerable savings by operating a longer season and shifting to larger capacity packing sheds. A 40-pound package was found to cost \$1.17 in a small model shed operating a 100-hour season, 91 cents in a 200-hour season, and 82 cents in a 300-hour season. Comparable costs for a large shed were \$1 for 100 hours, 80 cents for 200 hours, and 74 cents for 300 hours.

Boxley, Robert F., Jr. OWNER CHARACTERISTICS AND DISTRIBUTION OF LANDOWNERSHIP IN THE EASTERN GREAT PLAINS. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-197, 26 pp., November 1964.

Individual landholdings in three specialized farming regions of the Great Plains range in size from small

tracts to units of thousands of acres. The three regions were studied, and the report describes relations found between size of landholding and method by which land was acquired, age of owner at acquisition, length of ownership, and owner occupation.

Carley, D. H., and T. L. Cryer. FLEXIBILITY OF OPERATION IN DAIRY MANUFACTURING PLANTS: CHANGES 1944 TO 1961. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Econ. Rpt. 61, 44 pp., October 1964.

From 1944 to 1961, numbers of plants manufacturing dairy products decreased from 9,739 to 6,134 but the average number of products manufactured per plant increased from 1.5 to 2. Condensed milk, nonfat dry milk solids, frozen-product mixes, and frozen products were most often produced in multiple-product plants. Cheese and evaporated milk were produced more often in single-product plants.

Cockroft, Lindon U., and J. W. H. Brown. DEVELOPING AND MARKET TESTING AN IMPROVED LOOSELEAF TOBACCO PACKAGE. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-189, 10 pp., September 1964.

A new packaging method for flue-cured tobacco that might save growers millions of dollars a year is described. Key features of the method are use of a wooden frame during packing and a knitted paper sheet to wrap the tobacco, resulting in a square package of loose leaves. The package prevents tangling and breaking of the leaves as the tobacco moves through auction rooms and on to processing plants.

Davis, Jeanne M. NEW ENGLAND FARM VACATION BUSINESSES: CHARACTERISTICS AND OWNERS' EXPERIENCES. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Econ. Rpt. 60, 20 pp., October 1964.

Owners of about 50 vacation farms in 4 New England States were interviewed. The owners listed among the advantages those of meeting interesting people and helping city people learn about farm life, as well as earning additional cash income. The disadvantages include adverse weather, lack of privacy, and the fact that income may be low.

Guidry, Nelson P. A GRAPHIC SUMMARY OF WORLD AGRICULTURE. U.S. Dept. Agr., Misc. Pub. 705, 64 pp., September 1964.

Contains maps and charts showing the geographical distribution of agricultural production and trade, world population, and such physical factors as land

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

forms, annual rainfall, soils, and vegetation. Also shown graphically are variations in food consumption throughout the world and the relation between regional food supplies and requirements.

Holm, Henrietta M. ISRAEL'S AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY IN BRIEF. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-Foreign-96, 8 pp., September 1964.

In the first 12 years of Israel's statehood, its index of farm production increased from the 1948/49 base (100) to 489. Agriculture has rarely contributed more than about 12 percent of the national income or employed more than an average of 17 percent of the labor force. Improved production techniques have reduced the number of farmers required to sustain and reasonably increase farm production.

Holm, Henrietta M. TURKEY'S AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY IN BRIEF. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-Foreign-97, 8 pp., September 1964.

The economy of the Republic of Turkey is predominantly agricultural. Although there is an increasing trend toward urbanization, less than a third of the population lives in towns and cities. About four-fifths of all Turkish exports, by value, are of farm commodities.

Jones, W. Webster. ECONOMICS OF MILK MARKETING IN ALASKA. U.S. Dept. Agr., Mktg. Res. Rpt. 675, 34 pp., September 1964.

Since 1957 sales of fresh milk have declined almost 14 percent in four Alaskan markets. The decline was largely the result of increases in differences among consumer prices of fresh milk and its substitutes--nonfat dry milk, concentrated milk, and evaporated milk. Additional lower-priced substitutes have been introduced in some of the markets.

Kriesberg, Martin. FOOD SERVICE IN PRIVATE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS. U.S. Dept. Agr., Mktg. Res. Rpt. 678, 21 pp., October 1964.

Cash receipts for food served in the Nation's private schools were about \$9 million during March 1962, or \$75 million for the school year. About \$60 million worth of the food used in the 1962-63 school year was purchased locally through regular commercial channels; the rest was donated by the Federal Government. About 5,000 private elementary and secondary schools served complete plate lunches under the National School Lunch Program. Another 1,500 schools had other food services.

Kriesberg, Martin. FOOD SERVICE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS. U.S. Dept. Agr., Mktg. Res. Rpt. 681, 39 pp., November 1964.

About two-thirds of the Nation's 97,000 public elementary and secondary schools participated in the National School Lunch Program in March 1962. Another 4,300 public schools also served lunches. Cash receipts from the sale of lunches to pupils in public schools totaled an estimated \$900 million in 1962.

Larsen, Marion R. THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION AND CROP PROSPECTS IN COMMUNIST CHINA, 1964. U.S. Dept. Agr., Foreign Agr. Econ. Rpt. 20, 10 pp., October 1964.

Diets in Communist China are improving but both the quantity and quality remain much below the level of 1957. The report examines three broad aspects of Chinese agriculture; weather, crops, and food availability. Effects of additional inputs, new approaches, and the vagaries of weather on the outlook for Chinese agriculture are discussed.

McConnell, Robert M. A SURVEY OF AGRICULTURE IN MALAYSIA. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-Foreign-95, 55 pp., October 1964.

