A SURVEY OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS LITERATURE
A Survey of Agricultural Economics Literature

VOLUME 3
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A SURVEY OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS LITERATURE
VOLUME 3

Economics of Welfare, Rural Development, and Natural Resources in Agriculture, 1940s to 1970s

LEE R. MARTIN, editor

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Foreword

In March 1968 C. E. Bishop, president of the American Agricultural Economics Association, appointed a committee to investigate the need for a major survey of the agricultural economics literature published from the 1940s to the 1970s. The committee found that an extensive assessment of this body of literature would indeed be of value to research workers, teachers, extension workers, and graduate students in agricultural economics; teachers, research workers, and graduate students in economics and economic statistics, sociology, geography, political science, and anthropology; and teachers, research workers, extension workers, and graduate students in technical agriculture. In the end the committee was assigned the responsibility for planning the project and commissioning authors to prepare the papers.

The members of the committee were Glenn L. Johnson (Michigan State University), M. M. Kelso (University of Arizona), James E. Martin (Virginia Polytechnic Institute), M. L. Upchurch (Economic Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture), and Lee R. Martin, chairman (University of Minnesota). Early in 1969 James E. Martin resigned from the committee, and several new members—John P. Doll (University of Missouri), Peter G. Helmberger (University of Wisconsin), J. Patrick Madden (Pennsylvania State University), and Edward W. Tyrchniewicz (University of Manitoba)—were appointed.

As its first step, the committee tentatively identified the fields to be covered and commissioned highly regarded members of the profession to
draw up outlines of the coverage to be undertaken in the different fields. These outlines were used in the selection of economists and sociologists to prepare the surveys and in negotiating agreements with prospective authors. Once the surveys were prepared, the committee again obtained assistance from highly competent members of the profession to make critical, constructive evaluations of each survey draft. In the case of the preparation of outlines and the review of papers, the committee sought to strike a representative balance among differing viewpoints in each field. For the preparation of the papers themselves, the committee obtained the services of outstanding rural social scientists with special competence in the respective fields.

In connection with the surveys published in this volume, substantial assistance was provided by the following individuals:


This list includes only the official reviewers who acted on behalf of the association and the committee. Many other individuals who assisted the authors of the surveys in different ways are cited in the notes preceding most of the surveys. Authors were urged to incorporate into their surveys the comments and suggestions provided by the respective reviewers, but final decisions about the content of the surveys were left to the discretion of the authors.

The Committee on Publication of Postwar Literature Review arranged for publication of the four-volume set of literature surveys. Members of the
committee are Emerson M. Babb (chairman), J. P. Madden, Lee R. Martin, and John C. Redman. Neil Harl provided valuable assistance in the publication phase to both committees.

On behalf of the members of the association and the Postwar Literature Review Committee I wish to express sincere gratitude to the authors of the surveys in the volume and to the advisors, reviewers, and others who participated in the planning and implementation of this project.

Finally, I would like to direct readers' attention to current literature surveys of some closely related fields of agricultural economics—surveys that both complement and supplement the surveys in this volume and three companion volumes.

The following surveys have been published in an Australian journal, Review of Marketing and Agricultural Economics.


Another important set of literature surveys in agricultural economics is being published in the British Journal of Agricultural Economics. To date the following survey articles have been published:


Two literature surveys in natural resource economics have been published. These are:


Lee R. Martin
Survey Editor

October 1980