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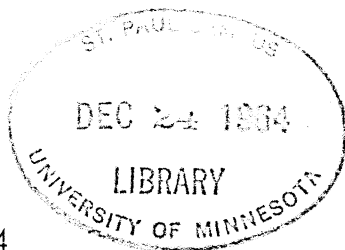
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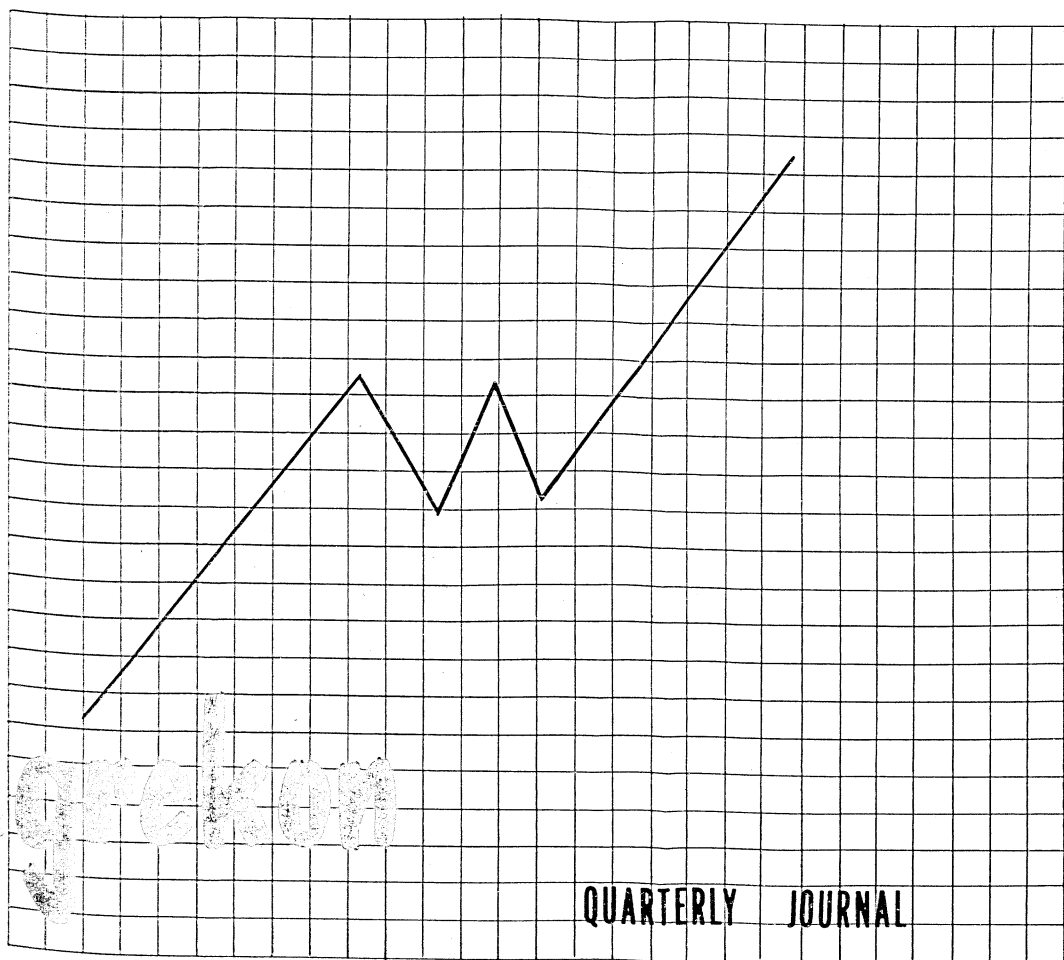
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Editors: O.E. Burger and H.J. van Rensburg
Technical editing: Q. Momberg

REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTRIBUTION

Deserving articles in the field of agricultural economics, for publication in this journal, will be welcomed.

These articles should have a maximum length of 10 folio pages (including tables, graphs, etc.), typed in double spacing. All contributions should be submitted in triplicate (preferably in both languages) to the editors, c.o. Department of Agricultural Economics and Marketing, Pretoria, and should be received by the editors at least one month prior to publication date.

The journal is being distributed by and is obtainable from the distributors: "Agrekon", Private Bag 144, Pretoria.

(The price is 20 cents per copy or 80 cents per annum, post free.)

Dates of issue, on a quarterly basis, are the following: January, April, July, and October.

"Agrekon" is also published in Afrikaans.

Economic Tendencies in the South African Agriculture

The production and consumption trends, as reflected in the accompanying graphs, can briefly be summarised as follows:

BUTTER

Due to rationing, production and consumption revealed the same tendencies as from 1947/48 until 1952/53. After abolition of rationing production had increased more rapidly than consumption. Production increased since 1958/59 until 1960/61 to such an extent that it exceeded consumption. Thereafter production had decreased, due mainly to drought conditions and in a lesser extent to unsatisfactory producers' prices. On the contrary, consumption has increased sharply since 1960/61 - to such an extent that deficits had occurred, which had to be replenished by means of imports.

CHEESE

Cheese was also rationed until 1952/53. Thereafter production had exceeded consumption, except during 1956/57 and 1957/58 when it decreased to a level below that of consumption. After 1957/58 production increased sharply until 1960/61. This increase could partly be attributed to the notable increase in the price of cheesemilk during 1958/59. The decrease in production since 1960/61 can be ascribed to unfavourable climatic conditions and a decrease in price of cheesemilk. Although the preliminary price adjustment for 1963/64 is favourable, drought conditions have caused production to decrease to a level below that of consumption.