Agriculture forms the basis of the economy in all areas of Malaysia except Singapore. However, raw and semiprocessed agricultural commodities constitute a large portion of Singapore's trade. The production of rubber is of paramount importance throughout the entire area.

Metzler, William H. THE FARM WORKER IN A CHANGING AGRICULTURE. Calif. Agr. Expt. Sta., Giannini Found. Res. Rpt. 277, 98 pp., September 1964. (Econ. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

First of a projected series of three reports on the impacts of technological change upon demand for farm labor. The study is centered in Kern County, Calif., one of the Nation's most productive farming areas.

Moncure, Robert C. SOUTH AFRICA'S AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY IN BRIEF. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-Foreign-103, 8 pp., November 1964.

The Republic of South Africa has a rather highly developed agricultural research organization and expanding modern education, extension, and conservation services. The general economic situation was prosperous for the Republic in 1963 and 1964. Manufacturing now contributes a higher percentage of the Republic's gross national product than agriculture.

Powell, Jules V. THE DOMESTIC TREE NUT INDUSTRIES: AN ECONOMIC APPRAISAL. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Econ. Rpt. 62, 41 pp., November 1964.

Brings together information concerning the production and marketing of major domestic tree nuts--almonds, filberts, pecans, and walnuts. The growth of the tree nut industries has been rapid since the early 1900's. Marketing of almonds, filberts, and walnuts is regulated by Federal marketing agreements and orders.

Pritchard, D. L. SPOT COTTON QUOTATIONS: THEIR RELATION TO SPOT VALUES AND TO AVERAGE DIFFERENTIALS. U.S. Dept. Agr., Mktg. Res. Rpt. 677, 38 pp., October 1964.

Spot cotton prices are compared with the official quotations issued by each of the designated spot markets during the seasons of 1959-60 and 1960-61. Price differentials from Middling 1-inch cotton are compared with quoted differentials within each season and for both seasons. Although quotations were found to differ from prices paid for individual qualities at a particular time, the discrepancies tended to be offset when all qualities were considered for a long period.

Pritchard, Norris T. THE FEDERAL RAISIN MARKETING ORDER. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-198, 22 pp., October 1964.

Emphasizes some immediate and practical courses of action the California raisin industry might take to improve its economic position, using the tools provided by the Federal Raisin Marketing Order. Some problems that can be alleviated by industry actions within the framework of the Order include reducing price and market instability and expanding total raisin production and sales.

Rollag, Norman L., and Robert V. Enochian. THE FREEZING OF COMMERCIAL BAKERY PRODUCTS: CURRENT PRACTICES, PROBLEMS, AND PROSPECTS. U.S. Dept. Agr., Mktg. Res. Rpt. 674, 41 pp., September 1964.

Nearly 40 percent of bakers interviewed in 28 cities froze part of their production in 1962. Most of the bakers interviewed used freezing to achieve economies by baking more than a day's supply of low-volume items and freezing the excess for later sale. Retail bakers used freezing more often than wholesale or grocery chain bakers.

Singleton, Carey B., Jr. THE AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY OF TANGANYIKA. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-Foreign-92, 59 pp., September 1964.

The United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar may become an increasingly significant market for U.S. farm and nonfarm products. The United States is the third best customer for the Republic, with the

United Kingdom first and West Germany in second place for imports and exports. Coffee is the primary product shipped to the United States.

Skinner, Snider W. NIGERIA'S AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY IN BRIEF. U.S. Dept. Agr., Econ. Res. Serv., ERS-Foreign-98, 8 pp., September 1964.

About half of Nigeria's national income is derived from agriculture. Nigeria has a prosperous and active economy and almost all economic indicators point to sustained expansion and growth. But managerial and technical skills are needed; transportation is barely adequate; electric power supply is insufficiently developed; and land clearing is costly.

Sundquist, W. B., and James Holt. INCOME-IMPROVING ADJUSTMENT ALTERNATIVES ON GRADE A DAIRY FARMS IN MINNESOTA. Univ. Minn. Agr. Expt. Sta. Bul. 473, 28 pp., 1964. (Econ. Res. Serv. cooperating.)

The study's purpose was to determine how Minnesota grade A dairy farms might be expanded or reorganized using resources typically available to farmers. It was assumed that quantities of some resources could be expanded with credit. The "most profitable" farm organizations presented are not established farms but are estimates of how farm resources could be used to maximize farm income.

Vermeer, James, and Ronald O. Aines. THE PILOT CROPLAND CONVERSION PROGRAM: ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN ITS FIRST YEAR, 1963. U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Econ. Rpt. 64, 47 pp., November 1964.

Five areas under the 1963 Pilot Cropland Conversion Program were studied. In each of the areas studied, farms in the program were larger and the size increased more from 1962 to 1963 than other farms in their respective counties. Payments for conversion ranged from \$8 for the poorest land in the program in North Dakota to \$70 an acre for the best land in the program in Iowa.

U.S. Department of Agriculture. HANDBOOK OF AGRICULTURAL CHARTS, 1964. Agr. Handbook 275, 164 pp., September 1964.

Contains information on the overall agricultural economic situation, farm commodities, foreign agricultural trade, marketing, farm population, and family living. The book has 158 charts, most of them accompanied by tables of detailed data updated where possible into 1964.

U.S. Department of Agriculture. SPREADS IN FARM-RETAIL PRICES OF WHITE BREAD. Misc. Pub. 969, 15 pp., September 1964.

Shows changes in bread prices, spreads, and costs from 1947-49 through 1963. Supersedes "Marketing Margins for White Bread," Misc. Pub. 712, revised November 1962.

A mimeographed index for Volume XVI is now available upon request from the Division of Information, Office of Management Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

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