fore they began producing for the market. Most Corn Belt farmers were prosperous during the 1880’s and the 1890’s. The Populist revolt was sparked by discontent from the plains, not from the Corn Belt. Life for a farm owner and operator in the Corn Belt was, by the 1890’s, a good life.

This study is a major contribution to agricultural history, and a worthwhile volume for the agricultural economist who is interested either in the Corn Belt or in just how economic growth takes place.

Wayne D. Rasmussen

Selected Recent Research Publications in Agricultural Economics Issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Cooperatively by the State Universities and Colleges


The report aims at determining the least-cost method of repopulating individual farms raising hogs and at estimating the possible financial benefits of SPF hog production compared to conventional methods. SPF hogs have more feeding efficiency than conventional hogs because the risk of two growth-retarding diseases, virus pneumonia and atrophic rhinitis, is reduced. Feed costs for SPF hogs are estimated at 22 and 27 percent lower than those for conventional hogs requiring 500 and 550 pounds of feed per hundredweight of production.


Industrial food processors are the largest users of sweeteners in the United States. Sugar is still the primary sweetener used by food processors but its position in the manufacture of a number of products is weakening, particularly in favor of corn sirup and noncaloric sweeteners. The rising price of sugar, relative to other sweeteners, is an important factor inducing food processors to look for substitutes.


More than 250 studies, papers, and articles relating to farm migration in the United States are listed. In general, items are grouped according to the geographic area to which the data relate. References are arranged alphabetically by author within each major heading.


Summarizes a report prepared by the Austrian Institute for Economic Research, Vienna, Austria. The study analyzes past trends and projects Austria's agricultural production, consumption, and trade for 1965 and 1975. A special section dealing with implications of U.S. agricultural trade with that country is included. Selected farm products which may be supplied by the United States are specified. Methodology used for making these projections is also included.


Processing costs of four hypothetical but representative processing plants were studied. Plants are classified according to their daily capacities for removing water from frozen foods—4, 8, 16, and 32 tons. Major cost factors are size of plant, duration of drying cycle, and continuity of operation. Other factors are kinds of food dried, wage rates, and utility rates. Economics of size are significant in freeze-drying. For example, the 4-ton plant at full capacity has costs of 8 cents per pound of water removed; the 8-ton plant’s costs average 6.7 cents; the 16-ton plant, 5.4 cents; and the 32-ton plant 4.4 cents. Dollar volume of freeze-dried foods in 1970 is projected at about $250 million.


A collection of speeches, articles, and informal papers by the author on freeze-drying. Discussed are such aspects of the industry as: advantages and disadvantages of the process, what foods are best suited to freeze-drying, cost studies of the process, and how freeze-drying may affect other food industries. Included is a directory of food processors, equipment firms and other businesses which now process freeze-dried foods.

Until recently man was able to augment the food supply largely by moving to unsettled areas and bringing new land into production. It has now become necessary to turn to an alternate method—raising yields. First, massive applications of capital will be needed—capital must be substituted for land. Second, this change implies drastic changes in technology, especially in the less developed regions. This report seeks to assess the magnitude and direction of the effort which must be made during the remaining four decades of this century if the projected population of 5 billion is to be sustained.


Deterioration of quality of baled cotton stored in commercial warehouses sometimes results in substantial losses in market value and creates added risks for merchants and mills. This study shows that deterioration of cotton grown in relatively dry areas can be reduced by storing it where it is grown rather than in more humid areas. Also, extra samples drawn at the time bales are placed in storage will accurately reflect changes in grade and value of the bales for up to 6 months if the samples are stored under the same conditions as the bales. Drawing extra original samples can substantially reduce the cost of resampling after storage.


Summarizes an economic analysis of regional production adjustments that would maximize efficiency in the production of the major field crops (wheat, corn, oats, barley, grain sorghums, soybeans, and cotton). One objective of the study was to measure the size of the production-consumption imbalance or adjustment gap under conditions of 1954. Another aim was to estimate the prospective supply and demand balance in the crops considered under projected 1965 technology and increased regional efficiency of production.


