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This update covers Monday, December 14, 2009 to Friday, December 18, 2009

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS FOR COMPETITIVE GRANT AWARDS TO CONDUCT ECONOMIC RESEARCH ON THE JOINT CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE TO THE NATION'S SOCIAL SAFETY NET

The Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program (FANRP) of the USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) announces the availability of funds and a request for applications to conduct research on operational issues of USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly called the Food Stamp Program, or FSP) and its support for the working poor. In particular, ERS seeks research that addresses: (a) operational issues regarding SNAP participation decisions and the dynamics of program participation among low-income households with workers, and (b) the interactions between receipt of SNAP benefits and State Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits, especially during the current recession. ERS believes the issues can best be addressed by careful analysis of linked program administrative data from the SNAP and UI programs. Total funding available for this research is approximately \$500,000. The deadline for proposal submission is **February 17, 2010**.

Released Friday, December 18, 2009

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/AP/AP043/>

LIVESTOCK, DAIRY, AND POULTRY OUTLOOK

Timely livestock, dairy, and poultry information, focusing on current and forecast production, price, and trade statistics for each of the sectors.

Released Thursday, December 17, 2009

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/LDP/>

GROWTH AND EQUITY EFFECTS OF AGRICULTURAL MARKETING EFFICIENCY GAINS IN INDIA

Agriculture is the largest source of employment in India, and food accounts for about half of consumer expenditures. Moving agricultural products from the farm to consumers more efficiently could result in large gains to producers, consumers, and India's overall economy. This analysis uses a computable general equilibrium model with agricultural commodity detail and households disaggregated by rural, urban, and income class to study the potential impacts of reforms that achieve efficiency gains in agricultural marketing and reduce agricultural input subsidies and import tariffs. More efficient agricultural marketing generates economywide gains in output and wages, raises agricultural producer prices, reduces consumer food prices, and increases private consumption, particularly by low-income households. These gains could help to offset some of the medium-term adjustment costs for some commodity markets and households associated with reducing agricultural subsidies and tariffs.

Released Thursday, December 17, 2009

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR89/>

VEGETABLES AND MELONS OUTLOOK

Provides current intelligence and forecasts the effects of changing conditions in the U.S. vegetables and melons sector (including potatoes, pulses, and mushrooms). Topics include production, consumption, shipments, prices received, trade, and more.

Released Wednesday, December 16, 2009

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/VGS/>

MEAT PRICE SPREADS

This data set provides monthly average price values, and the differences among those values, at the farm, wholesale, and retail stages of the production and marketing chain for selected cuts of beef, pork, and broilers. In addition, retail prices are provided for beef and pork cuts, turkey, whole chickens, eggs, and dairy products.

Released Wednesday, December 16, 2009

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/MeatPriceSpreads/>

AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK STATISTICAL INDICATORS

Statistical Indicators previously published in Agricultural Outlook addressing a broad spectrum of agriculture-related issues. Includes commodity and food prices, general economic indicators, government program expenditures, farm income estimates, and trade and export statistics.

Released Monday, December 14, 2009

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/AgOutlook/AOTables/>

AQUACULTURE DATA

Aquaculture is the production of aquatic animals and plants under controlled conditions for all or part of their lifecycle. This data product provides statistics on domestically grown catfish and trout and U.S. imports and exports of fish and shellfish that may be products of aquaculture, such as salmon, shrimp, and oysters.

Released Monday, December 14, 2009

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/Aquaculture/>

FEED OUTLOOK

Examines supply, use, prices, and trade for feed grains, including supply and demand prospects in major importing and exporting countries. Focuses on corn; also contains information on sorghum, barley, oats, and hay.

Released Monday, December 14, 2009

See <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1273>

CHINA IS USING MORE CORN FOR INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

China's corn imports are minimal, even though it is using a growing proportion of its corn to produce starch, ethanol, and other industrial products. The corn-processing industry's growth was encouraged by Chinese government policy, but the industry now has excess capacity. Many of the corn-based industrial products are exported. China's price support for corn during 2008/09 increased raw material costs for the industry and slowed its growth.

Released Monday, December 14, 2009

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/FDS/2009/12Dec/FDS09K01/>

WHEAT OUTLOOK

Examines supply, use, prices, and trade for wheat, including supply and demand prospects in major importing and exporting countries. Contains data and information on U.S. wheat by class.

Released Monday, December 14, 2009

See <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1293>

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