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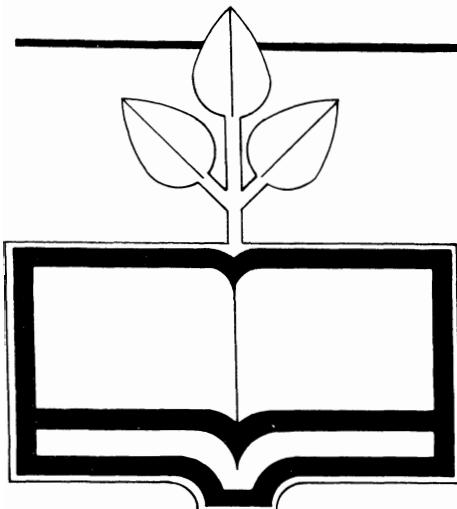
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NEW PUBLICATIONS

Publications noted in this section may be obtained by writing the sources. For publications without addresses, write to Publications Unit, Room 0054, Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., 20250. All publications are free of charge unless otherwise noted. (M. Blalock)

Agricultural-Food Policy Review. Economics, Statistics, and Cooperatives Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, ESCS-AFPR-2, Sept. 1978.

Food Policy proceedings released. The proceedings of five national food policy seminars are compiled in this issue of the ESCS policy issues publication. Major topics discussed in the seminars include the emergence of concern for human nutrition, public assistance programs and equity considerations, the relationships of food and farm programs within the food system, and the effectiveness and efficiency of food programs.

Earnings Capacity, Poverty, and Inequality. by Professors Irwin Garfinkel and Robert Haveman, with the assistance of David Betsoni in Vol. 2, No. 3, Spring 1978, Academic Press, \$12.00, Institute for Research on Poverty,

3412 Social Service Building, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, 53706.

To what extent is inequality attributable to differences in opportunity and to differences in the extent to which people take advantage of their opportunities? Are the poorest among us poor because they work less or because they have less to work with? These and other questions are addressed by means of a new concept and measure of economic status called 'earnings capacity.' Earning capacity, defined as the income stream that would be generated if each household employed its human and physical assets to capacity. This estimate of earning capacity is then compared with actual earning to see how different groups take advantage of the capacity they possess.

Summary of Food Purchases and Prices—Griffin, Georgia, July-September 1976 with Previous Periods. by Robert Raunikar, professor of Agricultural Economics, University of Georgia College of Agricultural Experiment Stations, Georgia Station, Experiment (Griffin), Georgia, 30212.

A panel of households in Griffin, Georgia has continuously reported food purchases for each week beginning in January 1975 through the period covered by this report. The reasons and procedures for establishment of this panel are reported in a prior publication. This report, the fourth in a series, provides a summary of the average weekly food purchases reported by 91 households during July-September 1976 and previous periods. Data were obtained for this report from households in panels reporting in a dairy booklet the quantity, unit price and total expenditure for each food item purchased. Major food categories are listed in table format. This report includes all foods brought into the home and in addition, the cost of ready-to-eat meals purchased away from home.

Alternative Futures for World Food In 1985, Vol. 2 World GOL-Model Supply-Distribution and Related Tables. Anthony Rojko, Patrick O'Brien, Donald Regier, Arthur Coffing and Linda Bailey, Foreign Demand and Competition Division, ESCS Service, USDA. Foreign Agriculture Economic Report No. 149.

This study reports on one phase of an ongoing research effort aimed at generating and maintaining up-to-date price, production, consumption, and trade projections for agricultural commodities in the major countries and regions of the world. This study assesses alternative world food prospects through the use of a mathematical model of the world's grain-oilseeds-livestock economics (GOL model). The study is being published in several volumes: Vol. I is the analytical report, which summarizes the GOL projections to 1985. Vol. II, which is the present report, contains detailed country and regional supply-distribution tables and related price and growth rate tables. Vol. III will describe and present the mathematical equations used in the GOL model. Vol. IV will be a users' manual. Vol. V is expected to be updated periodically to maintain a current set of alternative projections. This volume contains detailed projections resulting from six alternatives of the GOL model.

Regional Development and Plan Evaluation, The Use of Input-Output Analysis. Robert McKissick, USDA, ESCS Service, Agriculture Handbook No. 530.