Two methods of financing government-to-government sales of surplus agricultural commodities under P.L. 480 are analyzed. They are sales for local currency under Title I, and sales for deferred dollar payment under Title IV. The report describes some of the conditions which make one method or the other more beneficial to the recipient country and the United States.


Peanut butter is the principal food product made from peanuts. In 1961-62, of the total 4.5 pounds per person of shelled peanuts used for food, 2.5 pounds were used in making peanut butter. Sales through retail grocery stores account for nearly 65 percent of the value of U.S. peanut butter sales. In 1960-61, consumers paid an average of 41.8 cents for a 12-ounce jar of peanut butter, the size most often bought.


Contains tables showing median incomes and other data for all families and rural farm families, for all counties in each of the 50 States in 1963. A bibliography of sources of data in the tables is included.


Depreciation of assets rose steadily during 1949-59 and likely will continue to rise. Corporate agricultural marketing firms more than doubled their dollar charges for depreciating assets in the 10 years. Principal reasons for the rising depreciation of assets in relation to total receipts of firms are (1) a greater increase in the total costs of depreciable assets than in total receipts, and (2) an increase in the rate of writing off these assets.


This bulletin presents animal-unit numbers and livestock production units formerly published separately. In addition, it presents the high protein-consuming animal unit series; preliminary estimates of feed consumption by various classes of livestock 1960-63; and estimates of feed grain surpluses and deficits by States for the feeding years beginning October 1, 1960, 1961, and 1962.


Tunisia is making a serious attack on its agricultural problems. Redistribution of farmland takes high priority in the current 10-year program for agriculture. Gains from crop diversification and increased yield per acre.
in the irrigated zones are being made. Tunisia's income from exports of olive oil, hard wheat, citrus, and other fruits and vegetables is expected to increase substantially. A more rapid rate of agricultural development is anticipated when planned land and water reforms have been implemented and institutional reforms have been made.


This bulletin gives the farmer detailed information on how to take stock of his resources, choose crops and livestock enterprises, combine crops and livestock in a balanced farm plan, and develop his land on both a year-to-year and long-time basis. Also included is a full chapter on other publications and personal assistance programs which can assist the farmer in his planning.


Drive-in dairies increased their total share of Class I milk sales in Central California from less than 2 percent in 1957 to over 6 percent in 1962. Future gains for the drive-ins will depend largely upon the extent of competition offered by retail grocers and other market outlets. Relaxation of pricing regulations to permit retail grocers to sell milk at similar prices to those of drive-ins could retard growth in the share of the market obtained by drive-ins.


Since the end of World War II, the United States has supplied most of Greece's imports of grains, vegetable oils, and dairy products, first under UNRRA, the Marshall Plan, and the Mutual Security Program, and later under the P.L. 480 Title I and Title III programs. Title I imports of feed grains enabled Greece to expand its livestock production, and imports of soybean oil have relieved temporary shortages during bad olive crop years. The future market for U.S. agricultural products in Greece will depend upon growth in the Greek economy, continuation of a P.L. 480 program, and competition from other exporting countries.


Commercial production of grapefruit in the United States is limited to Arizona, California, Florida, and Texas. Freeze disasters in Texas and Florida during the past two decades have led to instability in national grapefruit production. This study provides information to assist citrus producers and marketing agencies in Florida and Texas in making long-run production and marketing decisions.


Based mainly on information from the censuses of agriculture for 1929—59, this report shows that an increasing proportion of total sales of farm products is coming from farms with $40,000 or more of marketings. It presents the findings of a study of concentration of food and fiber production on a decreasing number of farms during 1939—59, with special reference to farms with sales of $40,000 or more. There were 102,000 such farms in the United States in 1959. A second objective of the study was to determine the relative importance of these largest farms in agriculture as a whole and in various regions.


