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Aims and Objects:

To promote the study of social and economic problems of agriculture and rural areas and also to promote technical competence for teaching and research in Agricultural Economics and allied subjects through:

(a) research in problems of agricultural economics and rural development;

(b) periodical Conferences and Seminars;

(c) publication of books, reports, papers or summaries of papers either separately or collectively, or in a periodical which may be issued under the auspices of the Society;

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December 21-23, 1998

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- 1. Economics of Energy Use in Agriculture.
- 2. Agricultural Marketing: Issues and Challenges.
- 3. Institutional Framework for Agricultural Development.

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CONTENTS

ECONOMICS OF ENERGY USE IN AGRICULTURE

		Page
Economics of Energy Use in Agriculture	R.K. Pachauri	213
Energy Management for Sustainable Hill Agriculture: A Case of Himachal Pradesh	A.S. Saini, K.D. Sharma, K.P. Pant and D.R. Thakur	223
Economic Analysis of Energy Use in Punjab Agriculture	Amarjit Singh and A.J. Singh	241
Energy Demand for Crop Production in Rainfed Areas	Pratap S. Birthal, L.M. Pandey and Suresh Pal	256
Energy Use and Its Efficiency in Andhra Pradesh Agriculture	S. Subrahmanyam, K.S. Reddy and G.K. Mitra	265
Summaries		275
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING: ISSU	ES AND CHALLENGES	
Agricultural Marketing in India: Some Facts and Emerging Issues	S.S. Acharya	311
Impacts of Co-operative on Market Structure and Prices: The Case of Central Arecanut and Cocoa Marketing and Processing Co-operative (CAMPCO) Ltd., Karnataka	T.N. Prakash, Shrijay Devaraj Urs and Lalith Achoth	333
Cointegration and Market Integration: An Application to the Marine Fish Markets in Orissa	Debdutt Behura and Durga Charan Pradhan	344
Regulation of Markets, Growth of Production and Market Arrivals - A Statewise Analysis of Rice	Asha Maheshwari	351
Analysis of Market Infrastructure, Prices and Terms of Trade: A Case Study of Karnataka	P. Thippaiah and R.S. Deshpande	359
Summaries		370
INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR AGRIC	CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT	
Institutions for Sustainable Agricultural Development	Kanchan Chopra	424
Institutional Imperatives and Coproduction Strategies for Large Irrigation Systems in India	V. Ratna Reddy	440

CONTENTS

		Page
An Assessment of Institutional Management's Impact on the Use of Groundwater Resource for Sustainable Agri- culture Development in Uttar Pradesh	A.K. Singh and Laxmi Tewari	456
Do Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI's) Harbinger Grass- roots Level Growth in Agricultural R&D Process: An Enquiry through SWOT Analysis	B.S. Chandel and S.P. Jain	465
Restructuring the Co-operative Credit System through Integration of Short-Term and Long-Term Structures	K.J.S. Satyasai and K.U. Viswanathan	478
Strengthening the Indian Agricultural Research and Extension Systems: Funding and Institutional Imperatives	Suresh Pal and Alka Singh	488
Summaries	·· ·· ··	504
RAPPORTEURS' REP	ORTS	
Rapporteur's Report on Economics of Energy Use in Agriculture	Raj Vir Singh	536
Rapporteur's Report on Agricultural Marketing: Issues and Challenges	Ramesh Chand	544
Rapporteur's Report on Institutional Framework for Agricultural Development	Vasant P. Gandhi	552

PREFACE

The Fifty-eighth Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics has been scheduled to be held from 21st to 23rd December, 1998 under the auspices of Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri (District Ahmednagar), Maharashtra. The following subjects are selected for discussion at this Conference:

- 1. Economics of Energy Use in Agriculture.
- 2. Agricultural Marketing: Issues and Challenges.
- 3. Institutional Framework for Agricultural Development.

The Conference Number of the Journal includes one keynote paper on each of the three subjects.

A large number of papers has been received on the second subject. The President of the Conference, on the recommendations of the Rapporteurs, has accepted in all 153 papers for discussion at the Conference. Out of these, 13 papers are published in full and 140 papers in the form of Summaries in this issue, which also includes the Rapporteurs' Reports on the three subjects.

We regret, it has not been possible to publish, in full length, a large number of papers because of the time constraint and the exorbitant increase in the cost of printing. We do hope the contributors whose papers could not be published in full would appreciate our difficulty and bear with us. We are grateful to all the paper-writers for sending their papers and to the Rapporteurs for preparing their Reports embodying the main points made in the papers and also outlining the issues for discussion.

It is with a sense of deep grief that we announce the sad demise of Professor M.L. Dantwala on 8th October, 1998. The October-December 1998 issue would contain the regular Obituary.

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