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REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Articles in the field of agricultural economics, suitable for publication in the journal, will be welcomed.

Articles should have a maximum length of 10 folio pages (including tables, graphs, etc.) typed in double spacing. Contributions, in the language preferred by the writer, should be submitted in triplicate to the Editor, c/o Department of Agricultural Economics and Marketing, Pretoria, and should reach him at least one month prior to date of publication.

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Economic trends in South African agriculture

Developments in certain agricultural economic fields are reflected in the accompanying graphs. Additional information appears in the Statistical Annexure. The latest trends may be summarised as follows:

MAIZE

Since 1952/53 the production of maize has exceeded consumption. In 1966/67 a record crop of 9,8 million tons was produced, while consumption was 4,2 million tons. Maize and maize products to the value of R141 million were exported during 1972 compared with R62 million during the previous year. Domestic consumption amounted to approximately 4,9 million tons during 1971/72. Figures in respect of average production and consumption compare as follows:

Period	Production	Consumption
	1 000 tons	
1952/53 - 1955/56	3 738,5	2 664,0
1956/57 - 1959/60	4 056,3	2 987,2
1960/61 - 1963/64	5 414,0	3 398,3
1964/65 - 1967/68	6 194,8	4 132,2
1968/69 - 1971/72	7 425,5	4 898,5

WHEAT

The production of wheat has increased markedly during the past few years and amounted to approximately 1,73 million tons in 1972/73 compared with 1,67 million tons the previous year. Production exceeded consumption by nearly 286 500 tons in 1971/72.

MEAT

In 1968 there were about 7,1 million cattle on farms of Whites. This figure increased to about 8,3 million by February 1973. Commercial slaughterings also rose sharply. During 1971/72 approximately 1 905 000 cattle were slaughtered compared with 1 383 000 in 1968/69. During the same period the average carcase weight declined from 209,0 kg to 207,1 kg. The average price of beef obtained at auction on the hook at the Newtown market for the period July 1972 - May 1973 was 32,4 per cent higher than for the same eleven months the previous year. During the past five years consumption was as follows:

	Beef and veal	Mutton and goat's meat	Pork	Total
	1 000 ton			
1967/68	515,6	176,4	62,9	754,9
1968/69	501,8	197,3	69,0	768,1
1969/70	526,8	210,0	77,4	814,2
1970/71	555,0	219,4	79,6	854,0
1971/72	590,1	198,4	79,3	867,8

CREAMERY BUTTER

The production of creamery butter decreased from 52 633 tons in 1967/68 to 46 250 tons in 1971/72. For the corresponding period consumption declined from 50 341 tons to 39 904 tons. It is estimated that approximately 37 000 tons of butter will be consumed during 1972/73. Comparative figures in respect of production and consumption are as follows:

	Production	Consumption
	Tons	
1967/68	52 633	50 341
1968/69	55 434	53 463
1969/70	47 267	54 993
1970/71	43 964	54 426
1971/72	46 250	39 904

During 1972 butter to the value of R9,9 million was exported.

FACTORY CHEESE

The production of factory cheese amounted to nearly 19 350 tons in 1971/72 compared with 20 673 tons in 1967/68. Consumption has increased steadily since 1951/52. In 1967/68 and 1971/72 consumption totalled 18 784 tons and 24 384 tons, respectively. Consumption in 1972/73 is estimated at 26 000 tons. During 1971/72 3 754 tons of cheese were imported.

EGGS

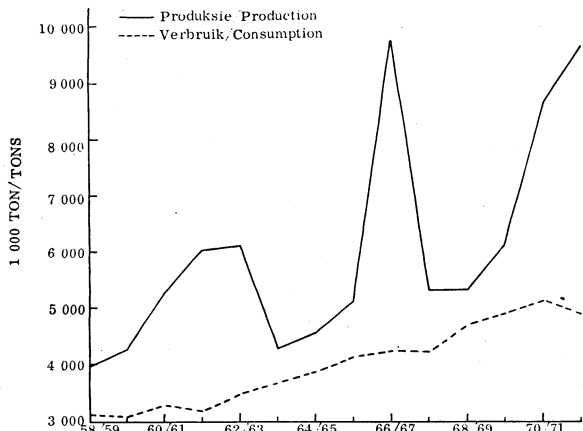
Since 1947/48 the production of eggs has exceeded consumption. In 1970/71 there was a decline in production of 6,5 million dozen compared with the previous year but in 1971/72 it increased again by 4,1 million dozen to 153,8 million dozen. Production and consumption during the past five years compare as follows:

	Production	Consumption
	Million dozen	
1967/68	138,3	120,2
1968/69	148,2	127,1
1969/70	156,2	132,5
1970/71	149,7	136,7
1971/72	153,8	139,8

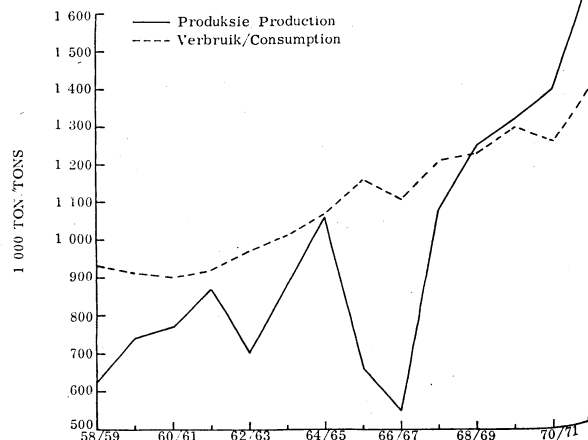
EKONOMIESE TENDENSE IN DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE LANDBOU ECONOMIC TRENDS IN SOUTH AFRICAN AGRICULTURE

Produksie en verbruik van sekere belangrike landbouprodukte
Production and consumption of certain important agricultural products

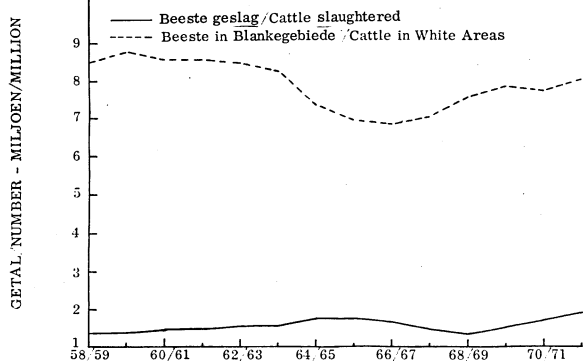
MIELIES/MAIZE



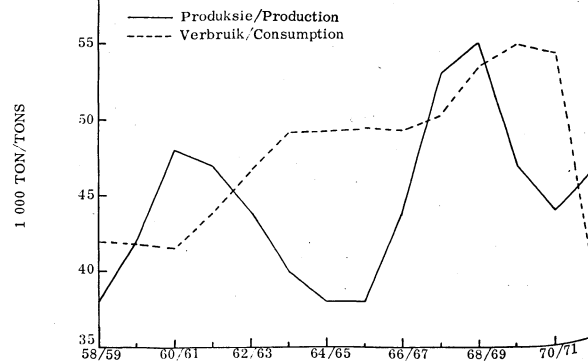
KORING WHEAT



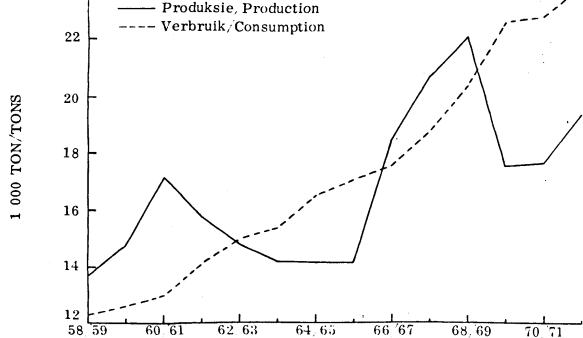
BEESEVLEIS/BEEF



FABRIEKSBOTTER/CREAMERY BUTTER



FABRIEKSKAAS/FACORY CHEESE



EIERS/EGGS