Major problems of the pecan industry include lack of information on numbers of pecan trees and the amounts of pecans that will be produced each year. The purpose of this report is to determine trends in planting pecan trees in the years ahead. Most of the nurseries that grow and sell pecan trees are in Florida, Alabama, Texas, and Oklahoma. The largest nurseries, however, are in Mississippi, Florida, and New Mexico.


Data from a sample of farmers for two areas in Montana were used to determine how dryland grain farmers gain control of land and accumulate capital. From 1910 to 1960, increased labor productivity has made it necessary for farmers to acquire more land in order to fully employ their resources. Capital requirements for those entering or remaining in farming have increased.


Job opportunities for young men in eastern Kentucky are limited, resulting in a great stream of out-migration of youths, especially to industrial areas in the Ohio Valley. Key questions are, therefore, what happens to these young people after they leave school, and are youths who fail to complete high school at a disadvantage in the labor market? This report describes the sociocultural origins, background characteristics, migratory patterns, and residential mobility aspirations of the study population.

62

In 1960 there were 71.6 million acres of corn harvested for grain in the United States. The feed grain program was in effect in 1961 and acreage of corn for grain was reduced to 58.7 million acres. Ohio placed 1 million acres in the program. Corn yields increased from 1960 to 1961 so that much of the effect of the acreage reduction was offset.


A study of customer buying response to the color of Red Delicious apples showed that retail sales of highly colored apples (from 75 to 100 percent good red color) were significantly greater than sales of partly red apples (50 to 75 percent good red color). Sales of highly colored and partly red apples displayed together were less than sales of highly colored apples but more than those of partly red ones when each color was displayed separately.


The bibliography is part of a study of cooperation among local governments in rural areas. Information about materials on this topic has not previously been readily available. Items listed include articles, public documents, research reports, proceedings, and unpublished works.


Landowners chosen by a probability area sample in the Southeast were interviewed. Although 98 percent of all owners were individuals, they owned only 77 percent of the rural land. Only about 2 percent of all owners were corporations, but they owned 18 percent of the rural land. The report describes such items as characteristcs of ownership, acreages of various kinds of land owned, method of land acquisition, ownership rights, land use, and plans for land transfer.


Projected population increases and expected dietary improvements suggest that Italy's demand for farm products will expand much faster than domestic production during 1965-75. Although crop yields will be higher due to technological advances, total crop area is expected to remain about the same. U.S. exports of cotton and hides to Italy are not expected to change. Exports of corn, soybeans, and tobacco are expected to increase substantially.


This report presents the major assumptions, analyses, and results of a study of profitable adjustments in Lake States dairying. Supply response is based on an income-maximizing linear programming analysis of typical farms in 80 farm strata. The supply relations obtained project income-improving adjustments that could be made in crop and livestock enterprises within the resource limitations of farm firms.


This is a report on the recent visit by Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman and his exchange group to the U.S.S.R. The team's report attempts to bridge the statistical gaps on some phases of agriculture by drawing on local data, personal observation, and experience gained from previous visits and studies. The central agricultural problem in the Soviet Union in recent years has been that of expanding production of food and fiber. There were substantial increases from 1954 to 1958, but, since 1958, increases in crop and livestock production have been slight. Because of poor crops in 1963, the Soviet Union imported large quantities of wheat.


The analysis of the 1963–64 world situation in terms of production, supply and trade, and price trends indicates a rise in world agricultural production in the coming year slightly above the level reached in 1963. Associated with this are a record movement of farm products in world trade and a slight rise in world prices. A breakdown of important agricultural trends in the Western Hemisphere, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, West Asia, Africa, and the Far East and Oceania shows what might happen in these key areas in 1964.


Agricultural output in the Soviet Union during 1963 fell sharply below the level of 1962 and was lower than in 1958, the base year of the present Seven Year Plan. A dry fall, and a severe winter followed by one of the worst droughts of the century, were the immediate causes for 1963's shortfalls in production and supplies.
Statistical Compilations