This study focuses on the use of input-output (II-O) analysis to estimate the direct and indirect economic impacts on a region resulting from the implementation of a natural resource plan. Regional development should be included as an optional planning objective if regional objectives differ significantly from national objectives and if planning under national objectives would not solve regional problems and needs.

Food Service In Puerto Rico's Schools. Michael G. Vandress, USDA, ESCS Service.

The primary objective of the National School Lunch and Child Nutrition Acts is to safeguard the health and well-being of the Nation's children by providing them with balanced, nutritious meals. A study of food service operations in the Nation's schools was conducted in the continental United States and Puerto Rico during a 1-year period beginning in September, 1974. It was made to obtain information and operating statistics on school food service programs essential to effective program management at each operational level. The data summarized was obtained in personal interviews with representatives from the headquarters of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico school system in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Quantities of all food products normally purchased in liquid form, in dozens, or by the piece, are expressed in pounds for grouping and evaluation. During the 1974-75 school year, the cost of food used in a USDA school breakfast averaged 20 cents and a lunch was 44 cents. Most students received the food at no charge.

The Hired Farm Working Force of 1976, Leslie Whilener Smith and Gene Rowe. Economic Development Division, Economics Statistics, and Cooperatives Service, USDA. Agriculture Economic Report No. 405.

Despite current crop surpluses, the concern that there may be too little agricultural land to meet future agricultural demands remain. This concern stems from declines in the cropland base due to urbanization and highway and reservoir construction in addition to anticipated declines in productivity from energy and environmental constraints. Data from the 1975 Soil Conservation Service Potential Cropland Study identified 78 million acres of non-cropland with a high potential for cropland development. The Northern Plains, Corn Belt, and

Southeast regions each contained over 10 million acres of high potential land.

An Econometric Analysis of Export Supply of Grains in Australia, John Spriggs, University of Minnesota, ESCS, USDA, Foreign Agriculture Economic Report No. 150.

Australia's production and consumption of wheat and feed grains is of major interest to the United States, since the U.S. share of world export depends on the amount of grain exported by Australia, our major competitor. This study develops theoretical models reflecting price relationships for three grains in Australia. The models were then used in an example where U.S. farm prices for wheat, barley, and sorghum were hypothesized to drop 10 percent in a year, and the projected effect on Australia's exports of these grains was calculated. The models projected Australian barley and sorghum exports to decline 15 and 14 percent, respectively, while wheat exports were projected to decline 2 percent. This publication is one of a series of Foreign market studies being conducted by the Foreign Demand and Competition Division (FDCC).

Farmers, Consumers and International Trade, Economic Issues. Trueman Grif, June 1978. No. 22, Department of Agriculture Economics, College of Agriculture and Life Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 53706.

The U.S. is attempting to expand international trade as a way of helping increase farm income, and decrease consumer prices. Thus, our international trade policy is designed to help both farmers and consumers. Our trade policies and programs include working with other countries in developing and international grain and food reserve, increasing long-term commercial credits to foreign buyers of American farm products, authorizing intermediate term commer-

cial export credit opening trade offices abroad and attempting to lower trade barriers through international negotiations. Pressure for import protection will continue in differing degrees and direction. However, nations are becoming more interdependent with other nations, and international trade is skyrocketing. For example, trade among non-communist nations at \$1.15 trillion in 1977 was 15 times larger than in 1951.

Indices of Agricultural and Food Production for Europe and the U.S.S.R. Average, 1961-65 and 1968 Through 1977, USDA, ESCS.

Europe and the U.S.S.R. produce and consume a large share of the world's food and fiber. Assessment of the agricultural and food situation in these areas is basic to a knowledge of world production, consumption and trade in food and fibers.

The indices presented in this publication are a part of the continuing effort of the ESCS to assess the world agricultural situation. The country indices are calculated by Laspeyres' base-weighted aggregate formula.

The weights used in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union are estimates of the 1961-65 average prices received by farmers in Western Europe, and for West European countries they are the average base period prices received by farmers in each of the individual countries, expressed in U.S. dollars per metric ton. Regional indices are computed from sums of country aggregates.

An Analysis of the UNCTAD Integrated Program for Commodities. John W. Murray and L. Jay Atkinson, NEAD, FDCC, ESCS, USDA, FAE-Report No. 148.

