FAO
STATISTICAL
DEVELOPMENT
SERIES

1

FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

in the context of a national information system

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

CORRIGENDA

Page 140, line 10

Should read:

growth r_T in utilization of C is .75(4.0) + .25(8.0) = 5 percent per

Page 190, line 10

Should read:

$Y_1 = a_{11}X_1 + a_{21}X_2 + a_{31}X_3$

Reprinted 2009

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M-77
ISBN 92-5-102467-7

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FOREWORD

This is the first issue of a new FAO Statistical Development series of manuals. The Statistical Development Series will provide comprehensive technical manuals for assisting countries in planning, developing and operating the statistical programme component of a national information system for food and agriculture. Although a rather full potential "state of the arts" statistical programme, that even the most advanced country could benefit from, is planned for the series, some of the more advanced programme components, such as a country-wide early crop estimates sampling capability and an operational remote sensing crop monitoring capability, must await future coverage, further technological developments and cost efficiencies. In addition, most of the subjects covered in early issues will be improved upon with additional field experience and subsequent revision. But every country, even the poorest and least developed, both economically and in statistical capability, can initiate the planning and development of a particular programme component after an evaluation of its current capability and needs, with the first generation such component reflecting marginal improvement in the country's current capability and each successive programme development cycle resulting in a larger and more integrated programme.

Because statistics must have a sound conceptual base, with theoretical concepts relevant to real-world problems on the national policy agenda successfully operationalized, with the resulting data interpreted and analysed to become useful information to decision makers, this first manual in the series places statistical programmes in the context of a national information system for food and agriculture. Then, the basic statistical development components, such as the agricultural census, household surveys and community-level statistics, are treated in successive papers, as is the use of administrative records as a source of secondary data. Several issues concerning subject-matter statistics complete the series. Subjects to be covered include: socio-economic indicators of agrarian reform and rural development, natural resources with emphasis on agricultural land, marketing, credit, fertilizers, machinery and other manufactured inputs, farm management, type of farming, enterprise costs and returns, commodity supply and utilization accounts, agricultural input and output prices, food balance sheets, agricultural population and labour force, food consumption and nutrition, economic accounts for agriculture, and other statistical needs for monitoring and evaluating

the economic viability of the agriculture sector, food self-reliance, and other dimensions relevant to a country's food and agricultural complex.

In all areas, from the agricultural census as the cornerstone of the statistical development programme to the use of socio-economic indicators in monitoring agrarian reform and rural development, the emphasis will be on a balanced programme of data collection, processing and analysis as integral and inseparable parts of a national information system for food and agriculture.

Leroy Quance
Director
Statistics Division

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
	Foreword	iii
	List of Tables	ix
	List of Figures	x
1	Introduction	1
	1.1 Background	1
	1.2 Objective and Outline	4
2	Food and Agricultural Decision Making	7
	2.1 The Domain of Food and Agriculture	7
	2.1.1 Processes and Agents	8
	2.1.2 Economic Activities of Agriculture	11
	2.1.3 Other Economic Activities Related to Food and Agriculture	13
	2.2 The Scope of Public Food and Agricultural Decision Making	15
	2.2.1 General Policy Goals	15
	2.2.2 Performance Indicators and Objectives	17
	2.2.3 Policy Instruments and Subject Areas	17
3	Information and Decision Making	25
	3.1 Problems of Food and Agricultural Decision Making	25
	3.1.1 Complexity	25
	3.1.2 Uncertainty	29
	3.1.3 Compression of Time and Space	32
	3.1.4 "Multi" Perspectives	34
	3.1.5 Rationality of Decision Making	35
	3.2 Sources and Uses of Information	36
	3.2.1 Information Sources	37
	3.2.2 Information in the Decision Cycle	37
	3.3 The Nature of Information	38
	3.3.1 Information and Data	39
	3.3.2 Information as a Commodity	41
4	The Information System	45
	4.1 The Systems View: General Concepts	45
	4.1.1 System Definition	45
	4.1.2 Feedback and Stability	49
	4.2 A Systems View of the Information Process	52
	4.2.1 Component Processes	54
	4.2.2 Obsolescence and Feedback	58
	4.3 The Design Problem	58
	4.3.1 Information System Needs	59
	4.3.2 Information System Boundary	60
	4.3.3 Summary Problem Statement	63

