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## REVIEWS IN BRIEF

*Agriculture and Rural Development in Israel : Projection and Planning*, Raanan Weitz, National and University Institute of Agriculture, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel Ministry of Agriculture, Rehovot, February 1963. Pp. 148 + XL (Appendices).

After examining the general development of Israel's economy during the next ten years (end of 1972), this publication discusses the development of agricultural know-how — the limiting factor under Israeli conditions — and, in particular, the possibility of increased harvests and yields, greater efficiency of labour and more rational utilisation of water. Then, it proceeds to assess the expected price system in its various components, and to analyse the different farm types capable of achieving a reasonable level of income, and the production factors in national agricultural production. Finally, it considers the effect of all the above on future settlement, the number of settlers engaged in agriculture, their location and distribution.

By 1972, Israel is expected to have a population of 3.2 million; the national per capita product is expected to increase by 50 per cent and disposable per capita income by 28 per cent. For projections of agricultural development and for rural settlement planning, three systems which determine development trends are formulated and assessed. The first system concerns the allocation of the means of production among the different branches of agriculture. Its purpose is to ascertain the method of allocation under prevailing economic conditions. The second system relates to the appropriate distribution of the means of production among the various types of farms and farming units in order to assure the farmer the projected average income of the urban dweller. The third system is concerned with the town-country relationship, *i.e.*, the integration of agriculture, industry and services in the rural areas in such a way as to ensure a balance between urban and rural development. The further development of agriculture within the projected period and the rise in yields are expected to bring about an increase in the value of agricultural products by 66 per cent, from IL. 818 million in 1961 to IL. 1,362 million in 1972. About half of the projected additional product in 1972 is expected to be consumed in the internal market and the other half would be available for export. Agriculture is expected to yield 9 per cent of the national income by the end of the development period as compared to 10.9 per cent at present. The ratio between the projected capital investment and the product shows that for every IL. 1,000 invested, a net product of IL. 463 will be obtained.

Having outlined the most desirable development of the first system, the constitution of the different types of family farms has been re-examined, bearing in mind two basic requirements : (a) an average annual net income of IL. 6,000 after provision of depreciation, 3-4 per cent interest charge and 2.5 per cent annual repayment of loan capital; and (b) progressive specialisation, with a consequent expansion of the main branch on which the respective farm type is based. Integration of farming units into the general production system has been examined in the light of the total productive capacity of agriculture, and the need to provide each unit, both in the *moshav* and in the *kibbutz* settlements, with the said average income. This examination shows that the number of dairy farms in the *moshav*

settlements should be reduced on the basis of pre-determined production quotas. By the end of the development period, 160,000 persons will be employed in agriculture, constituting 14.5—15 per cent of all wage and salary earners in Israel. An examination of the concept of rural settlement shows that it is no longer identical with agricultural settlement. In order to ensure the stability of the rural community and to create sources of income for those who will be forced to abandon their agricultural pursuits, rural settlement will have to be based on a regional structure involving full co-ordination and integration between agriculture, industry and services. The study reviews contemporary rural area development in Western countries and draws conclusions as to the form rural development will take in Israel and as to future settlement prospects.

*Regional Rural Development Programmes with Special Emphasis on Depressed Agricultural Areas including Mountain Regions*, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Documentation in Agriculture and Food 66, Paris, France, 1964. Pp. 321.

This report contains the Papers and Proceedings of the European/North American Working Seminar on regional rural development programmes with special emphasis on depressed agricultural areas including mountain regions, which was held at Paris during 14th-18th October, 1963. Topics discussed at the Seminar included the following : (i) objectives in rural areas development programmes (formulation and choice); (ii) definition and identification of critical rural areas; (iii) implementation of rural areas development programmes and co-ordination between the different services; (iv) the contribution of industry, tourism and allied services; (v) motivation, training, retraining and mobility of rural manpower; (vi) co-ordination between the various Ministries and Services; and (vii) the role of the Central Administration.

Dealing with the objectives of development programmes in rural areas, it was pointed out that a development programme for rural areas could not be independent of a programme of general economic development, any more than a rural development programme could be limited to a programme of agricultural development. The production potentialities of a region are not the sole foundation of a development programme. Possibilities should be explored of outlets for the various products and services which the agricultural and other sectors of the regional economy can provide, with a view to ensuring development enduring. If the agricultural sector is to make a contribution to the general economic growth, structural adaptations are necessary. Such adaptations almost always involve substitution of capital for labour and reconversion in the use of marginal land for agricultural and other purposes. Studies made in France have revealed that in numerous agricultural areas, to ensure an income per man-power unit equal to the "guaranteed minimum agricultural wage" and at the same time obtain a normal return on invested capital, income must be doubled.

