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ORGANIZED SYMPOSIA ABSTRACTS

Annual Meeting, SAEA, New Orleans, Louisiana, January, 1995

TITLE: An Increasingly Competitive Global Market: Uncertainties for Southern States Agriculture (Moderator: *Parr Rosson, Tex. A&M Univ.*).

Organizers: *Curtis M. Jolly, Auburn Univ.; William Amponsah, NC A&T Univ., Mary Marchant, Univ. of Ky; and Stanley Fletcher, Univ. of Ga.*

Participants: *Curtis M. Jolly, Auburn Univ.; William Amponsah, NC A&T Univ.; Mary Marchant, Univ. of Ky.; Stanley Fletcher, Univ. of Ga.; Gail Cramer, Univ. of Ark., Patricia E. McLean-Meyinsse, Southern Univ.; and George C. Davis, Univ. of Tenn.*

Many uncertainties exist about the net impact of this new GATT agreement on domestic agriculture, programs, policies and institutions. It is estimated that the agreement will result in a 40 percent global tariff decrease. The reduction of tariffs, and the partial elimination of import quotas will boost international trade significantly by an estimated $755 billion a year. With all these changes, little is known as to how GATT will affect competitiveness and sustainability of certain states and regions in the production and trade of crops which are important to the southern region. This symposium is designed to identify and address the impact of GATT on agricultural sustainability, production and programs and institutions in the southeast region. Particular emphasis will be paid to limited resource farmers which are heavily impacted by changes in market forces.

TITLE: Experimental Learning in Agribusiness Graduate Program: Experiences and Opportunities (Moderator: *Walter J. Armbruster, Farm Foundation*).

Organizer: *S. Sureshwaran, SC St.*

Participants: *George Crawford, Gold Kist; Harvey S. Lewis, Miss. St.; M.S. Joshua, Va St. Univ.; Patricia Frazier, SC St.; and Steve Sonka, Univ. of Ill.*

General consensus on agribusiness education is that graduate curriculums should include: (1) classroom exposure to the case study approach to learning, and (2) at least one real-world, faculty guided, firm-level, project analysis problem experience. Curricula that augments traditional classroom instruction with experiential learning opportunities provide students with the necessary technical knowledge, managerial expertise, leadership ability and creativity to meet the needs of the future. Experiential learning is important to all institutions, specially to Historically Black Colleges and Universities. At this symposium, Universities and industry that have implemented experiential learning programs share their experiences and identify opportunities. M.S. in Agribusiness program at South Carolina State University will be used as a case study to develop a model program that will be implemented during 1995 to 1997. Participants will be kept informed and encouraged to share information through newsletters.

TITLE: Agricultural Trade Impacts on the Environment: Case study Results From Florida and Texas (Moderator: *Mike Phillips, OTA*).

Organizers: *C. Parr Rosson, III, Lonnie Jones, E. Berry Summerour, II, Tex. A&M Univ.*

Participants: *Dave Ervin, OTA; C. Parr Rosson, III, Tex. A&M Univ.; Lonnie Jones, Tex. A&M Univ.; Amy Purvis Pagano, Tex. A&M Univ.; Teo Ozuna, Tex. A&M Univ.; William Boggess, Univ. of Fla.; and Ron Lacewell, Tex. A&M Univ.*

U.S./Mexico agricultural trade has more than tripled since Mexico joined the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in 1986 and is expected to increase further as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is implemented. While increased trade has had an important economic impact on both countries, the implications for environmental quality are less certain and continue to be a focal point of debate on the merits of trade liberalization. The Office of Technology Assessment commissioned two case studies, one in Texas, the other in Florida, to

determine likely impacts of expanded trade on the environment of these two very different, yet somewhat fragile, ecosystems. This symposium will discuss the Congressional emphasis behind these studies, the results of the studies, the results and implications for other southern states, and the likely future consequences of expanded trade and impacts on environmental quality.

TITLE: Issued-Based Extension Programming: Can We Do Better? (Moderator: *Geoff Benson*).

Organizers: *Geoff Benson, NC St. Univ.; and Gary Fairchild, Univ. of Fla.*

Multi-disciplinary issue-based extension programming has benefitted from political visibility and increased federal funding. However, specific disciplinary, issue-based programming often suffers as a consequence. The need exists to identify and discuss issues and problems associated with developing and delivering programs on topical trade issues. This symposium is motivated by the recent experiences of extension economists who conducted extension education programs on various aspects of NAFTA. The symposium objective is to draw on the knowledge of various participants in the trade policy education arena to identify ways to improve the effectiveness of future extension efforts in this important area of issue-based extension education. If successful, the Land Grant Universities will be better prepared to develop and deliver future programs including those to address the recently concluded GATT negotiations and anticipated trade issued such as Cuba and Western Hemisphere Economic Integration.

