

Farm Management and Organization of Typical Dry-Land Farms in Proposed Irrigation Areas

AN IRRIGATION AND FARM MANAGEMENT PROJECT

This project, to be conducted in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation of the U.S. Dept. of Interior, undertakes a budget analysis of various typical non-irrigated farming systems now prevailing in selected proposed irrigation project areas in the State. Out of these analyses it is hoped that suitable methods may be developed for estimating the probable effects of various farming systems under irrigation, especially as regards farm size, labor and capital requirements, gross and net returns per acre and per farm family and the effect upon land value.

Leader: L. W. Schaffner, Asst. Agr. Economist

Changes in Farm Population as Affecting Living Standards and Rural Institutions

A RURAL LIFE PROJECT

The farmer, his wife, and family are not only making a living on the land but they also live amid rural surroundings. The population of a community affects the level of living, the social activities, and the maintenance of the rural institutions such as the church, the school, and service enterprises.

The object of this investigation is fourfold:

1. To determine the differences in population numbers and age and sex composition of rural farm and non-farm population by minor civil divisions. (Examine census data for 1930, 1940, and later if possible)
2. To estimate prospective population outlook in different population groups and in representative areas, particularly with respect to school enrollment and school district organizations.
3. To determine the effect of different age compositions in rural areas upon the rate of retirement of farmers from active farming and the opportunity for younger farm families in those areas.
4. To determine the relationship between population composition; major rural institutions and levels of living.

This project will be conducted in cooperation with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, USDA.

Leader: Rainer Schickele, Chief Agr. Economist

JULY MILK OUTPUT DOWN IN NORTH DAKOTA WHILE U. S. MILK OUTPUT INCREASES¹

July milk production slumped in North Dakota, although in the U. S. as a whole it increased.

According to USDA figures from the bureau of agricultural economics, North Dakota milk cows produced 199,000,000 pounds of milk in July, 1949, a decrease from the 212,000,000 pounds in July of 1948. Both figures are far below the 10 year (1938-47) average for July of 246,000,000 pounds.

Nationally, however, the trend is the opposite, U. S. milk production climbing from 11, 514,000,000 pounds in July 1948 to 11,544,000,000 pounds in July, 1949. Both figures are an increase over the 10-year average for July of 11,422,000,000.

For the same month North Dakota egg production eased slightly, from 4,435,000 in July 1948 to 4,334,000 in July 1949. U. S. production for those comparable months dropped from 50 to 48 million.

(¹Condensed from figures of USDA bureau of agricultural economics, Fargo.)