This study estimates the capital requirements for operating an Integrated Program for Commodities as proposed by the developing countries at both

sessions of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in 1976. The program is analyzed using ordinary least-squares to establish price and export earnings trends for 1961-75. A great many developing countries depend on a very few export commodities for the majority of their export earnings.

Consequently, the greater these countries trade is as a percentage of their gross national product, the more vulnerable their entire economics and economic development plans are to fluctuations in world prices for their exports. A wide variety of remedies have been offered for price instability in the past. They include commodity agreements which establish buffer stocks, export quotas, and domestically, the monopoly of support prices, acreage allotments marketing quotas and the like. Recently, the developing countries have been pressing for a collection of commodity price earning programs. Three reasons for this renewed interest are most prominent: (1) the success of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is raising and maintaining high oil prices since 1974, (2) the mounting debt servicing problems the developing countries are facing for oil and other needed imports for their development efforts, and (3) their relatively low and/or widely fluctuating export earnings.

Promotional Activities of Agricultural Promotion Groups. Ralph L. Parlett and Peter L. Henderson. NEAD, ERS, USDA. This is a working paper. It has not been cleared for publication.

The 1976 Hired Farm Working Force Survey, conducted by the Bureau of Census in December 1976, indicates that 2.8 million persons 14 years of age and over did hired farmwork sometime during the year. The workers were predominately young (60 percent under 25 years) and male (75 percent). The majority (75 percent) were white, 11 percent were

Hispanic, 14 percent were Blacks and other. Annual earnings in 1976 of all hired farmworkers averaged \$2,860; \$1,651 was earned for an average 86 days of hired farmwork; the remainder came from nonfarm employment. Approximately 213,000 persons (8 percent of work force) were migrants in 1976. About 63 percent traveled 200 miles or more and 23 percent traveled 1,500 miles or more away from home. The long distance migrants tended to be Hispanic and Black and other workers. Annual earnings from farm employment of migrants workers averaged \$1,807, for an average 82 days of farmwork. This was the second year the annual farm worker survey included racial/ethnic delineations for Whites, Hispanics, Blacks and others.

Farm Index. Rm. 300 GHI, 500 12th St. S.W., USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250. July, 1978 'Farmworkers and the New Food Stamp Act'.

Hired farmworkers should have an easier time obtaining food stamps when the Food Stamp Act of 1977 goes into effect this summer. The new Act is expected to make participation easier because it eliminates purchasing requirement. Previously, people were required to pay for stamps, then received additional 'bonus' stamps. Many low-income families couldn't afford the price. According to an ESCS study, only 10 percent of 2 million hired farmworkers participated in the Food Stamp Program in November 1975. Although this participation rate is almost twice as high as all U.S. families, a hired farmworker family as defined in this study, is one with a member 14 years of age or older who did hired farmwork during a year. Of all farmworkers, migrants are probably the most impoverished. A migrant farmworker is a person 14 years of age or over who leaves home for at least one night to do farmwork in a different country or State with the intention of eventually returning home. Based on just

income and family size, all families with incomes below \$5,000 and having six or more family members should be eligible for food stamps. Farmworker families who received food stamps were more likely to be Hispanic, Black, or some other minority. Hispanics were more than three times as likely to participate than Whites. Blacks and other minorities were four times as likely to receive food stamps.

Alternative Pricing Policies for Class I Milk Under Federal Marketing Orders—Their Economic Impact. Richard F. Fallert and Boyd M. Buxton, Commodity Economics Division, ESCS, USDA, Agriculture Economic Report No. 401.

Government regulations in the dairy industry have direct impact on the production and consumption of fluid milk. Among these are Federal and State milk marketing orders which establish and enforce classified pricing of milk according to its final use. Pricing milk according to use (classified pricing) is a basic part of Federal and State milk marketing orders. At present, more than 95 percent of the milk meeting sanitation standards for fluid use (Grade A) is priced under one or both marketing orders. Thus, pricing policies under milk marketing orders can have a substantial impact of the U.S. dairy industry.

Retail Meat Prices In Perspective. James E. Nix. Commodity, Economics Division, ESCS, USDA, Washington D.C., May 1978.