EGGS

Since 1947/48 to date production of eggs has exceeded consumption. Surplus eggs are being exported. The production and consumption tendencies are remarkably similar. Production has kept on in-

creasing despite a gradual decrease in egg prices, as a result of increasing surpluses and serious export problems. According to the Egg Control Board, it is especially in the Western Cape where egg production had increased notably during the past few seasons. This increase can be ascribed mainly to the use of battery systems, resulting in a high production level throughout the year.

MEAT

Meat consumption exceeds production, although trends in this respect were remarkably similar until 1956. The difference between consumption and production is replenished by means of imports from adjoining territories, of which South West Africa is the most important.

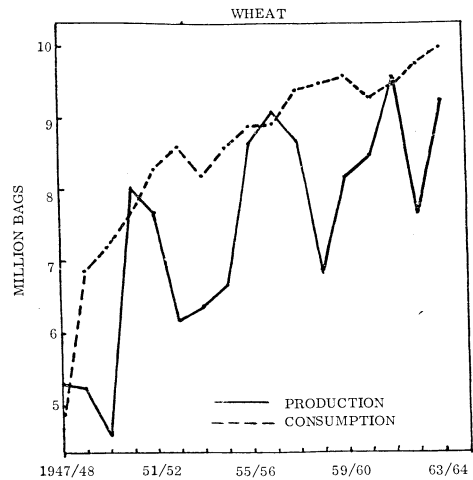
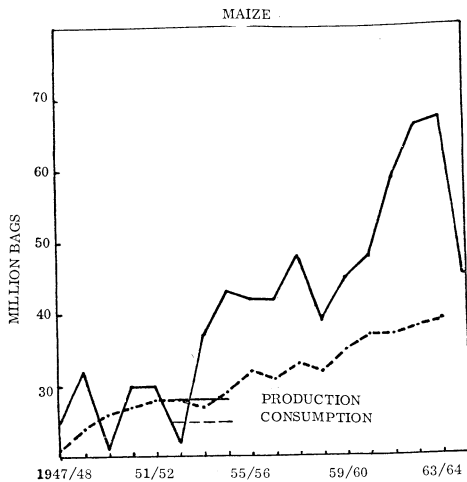
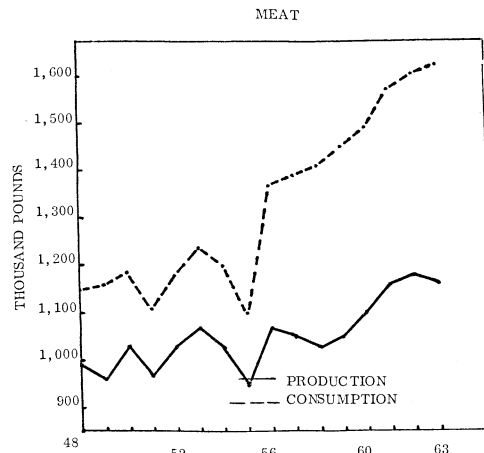
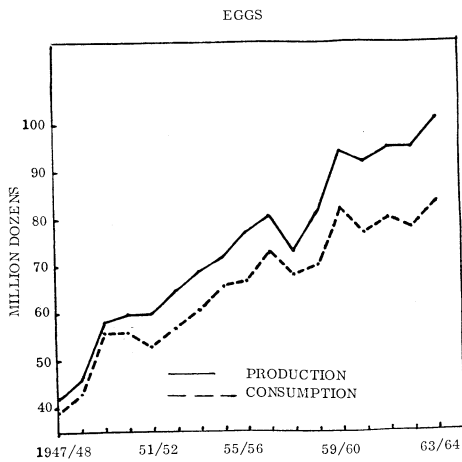
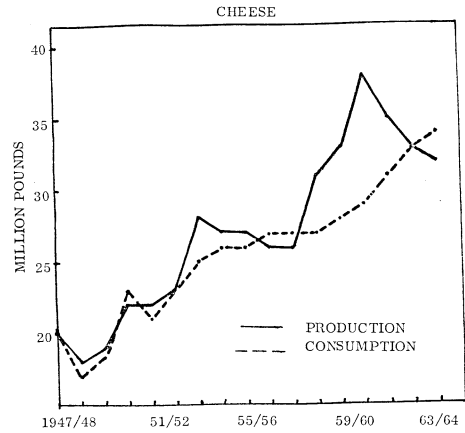
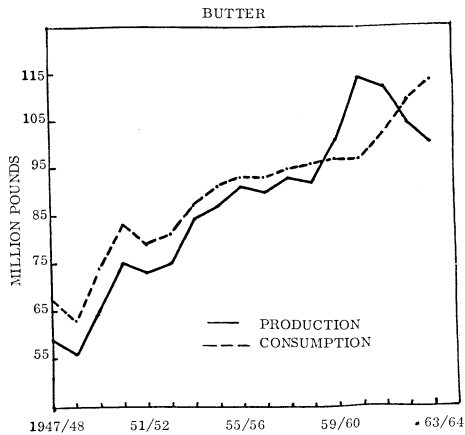
MAIZE

From 1947/48 until 1952/53 production of maize showed no expanding tendency; as from 1952/53, however, a sharp upward tendency has occurred. Production increased from about 21.5 million bags in 1952/53 to 67 million bags in the marketing year 1963/64. Poor climatic conditions have influenced production to such an extent that the estimated production for the 1964/65 marketing season amounts to only 47.5 million bags. On the contrary, consumption has shown a gradual expanding tendency over the entire period.

WHEAT

Consumption of wheat showed a sharp increasing tendency since 1947/48 until 1952/53, whereafter the increase has been more gradual. Production has also shown an increasing tendency, but severe fluctuations have occurred - due to weather conditions and other factors affecting production. Deficits have been replenished by means of imports from countries such as the U.S.A., Canada and Australia.

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION TENDENCIES OF SEVERAL IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS



SOURCE: DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC RESEARCH