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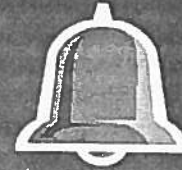


XXIII INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMISTS

AUGUST 10-16, 1997 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA



**COWBELL**  
CONFERENCE BULLETIN



Issue # 1

**PRE-CONFERENCE ISSUE**

I want to extend a warm welcome to all participants in the XXIII International Conference of Agricultural Economists. As you will quickly become aware, a program rich in content awaits your participation during the coming week here in Sacramento. The theme of the conference, "Food Security, Diversification, and Resource Management: Refocusing the Role of Agriculture?" is timely for all countries, and I am confident that this conference will bring you new and useful perspectives on this question. A number of innovations have been made in this year's conference program, including a shorter overall length, fewer invited papers, more contributed papers, and the addition of panel discussions and computer-based presentations.

During our week here in California I am confident that you will absorb some of the California mystique. This is a state of great natural beauty and tremendous creativity. It has the largest and most diverse agricultural production of any state in the United States. We will have the opportunity to learn about California agriculture and how it has addressed a number of important questions of interest in many countries, such as how it has handled environmental and labor issues and found ways to efficiently manage large scale agricultural production units.

One of the great benefits which I always find from participating in the triennial IAAE conferences is the new insights and perspectives that come from participating in truly multicountry discussions of important issues facing the food, agricultural and natural resource sectors. Another is the opportunity to meet other professionals working on the same subjects in other parts of the world and to form professional friendships that span the years. And, of course, the opportunity to learn and observe through travel is educational in itself.

I want to express my appreciation to Joachim von Braun and those who worked with him in organizing the program, and to Jerry Siebert and all who worked with him on local arrangements. They have done an outstanding job in preparing for this conference to ensure that we have a program rich in substance, that we participants will be comfortable, and that the conference runs smoothly.

Robert L. Thompson, President

**WELCOME TO SACRAMENTO!**

On behalf of the U.S. membership of the IAAE, welcome to Sacramento, capitol of the great state of California. It hardly seems possible that three years have passed since our last meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe. Those were meetings I will never forget, set

in a fascinating part of the world. It is my sincere wish that the week ahead will bring different but equally enjoyable and professionally rewarding experiences for all.

To the west of Sacramento are the San Francisco Bay Area and the rugged coastline of northern California. To the east are the foothills where gold was discovered in the mid-1800s and the spectacular high Sierras. Between the coast and the mountains--all around Sacramento--is the most productive farmland in the world: rice fields, vineyards that make California world-famous for its wines, orchards of apple, peach, pear, and plum, dairy farms, and a cornucopia of irrigated field and specialty crops that reach the tables of people all

over the country and indeed the world. To my mind, there could not be any better place in the world for the 23rd meeting of the world's agricultural economists. As someone who grew up in California and was trained in agricultural economics just down the road at the University of California at Davis, I am proud and happy to have you here.

Nicole Ballenger, Chair US Organizing Committee.

## ORIGINS OF THE IAAE

The International Association of Agricultural Economists grew out of a conference hosted by Leonard Elmhirst at his home in Dartington Hall, Devon, England in late August and early September 1929. Fifty agricultural economists from 11 countries attended. There were representatives from Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Trinidad, the United Kingdom and the United States. Those present felt they had gained so much in improved understanding of both the differences and commonalities in the problems they faced in research and teaching that they resolved to find ways to increase their contacts and promote greater understandings among themselves and their colleagues.

With generous financial support from the Carnegie Endowment and the Elmhirst family a second Conference was held at Cornell University in August 1930 with 309 representatives from 20 countries attending: 234 were from the USA and Canada coming from 30 states and 5 provinces. A Constitution for IAAE was developed and adopted under the leadership of Arthur Ashby (Aberystwyth, UK). The Conference extended over 10 days with presentations from 84 speakers. It was agreed that the proceedings should be published for the first two conferences under the leadership of F.F. Hill, one of the subsequent leaders in the founding of IRRI, CIMMYT and the international agricultural research centers. Many of the traditions of our Conferences stem from these beginnings.

## OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the IAAE are to:

- Foster the application of agricultural economics to improve rural economic and social conditions;
- Advance knowledge of agriculture's economic organization;
- Facilitate communication and information exchange among those concerned with rural welfare.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the IAAE is for a three-year period, currently from January 1, 1996 through December 31, 1998. The membership fee for individuals is US\$60 for the three-year period. Members receive the IAAE Newsletter, the Proceedings of the triennial conference, and IAAE Occasional Papers, which include the

contributed papers from the Conference, the abstracts of posters presented and reports from each of the discussion sections. An IAAE Directory is distributed after each Conference with the names and addresses of all members.

## ORGANIZATION

The IAAE is governed by a Council of officers and member delegates. National and area branches, made up of members in specific countries or a group of countries, promote the objectives of IAAE within their country or area. Each branch designates a member as its representative to provide liaison between its members and the IAAE Executive Committee. The elected officers of the IAAE are President, President Elect, Past

President, Vice President Program, Secretary-Treasurer, and two at-large members who constitute the Executive Committee. This committee acts for the Council between Council meetings. The officers appoint a proceedings editor, an editor-in-chief of its international journal. Both of these appointees serve as ex-officio members of the Executive Committee.

