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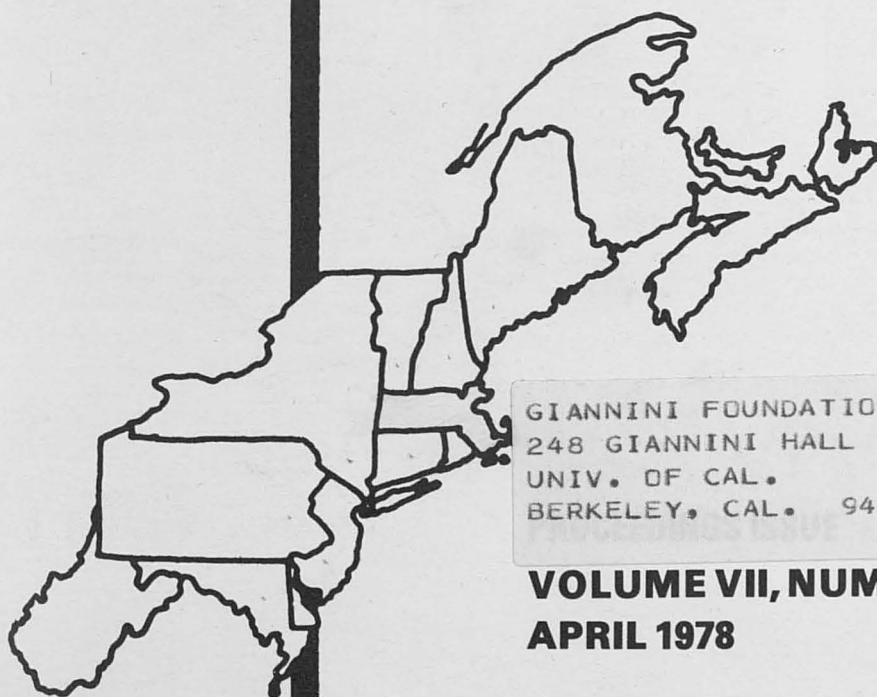
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# **JOURNAL OF THE**

## **Northeastern Agricultural Economics Council**

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue of the JNAEC marks another milestone in its evolution with the conversion to a printed format. While this should improve the image and perhaps the prestige of the Journal, such cosmetic changes do nothing for quality. Quality is a function of the work performed by the membership and submitted for publication in conjunction with the review process. Thus, the efforts of a large share of the NAEC members were and are essential to develop, maintain and improve the Journal. As a part of this we must endeavor to keep the publication useful and innovative.

This issue also includes for the first time a "comments and notes" section, which will be used to expand the areas of communication within our professions and region. Short contributions to this section, to be included in each Spring issue, are welcome and each will be considered on its merits. These can be on any relevant issue and do not have to be confined to comments on previously published material.

The last two regular articles in this issue are not "typical" of those found in most agricultural economics journals. They do not represent "original" contributions, but instead draw together previously published material on frequently used (and misused) regression techniques. The authors of the two articles independently developed the materials in their teaching or research and, apparently with some hesitation, asked if publication would be considered.

If such material proves useful JNAEC will gladly consider future contributions that are not orthodox research material. These may include review articles, extension or teaching programs and other types of contributions as limited only by the membership's imagination. All such contributions will, however, be subject to the same review process as "regular" contributions.

A small change also is being initiated with respect to submission of articles. While a formal call for papers will continue to be made in the fall, manuscripts can be sent to the editor anytime and they will be promptly reviewed and returned. This can permit a more orderly review process and allow more time to make any revisions needed. However, the Fall issue will normally be reserved for the proceedings of the annual meeting with all other contributions published in the Spring issue regardless of when they are first submitted.

Finally, I wish to thank the editorial council and several other NAEC members who spent many hours reviewing the manuscripts. Without their input the selection of papers to publish would have been difficult. Although the reviewers sometimes disagreed, there was an amazing degree of consistency in their recommendations. They cannot, of course, be blamed for either the sins of commission or omission since in every case the editor makes the final choice. All members should feel free to express opinions about the Journal and to submit ideas for improving it.