The promotion of suitable industrial and other non-farm employment is of particular importance in rural areas development work. The report stresses the importance of providing non-farm opportunities for work locally. The promotion of tourism and recreational facilities is an important facet of rural areas development, particularly in critical areas where low-income and under-employment persist and principally in mountainous areas.

The report emphasises the need for providing better facilities for general education and vocational training in rural areas. The participation of the population in a programme of development is an essential condition for the success of such a programme. The report points out that the old tendency to seek short term solutions has, however, often hindered the professional agricultural organisations from contributing to the effort, to find long-term solutions for critical low income rural areas. It is essential that close contacts must be established between those responsible for executing the programmes and the populations concerned. The Papers contributed under different topics by distinguished experts provide valuable insights into the working of the rural development programmes in different countries of Europe and North America.

*Concepts of Productivity Measurement in Agriculture on a National Scale*, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Paris, France, 1962. Pp. 79. \$0.75.

This report includes the results of a study on the concepts, methods and definitions of productivity measurement in agriculture, based on information supplied by seventeen member countries of O.E.C.D. and supplemented by studies of available literature on the subject. Divided into five chapters, this report discusses the various aspects of the problem of productivity measurement. The first chapter discusses the meaning and purpose of productivity measurement in the agricultural sector. The concepts of output and input and the evaluation of the various concepts according to three classification criteria are considered in the second chapter. Chapter III discusses the common measures for aggregating various items of input and output and Chapter IV deals with two main categories of (comprehensive and partial) ratios, which are used for the measurement of change or difference in productivity. The last chapter makes some comparisons of the main purposes of productivity measurement with the help of actual data from the farm sector of the United States. A summary of the methods of productivity measurements used in some member countries of O.E.C.D. is given in one of the appendices.

*An Economic Analysis of 343 Upland Farms in Japan—Tabular Analysis by Data Processing Machines*, Minoru Inoue and Others, Department of Farm Management and Land Utilization, National Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Nishigahara, Kita-Ku, Tokyo, Japan, '963. Pp. 82.

This report presents the findings of the first farm management survey undertaken in Japan in 1960, in which data processing machines were used. Data relating to the farm business were collected from 343 farms in Ayase-machi in Kanagawa Prefecture and relate to the calendar year 1959. The method of tabular analysis was employed to determine the economic relationships in farm businesses. The selected farms were classified into four farming types, *viz.*, grain-root crop (cereal-sweet potato), vegetable, livestock and mixed. The majority of these farms were of mixed type (61 per cent), followed in order by grain-root crop (21 per cent), vegetable type (10 per cent) and livestock type (8 per cent). It was found that the livestock and vegetable types were more profitable than the other two types. One of the important findings of the survey is that any increase in the size of business, such as tillable land, would increase profitability of the farm business to the extent that it is accompanied by increases in the pro-

duction efficiencies such as labour force (man-equivalent), labour productivity (productive man-work units per man), or land productivity (crop yield indices). But a mere enlargement of the tillable land, if not followed by changes in other factor-inputs would tend to decrease profitability. A three-way tabulation analysis of relationships between tillable land area, crop yield indices and amount of capital investment per man on the one hand, and operator's labour earnings on the other, showed that the latter depended more upon the area of tillable land than the value of capital investment per man among farms with tillable land of 13 *tan* or less (1 *tan* = 0.25 acres), assuming crop yield indices fixed at a given level. On the contrary, farms with more than 14 *tan* could raise their labour earnings by increasing the capital investment per man rather than by enlarging their farm sizes. Of the three factors, the crop yield indices could have the strongest influence upon an operator's labour earnings. An analysis of the standard of living of the farm family in relation to farm business indicated that part-time farming has fairly strong influence on the living standard of farm families in the region. Following this survey, farm planning work based on the budgeting method was undertaken for a group of farms in this region.

*Disguised Unemployment in Underdeveloped Areas with Special Reference to South Korean Agriculture*, Yong Sam Cho, Bureau of Business and Economic Research, University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, California, U.S.A., 1963. Pp. xv + 163. \$3.75.

