

**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:

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

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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

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