TITLE: The Use of Input-Output Analysis to Measure the Economic Impact of Agriculture (Moderator: *David Broomhall, Purdue Univ.; and Paul Siegel, Univ. of Tenn.*).

Organizer: *David Broomhall, Purdue Univ.; and Paul Siegel, Univ. of Tenn.*

Participants: *William Edmondson, USDA; George Goldman, Univ. of Cal. - Berkely; Mark Henry, Clemson Univ.; and Tom Klindt, Univ. of Tenn.*

Agricultural economists are increasingly being called upon to measure the economic impact of agriculture because agricultural institutions are desperately trying to justify budget requests and assert their influence in policy issues. Agricultural economists are, in many cases, under pressure to provide "the numbers." This situation places agricultural economists at the forefront of the debate, but also means that they have a responsibility to insure that such studies follow acceptable procedures. This organized symposium will provide a forum for agricultural economists and other interested individuals to discuss how such studies can and should be carried out.

TITLE: World Food and Agriculture Situation (Moderator: *Fred J. Ruppel, USDA*).

Organizers: *Tesfa G. Gebrehemdhin and Dale Colyer, West Va. Univ.*

Participants: *Dale Colyer and Tesfa G. Gebremedhin, West Va. Univ.; Michael R. Reed and Mary Marchant, Univ. of Ky.; Kevin Cleaver and Graeme Donovan, World Bank; Earl D. Kellog, Winrock International.*

Current statistics indicate that more than a billion people of the world are inflicted by hunger and malnutrition. Many among the hungry are concentrated in developing countries where incomes are low, reinforcing the obvious connection between food shortage and poverty. These conditions suggest that little progress has been made both by developed and developing countries in reducing the widespread poverty and economic stagnation in the world. Thus, this symposium will provide an opportunity to exchange ideas and learn more about the problems and prospects for agricultural development and world food security.

TITLE: An Interactive Approach to Teaching a Compulsory Audience of Farmers and Spouses with Severe Financial Problems and Widely Divergent Age and Education Levels: Case Studies from Florida, New York, Kentucky, and Poland (Moderator: *J.W. Jordan, Clemson Univ.*).

Organizer: *P.J. van Blokland, Univ. of Fla.*

Participants: *Patricia Miller, Fla. A&M Univ., Robert Milligan, Cornell Univ.; and Steve Isaacs, Univ. of Ky.*

This symposium will present the experiences of and the lessons learned from teaching farm financial management to unwilling audiences which are diverse in background, age, education, upbringing and custom, and mostly unaware of the extension service. Many of these audiences are required to attend and pass financial courses by institutions which can materially affect their future. Consequently, the audience can be potentially hostile and uncooperative. These feelings may be exacerbated by the fact that they may have to pay market rates to attend.

POSTERS PRESENTED

Annual Meeting, SAEA, New Orleans, Louisiana, January, 1995

The Three Winning Posters are as follows:

First Place

"Household Expenditures on Whole-fat Milk in the Southern Region" *Kim Jensen, Univ. of Tenn.*

This study measures the impacts of household socioeconomic characteristics and use of nutrition information on market participation and expenditure levels for whole-fat milk in the South. Sources of nutrition information include information from health professionals, packaging and media sources. Three models (Market participation, Tobit and the Complete Dominance) are examined to determine if household characteristic variables affect market participation differently than these variables affect expenditure levels and whether lack of expenditures solely represents nonparticipation in the market.

Honorable Mention

"Management Ability and the Economics of Recirculating Aquaculture Systems" *Rex H. Caffey and Richard F. Kazmierczak, LSU.*

A bioeconomic, differential equation model of intensive tilapia production was defined and validated using data from the literature, experimental studies, surveys of manufacturers and expert opinion. Results indicate that there are many near-optimal ways to profitably manage a recirculating system early in the production cycle, with final profit outcomes only slightly affected by early management mistakes. near-optimal profit paths tend to converge late in the production cycle, suggesting that skilled management is critical to attain a successful harvest. The analysis demonstrates that profitable operation under varying management ability requires system components that are designed within well defined limits.

Honorable Mention

"Impact of CRP Policy Options on Land Use" *Deacue Fields and Sandra Monson, Univ. of Mo.*

Policy alternatives for land currently in CRP attempt to target key environmental and economic variables to maximize the benefits of a program. Previously ignored compliance benefits on land not in the program must also be considered. Given responses to these alternatives, soil erosion, crop base retirement, and other environmental variables are compared for program expiration, extension at existing payment rates, and at reduced payment rates for Missouri on farmland in CRP and outside the program. Reducing the payment rate does not produce significant differences in these variables, demonstrating that payment rates alone do not achieve targeting objectives.