The recent rise in meat prices, particularly beef, has caused much concern because of meat's importance in the American diet. Red meats and poultry accounted for about 15 percent of the retail weight equivalent of food consumed in the United States during the past 5 years. However, since meat costs more per pound than most other foods, consumer expenditures for red meats and poultry account for about one-third

of total food expenditures. Beef accounts for a major part of both the weight of meat consumed and the expenditures for meat. Since meat, particularly beef, is such an important part of the American diet, changes in its availability and prices have great economic consequences for consumers as well as producers. U.S. beef production is declining and live cattle and retail beef prices are rising. These developments have significant implications for food costs during the next few years. The beef cycle lasts twice as long as the pork cycle, largely because of biological factors. Historically, there has been about a 4-year cycle for hogs and a 10-year cycle for cattle.

Food Stamp Administrative-Cost Report—Fiscal Year 1977 (FNS-173). Carol Tucker Foreman, Asst. Secretary of Agriculture, FNS-173, May 1978. For copies write Food Stamp Division, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

This report is an evaluation of administrative costs incurred in the Food Stamp Program from a national, regional, and State perspective.

A Perspective on Cropland Availability. Linda K. Lee, ESCS, USDA, Agriculture Economic Report No. 406.

Promotion of farm products by agricultural organizations has become an increasingly prominent segment of marketing strategies for food fiber products. Since the first survey of this type in 1958, agricultural promotion groups have increased in size and sophistication. The scope of promotional activities has broadened and over-all promotional expenditures have increased. There is evidence that the importance of agricultural promotion groups in promoting farm products is likely to increase. Agricultural commodity promotion groups engage in promotional activities designed to enhance consumer demand for the products of their

producer and processor members. In relation to other production and marketing costs for farm goods, promotion expenditures by agricultural promotion groups are small.

Policy Research Notes—A cooperative effort of the North Central Regional Public Policy Research Committee and the Agricultural Policy Analysis Program Area. CED, ESCS, USDA, Washington, D.C., 20250, No. 5, January 1978.

The objective of this newsletter is to enhance the quality of research by improving communication among professional workers in policy studies and policy-making. It focuses on price, income, and trade problems in the agricultural and food policy area. ERS launched a seminar series in the fall of 1977 in Washington, D.C. designed primarily to generate additional research interest in the food policy area. William T. Boehm, project leader for Consumer Economics and Demand Analysis, NEAD, chaired the group that developed the seminars. The major papers will appear in a forthcoming issue of ESCS's new Agriculture Food Policy Review.

Energy Policies: Price Impacts on the U.S. Food System. R. Thomas VanArsdall, Patricia J. Devlin, NEAD, ESCS, USDA, A.E. Report No. 407.

Forthcoming energy policies should complement the goal of abundant food supplies at affordable prices, wherever possible. Energy costs represent 8 percent of farm production costs and 12 percent of the consumer food bill. It appears that energy price increases resulting from either the continuation of existing energy policies or the implementation of a moderate energy program could cause farm production costs to increase 2-3 percent from 1975 to 1985 in real terms—with the consumer food bill rising 4-5 percent in real terms.

Public Expenditures, Taxes, and the Distribution of Income. The United

States, 1950, 1961, 1970. Morgan Reynolds, Eugene Smolensky published by Academic Press, 111-Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10003.

Did the poor get a larger share of national income in 1970 than they did in 1950? Answering this question demands a careful and sophisticated marshaling of the available data. This book analyzes over time the degree of income inequality among United States households after all government taxes and benefits have been included in household income. Disaggregation shows that the overall tax system has drifted from progressive to slightly regressive by 1970. But these changes are more than offset by changes in government spending patterns, especially increases in such transfer programs as Social Security.

Improving Measures of Economic Well-Being. Marilyn Moon, Eugene Smolensky, Academic Press, 111-Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y., 10003.

This book brings together for the first time important articles on the measurement of economic status. Written by staff affiliated with the Institute for Research on Poverty, the articles approach the common question 'How should economic welfare be measured for policy purposes?' from a variety of complementary perspectives. Gathering these articles from their widely scattered places of original publication is more than a matter of convenience—it allows their relation to a common theme to energy, thereby making the complete book more than the sum of its parts. The articles deal with two major problems in the economic ranking of families. Investigated are such alternatives as basing status on potential rather than actual income or adding net worth, or intra-family transfers to purely monetary measures. Other articles discuss problems in assuring comparability between families of different sizes or residences, or between families at different times.