4.4 The Information System as an Organization 63
4.4.1 Structural Considerations 64
4.4.2 Resource Considerations 66
4.4.3 Other Considerations 67

5 Operational Concepts for Measurement and Analysis 71
5.1 Standard Classification Scheme 71
5.2 Use of Information Items in Food and Agricultural Decision Making 73
5.3 Operational Definitions 81
5.3.1 Category 01: Identification 81
5.3.2 Category 02: General Characteristics 89
5.3.3 Category 03: Demographic and Anthropometric Characteristics 90
5.3.4 Category 04: Employment 91
5.3.5 Category 05: Land and Water 95
5.3.6 Category 06: Crops 100
5.3.7 Category 07-08: Livestock 104
5.3.8 Category 09: Machinery and Equipment 105
5.3.9 Category 10: Buildings and Other Structures 106
5.3.10 Category 11: Ancillary Activities 108
5.3.11 Category 12: Credit, Marketing, Stocks 109
5.3.12 Category 13: Prices 110
5.3.13 Category 14: Post-Harvest Foodgrain Losses 111
5.3.14 Category 15: Income and Outlay 111
5.3.15 Category 16-17: Other 112
5.4 Refinement and Standardization 112

6 The Statistical Programme 113
6.1 Measurement Instruments and Data Sources 113
6.1.1 The Agricultural Census and Production Survey 116
6.1.2 Other Food and Agricultural Censuses and Surveys 117
6.1.3 Administrative Records 119
6.1.4 Locality Records 120
6.1.5 International Statistical Publications and Data Banks 120
6.1.6 Technological Research in Food and Agriculture 120
6.1.7 Relationships among Measurement Instruments 121
6.2 Technical Considerations 121
6.2.1 Conceptual Definitions 121
6.2.2 Timing 122
6.2.3 Programme Coordination and Integration 125
6.2.4 Frame 126
6.2.5 Sampling Techniques 126
6.2.6 Questionnaires and Tabulation 127
6.2.7 Data Processing 127
6.2.8 Quality Checks and Post-Enumeration Surveys 128
6.2.9 Dissemination 128

6.3	Organizational Considerations	129
6.3.1	Institutional Structure	129
6.3.2	Human Resources	129
6.3.3	Supporting Infrastructure	131
7	The Analytical Programme	133
7.1	The Policy Analysis Process	133
7.2	Models and Modelling	134
7.2.1	Classification of Models	134
7.2.2	Some Issues for Models	136
7.3	Simple Tools for Analysing Trends	137
7.4	Demand and Supply Models	140
7.4.1	Supply and Production Analysis	140
7.4.2	Demand and Utilization Analysis	147
7.4.3	Joining Demand and Supply Analysis	150
7.4.4	Classical Welfare Analysis	152
7.4.5	Stabilizing Prices and Consumption	158
7.5	Index Numbers, Composite Prices, and Productivity	160
7.5.1	Index Number Formulation	160
7.5.2	Index Number Uses	163
7.6	Economic Accounts for Agriculture	167
7.7	Project Analysis	168
7.7.1	Net Present Value, Benefit-Cost Ratio, and Internal Rate of Return	169
7.7.2	Choice of Discount Rate	170
7.7.3	Estimating Benefit and Cost Streams	170
7.8	Simulation Analysis	174
7.8.1	System Simulation Models	174
7.8.2	Selection of Mode Type and Modelling Approach	175
7.8.3	Model Specification	176
7.8.4	Data Resources and Requirements	178
7.8.5	Computer Implementation	178
7.8.6	Model Testing and Credibility	180
7.9	Mathematical Programming	181
7.9.1	Basic Programming Model	181
7.10	Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ARRD)	183
7.10.1	Socio-Economic Indicators	185
7.10.2	Monitoring, Evaluation and Analysis	189

预览已结束，完整报告链接和

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