This book examines the currently accepted concepts and theories on surplus labour in under-developed agricultural economies, particularly in the literature on disguised unemployment. It points out the principal weaknesses of the concept of disguised unemployment, *viz.*, (i) the confusing multiplicity of different conceptions of disguised unemployment; (ii) the vagueness of productivity criteria upon which some of the concepts are based; (iii) the failure to distinguish between wage labour and self-supporting family labour in relation to disguised unemployment; (iv) the misunderstanding of the role of the "dole" system in tradition-directed societies; and (v) the distortion of the *ceteris paribus* assumption, which invalidates much of the meaning and nature of so-called disguised unemployment and exaggerates the existing amount of true surplus labour. The author postulates an alternative approach to the problem of man-power utilisation in under-developed agricultural economies. In the formulation of the model, the author (i) makes use of the concept of marginal individuals and its relation to the concept of surplus labour; (ii) discusses the apparent differences in the systems of employment in two contrasting societies—one with, and another without, traditional social institutions; and (iii) discusses the meaning of surplus labour; classifies under-employment into the technical and tradition-directed varieties and considers only technical under-employment as removable (or true) surplus labour.

On the basis of an investigation of the extended family-clan-village system, so typical of tradition-guided under-developed societies, the author then proceeds to work out a method for measuring true surplus labour. In this study, a direct method is used, based on two main estimates, *viz.*, the measurement of "labour available" and of "labour employed." These are estimated on the basis of data collected from a sample of 600 farm units located in 60 small administration farm districts in South Korea by the stratified proportional random sampling method.

Finally, it discusses the policy implications in the employment structure of under-developed countries and outlines a programme for the utilisation of true surplus labour without applying totalitarian methods, without waiting for the availability of additional capital from outside the agricultural community and without making a change in traditional institutions as an *a priori* condition for the utilisation of idle labour.

An analysis of farm survey data reveals that in Korean agriculture, as a whole, approximately 30 per cent of the labour time available (*i.e.*, self-supporting family labour plus attached wage labour) is annually unutilised. Disguised unemployment in the sense of chronic idle labour does not exist. About 62 per cent of the unutilised labour, or about 19 per cent of the total labour available, represents tradition-directed under-employment. This cannot be considered available for alternative use unless there are significant social changes and/or substantial additions of capital. Technical under-employment amounts to about 12 per cent of the total labour available or 38 per cent of the total unutilised labour. The volume of tradition-directed under-employment is greater than the under-employment of self-supporting family labour stemming from the hiring of wage labour. It is contended that the term "disguised" has a valid meaning only in connection with the tradition-directed under-employment of self-supporting family workers; the social institutions in which this type of farm worker is steeped, serve as a sort of veil over his actual employment condition and render "invisible" or "disguised" his state of under-employment. Only a social revolution would lift this veil and transform this closed under-employment into open unemployment. And marginal or zero productivity has nothing to do with the determination of the existence of this under-employment. The study pleads for capital improvements within the agricultural area, financed by the agricultural sector itself. It suggests better use of government subsidies given to individual farmers in order to improve farm facilities and encourage production. The scheme is to use the fund for community projects. It also advocates a land rent tax to retain some of the net land rent paid to absentee landowners and a land property tax in the place of the present land income tax, with a view to help promoting the optimum size of farm holdings.

*Agricultural Involution—The Processes of Ecological Change in Indonesia*, Clifford Geertz, Association of Asian Studies, University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, California, U.S.A., 1963. Pp. xx + 176. \$4.00.

This publication is a socio-economic history of Java, that goes far to explain the difficulties that independent Indonesia is experiencing in launching a take-off into sustained economic growth, after three centuries of apparently static living levels under Dutch colonialism. Its major concern is to diagnose the nature of the present socio-economic malaise in Indonesia by outlining some of the processes that have caused it. In part, it traces the main processes of change in Indonesian agriculture and rural economics in order to clarify certain basic problems that confront the new State as it moves toward modernity. The main conceptual framework is that of cultural ecology and the main conceptual tool is the notion of "agricultural involution"—that is, a tendency toward an over-elaboration of labour-intensive methods. The merit of the book lies in integrating historical, geographic, economic and anthropological modes of analysis into a single theoretical framework and outlining the processes within ordered systems.

*Year Book of Agricultural Co-operation 1964*, Edited by the Plunkett Foundation for Co-operative Studies, Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1964. Pp. iv+304. 42s.

