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This update covers Monday, March 8, 2010 to Friday, March 12, 2010

U.S. AGRICULTURAL TRADE DATA UPDATE

Provides a monthly update of year-to-date quantities and values of U.S. agricultural exports and imports. Also provides data on leading destination countries for exports and import source countries.

Released Friday, March 12, 2010

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/FATUS/#monthly>

INCORPORATING BEHAVIORAL ECONOMICS INTO FEDERAL FOOD AND NUTRITION POLICY

ERS will host a two-part conference that will investigate how behavioral economics can guide strategies to increase the effectiveness of federal food and nutrition policies and programs. Day 1 (April 15) features presentations on new ERS-funded research that applies behavioral economic concepts to a wide range of issues on improving diet and health. In partnership with the Food and Nutrition Service, Day 2 (April 16) will concentrate on behavioral economic applications to USDA school meal programs. The conference will be held on April 15 and 16, 2010, in the Frederick Waugh Auditorium at the Economic Research Service, 1800 M Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. Information on registration and a preliminary agenda is available.

Released Friday, March 12, 2010

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/ConferenceCenter/Behavioral/>

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT TRADE DATA

The Livestock and Meat Trade Data Set contains monthly and annual data for imports and exports of live cattle, hogs, sheep, and goats, as well as beef and veal, pork, lamb and mutton, chicken meat, turkey meat, and eggs. The tables report physical quantities, not dollar values or unit prices. Data on beef and veal, pork, and lamb and mutton are on a carcass-weight-equivalent basis. Breakdowns by country are included.

Released Friday, March 12, 2010

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

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 Friday, March 12, 2010

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

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 Friday, March 12, 2010

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

RESEARCH PLANNING GRANTS TO SUPPORT APPLICATION OF BEHAVIORAL ECONOMICS IN USDA'S CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS: REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

The Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program (FANRP) of USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) and the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) announce the availability of funds and a request for applications for planning grants to promote new research in methods to improve children's eating habits through USDA's child nutrition programs. The planning grants will focus on developing research capacity in behavioral economic strategies and interventions that can be applied to child nutrition programs to improve children's food choices and reduce the prevalence of obesity. The activities that the planning grants will support include fostering research relationships between researchers and State or local implementing agencies, testing concepts and methods in small-scale pilots, developing and testing data collection methodologies, and sponsoring workshops to improve understanding of an understudied aspect of the application of behavioral economics to child nutrition programs. FANRP will accept proposals under this program for funding levels of up to \$30,000 for a period not to exceed 15 months. Total funding available for this research is approximately \$250,000. **The deadline for proposal submission is May 17, 2010.**

Released Friday, March 12, 2010

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/AP/AP045/>

COMPETITIVE GRANT TO ESTABLISH A CENTER FOR BEHAVIORAL ECONOMICS AND CHILD NUTRITION RESEARCH: REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

The Food Assistance and Nutrition Research Program (FANRP) of USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS), in collaboration with the USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), invites proposals for a competitive grant to establish and fund a center for behavioral economics and child nutrition research. The center will (1) facilitate new and innovative research on the application of behavioral economics theory to child nutrition program operations and activities, leading to program improvements that will benefit children's diets and health; (2) broaden the network of social scientists who participate in research that applies principles and theories of behavioral economics to the improvement of nutrition, food security, and health outcomes associated with participation in USDA's child nutrition programs; and (3) disseminate information obtained via its research program to a diverse stakeholder audience, including other researchers, policy and program officials, and the general public. Subject to the availability of funds, the center will receive an initial grant of up to \$1 million which will be expected to support activities over a 3-year period. This publication describes Center responsibilities and application requirements. **The deadline for submission of applications is May 19, 2010.**

Released Friday, March 12, 2010

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/AP/AP046/>

COTTON AND WOOL OUTLOOK

Examines supply, use, prices, and trade for cotton and wool, including supply and demand prospects in major importing and exporting countries. Includes data on raw fibers and textiles.

Released Thursday, March 11, 2010

See <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1281>

OIL CROPS OUTLOOK

Examines supply, use, prices, and trade for oil crops (primarily soybeans and products), including supply and demand prospects in major importing and exporting countries. Includes information on cottonseed, peanuts, sunflowerseed, tropical oils, corn oil, and animal fats.

Released Thursday, March 11, 2010

See <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1288>

RICE OUTLOOK

Examines supply, use, prices, and trade for rice, including supply and demand prospects in major importing and exporting countries. Contains information on U.S. rough, milled, and long-, medium-, and short-grain rice.

Released Thursday, March 11, 2010

See <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1285>

LATEST U.S. AGRICULTURAL TRADE DATA

This data product announces USDA's monthly release of calendar year, fiscal year, year-to-date, and monthly value of U.S. agricultural exports, imports, and trade balance.

Released Thursday, March 11, 2010

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/FATUS/MonthlySummary.htm>

SEASON-AVERAGE PRICE FORECASTS

A futures-price forecasting model is used to provide season-average price forecasts for corn, soybeans, and wheat. In addition to the monthly forecasts for prices received, the model computes a forecast for the counter-cyclical payment rate for each commodity. The 2002 Farm Act provides for counter-cyclical payments when prices are below specified levels.

Released Wednesday, March 10, 2010

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

ENERGY USE IN THE U.S. FOOD SYSTEM

Energy is an important input in growing, processing, packaging, distributing, storing, preparing, serving, and disposing of food. Analysis using the two most recent U.S. benchmark input-output accounts and a national energy data system shows that in the United States, use of energy along the food chain for food purchases by or for U.S. households increased between 1997 and 2002 at more than six times the rate of increase in total domestic energy use. This increase in food-related energy flows is over 80 percent of energy flow increases nationwide over the period. The use of more energy-intensive technologies throughout the U.S. food system accounted for half of this increase, with the remainder attributed to population growth and higher real (inflation-adjusted) per capita food expenditures. A projection of food-related energy use based on 2007 total U.S. energy consumption and food expenditure data and the benchmark 2002 input-output accounts suggests that food-related energy use as a share of the national energy budget grew from 14.4 percent in 2002 to an estimated 15.7 percent in 2007.

Released Wednesday, March 10, 2010

See <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR94/>

WORLD AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY AND DEMAND ESTIMATES

Issued monthly, WASDE provides the most current USDA forecasts of U.S. and world supply-use balances for major grains, soybeans and products, and cotton, and U.S. supply and use data for sugar and livestock products.

Released at 8:30 a.m. ET.

Released Wednesday, March 10, 2010

See <http://www.usda.gov/oce/commodity/wasde/>

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 Tuesday, March 9, 2010

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

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