This Year Book contains 20 major articles besides short notes dealing with various aspects of the developments in the co-operative movement in the countries of the world. The first article on "Co-operatives and the Food Industries in the Developing Countries" by G. N. Lamming explores the possibilities for co-operative action in the food industry sector in the developing countries. After reviewing the various basic factors bearing on the establishment of food industries in the developing countries, the author stresses the importance and influence of co-operatives in this field. In another article on "Co-operation in India : Some Aspects," Dr. Theodor Bergmann deals with the co-operative structure, role of co-operatives as extension agencies, co-operative use of mechanical equipment, co-operative farming and pooling of labour. The author emphasises the point that without co-operation, it will hardly be possible to raise farm production, to modernise land tenure systems, to democratise village life and administration, to create acceptable forms of agricultural credit for the small holder. As regards joint farming, he opines that it could be most useful in the settlement of land at present waste. It is felt that with government help on a substantial scale, co-operation will yield to agriculture the benefits so badly needed in developing countries like India. Among the other important articles included in the Year Book are the following : "Productivity in Agricultural Co-operation" by J. A. E. Morley, "Agricultural Co-operation in the European Common Market" by P. G. Gorst and R. F. Tapsell, "Agricultural Co-operation in the Changing Agriculture of (West) Germany" by Dr. F. Gerl, "Agricultural Co-operation" in France, in Greece, in Great Britain and Ireland, in Jordan, "Recent Developments in Producer Marketing Legislation in New Zealand" by A. T. S. McGhie, "Co-operative Development under the Five-Year Plans of India" by Dr. C. D. Datey, "Soviet Agriculture" by A. Wiseman, and "Co-operative Insurance and Veterinary Services in Israel" by A. Heifetz.

*Essays on Modern Co-operation*, Laszlo Valko, Washington State University Press, Pullman, Washington, U.S.A., 1964. Pp. v + 143. \$4.25.

This publication contains a collection of studies on co-operation made by the author over a period of fifteen years, the product of continuous educational and research work with co-operatives since 1948, which tries to explain some of the problems facing the co-operative movement in Europe today. The individual chapters are grouped under three main headings : modern concepts of co-operatives; legal status of co-operatives; and co-operative educational and training programmes. The economic status of co-operatives in relation to the State is examined in the first chapter of Part I. The second chapter deals with the recent developments in international co-operative science. The next two chapters respectively discuss the modern concept of the economic structure in co-operative associations and human factors as a problem in consolidation of co-operative associations. Another chapter discusses the sharp differences in co-operative ideas in the Eastern and Western Europe. Part II briefly describes the historical evolution of co-operative legislation in Britain and in some of the countries of Europe covering a period of over 100 years; enumerates the basic principles of international co-operative legislation; and points out the importance of the Inter-



national Handbook of Co-operative Legislation as a work of reference. Part III deals with co-operative education, teaching and training in American Universities and discusses the co-operative educational and training programme in Latin America. It also examines the role of adequate and well-organized reference libraries on co-operation.

*Farmers of India, Volume III*, M. S. Randhawa, Asok Mitra and Gisela Mehta, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, 1964. Pp. xvii + 429. Rs. 23.00.

This volume is the third in the series and gives a detailed account of the farmers of the Eastern States of India—Assam, Orissa, West Bengal, Manipur, Andamans and Nicobars, NEFA and Tripura. It presents a detailed account of the social and economic conditions of the people in these States and Union Territories and gives necessary data regarding topography, soils, climate, vegetation, crops, agricultural practices and village organisation existing in these States. A general view of the panorama of life led by the people of these regions is presented by the inclusion of popular festivals and folklore. In addition to select bibliography and a detailed subject index, it contains 83 illustrative photographs which make this study more interesting. This volume would be of great use to administrators, politicians, agriculturists and students alike.

*Agricultural Production Manual*, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, Revised Edition, 1963. Pp. 182. Rs. 2.50.

This Manual attempts to provide scientific information on measures necessary for the understanding and implementation of the agricultural programme in the country. It contains 12 chapters, each prepared by specialists in the different branches of agriculture and highlights the need for making organised and concentrated efforts to augment agricultural productivity during the Third Plan period. The aspects covered in this Manual include soils, manures and fertilizers, minor irrigation, soil and water conservation, seed production of improved varieties, improved agricultural practices, agricultural implements and machinery, plant protection, commercial crops, horticulture, land use planning and livestock development. This Manual provides a base for the common approach among the various agencies involved in the planning effort. It would prove useful to students of agriculture and extension workers.

*Processing and Utilization of Animal By-Products*, I. Mann, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, Italy, 1962. Pp. xv + 246. \$3.00.

This study gives a broad outline of selected methods and processes in stock feed production, and describes the tools and equipment required for better utilization of animal by-products. It indicates how improvements in processing and utilization of various animal by-products can gradually be obtained and how, with the use of locally constructed and inexpensive equipment, a whole range of valuable animal by-products can be put to better use, leading to the establishment of secondary rural industries based on the use of such raw materials.