## EARLIER IAAE CONFERENCES

Year	Location	Professionals Attending	Year	Location	Professionals Attending
1929	Totnes, Devon, England	50	1964	Lyon, France	562
1930	Ithaca, New York, USA	300	1967	Sydney, Australia	501
1934	Bad Eilsen, Germany	170	1970	Minsk, USSR	685
1936	St. Andrews, Fife, Scotland	219	1973	Sao Paulo, Brazil	695
1938	Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec, Canada	510	1976	Nairobi, Kenya	656
1947	Totnes, Devon, England	82	1979	Banff, Alberta, Canada	795
1949	Stresa, Italy	271	1982	Jakarta, Indonesia	480
1952	East Lansing, Michigan, USA	340	1985	Malaga, Spain	823
1955	Helsinki, Finland	364	1988	Buenos Aires, Argentina	759
1958	Mysore, India	350	1991	Tokyo, Japan	908
1961	Cuernavaca, Mexico	485	1994	Harare, Zimbabwe	691

## THE TRADITION OF THE COW BELL

It is a tradition that each triennial Conference of the IAAE is opened and closed by the ringing of a "cow bell". Presumably this was an appropriate way to call an agricultural meeting to order in England in the 1920s. It now symbolizes the need to remember our roots in agriculture during conference discussions.

Leonard Elmhirst wrote the following statement about the actual origin of the first bell in this conference bulletin, The Cow Bell, August 25, 1955 in Finland. "The first cow bell was not I suspect a cow bell but a sheep bell. It came from an old shop in Amesbury, the nearest village to Stonehenge, the bronze age druidic temple on Salisbury Plain, England. Here the Celts grazed their flocks on the chalky pastures high above the swamps and heavy forest where the Saxons later found the richest farmland. In World War II it was found possible to fertilize and plough these downs which had not been cultivated for 3000 years and then only in tiny welchets, or small strips. This bell had a

## IAAE COUNCIL MEETING

The IAAE Council will meet Monday at 6.30 p.m. and Thursday at 6 p.m. The council is the major policy formulating board of IAAE. It consists of the Executive Committee and members selected by the country and area branches. It meets only during the IAAE conferences. If a Council member from a country/area branch is not present, branch members in attendance may designate one of their group as an alternative Council member.

The number of Council members for a country/area is determined in accordance with the number of IAAE members in the country or area for the current

quaint shape and harness of its own with leather neck harness and oak pegs. It is represented on the back of every volume of our official proceedings. It was presented to our first Vice-President, G. F. Warren of Cornell and is now one of his family heirlooms. Our present bell, acquired before the 1949 conference in Stresa, is a real cow bell from Chamoniz in Switzerland."

The preceding quote is taken from John Raeburn's History of the IAAE, p.172. Raeburn goes on to say that in an issue of The Cow Bell at the Lyon Conference in 1964 it was reported that, "The large bell presented on Monday to the Association by Denis Bergmann on behalf of the French Committee is about a hundred years old. Despite its size it is a genuine Alpine cow bell..." The present whereabouts of this Alpine cowbell is something of a mystery. The bell in use at this XXIII Conference is the one to which Elmhirst referred.

conference period 1996-1998 or the prior conference period 1993-1995, whichever is larger. The schedule for Council members is: 0-4 IAAE members, 0 Council members; 5-10 IAAE members, 1 Council members; 11-25 IAAE members, 2 Council members; 26-60 IAAE members, 3 Council members; 61 or more IAAE members, 4 Council members.

Normally, if the Country/Area Representatives (see list in Issue # 2) are attending the conference, they will ensure that their country/area is represented at the Council Meeting by an appropriate number of Councillors. However, in the absence of a Country/Area

Representative from a particular country/area, any participant from that area may take the lead to ensure the country/area in question is represented.

Country/Area Representatives attending the XXIII ICAE are asked to remind the Council members from their country to attend. Should a Councillor not be participating in the XXIII ICAE, the Country Representative may invite someone else from the country in question to act as a substitute.

All Country/Area Representatives should give the names of the Councillors from their country/area who will be attending the Council Meeting on Monday. This list of names should be provided well before the meeting.

Please turn the lists to the IAAE Executive Office, Capitol Board Room, Hyatt.

### NOTICE TO ALL IAAE MEMBERS

Please check your IAAE membership records (including address, telephone numbers, email address, etc) in the loose-leaf notebook at the membership information desk, located near the place where you registered, to insure that these records are correct. This needs to be done before noon Wednesday, August 13. You can do

this at any time each day through the coffee break in the afternoon. If you have questions about the accuracy of the record for yourself or about your country representative please see the IAAE Office representative at this desk to make necessary corrections.

### FROM THE MEMBER TO THE MEMBER

**NEW**  
The page 4 of the daily Cowbell editions is the place for exchanging ideas, distribute information and communicate between members. If you want to organize an Ad-hoc discussion group and reunion at any of the time slots on Tuesday or Thursday evening or Friday at lunch time, or communicate other things to the conference attendants just let us know and it will be published in the next day cowbell!!

### ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆NOTICE☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ COMPETITION!! WANTED!!

Who is the most frequent conference attendee?  
Who is the most frequent „accompanying Person“ at IAAE Conferences?

If you feel, it is you, pop in at the cowbell office, Capitol Board Room, and tell us how many IAAE-conferences you have been attending before Sacramento!!!

### **NEW** ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆NOTICE☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS ADVISORY MEETINGS

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆NOTICE☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆  
All Discussion Group/Mini-symposia Chairpersons/Organizers are requested to check in with Larry Sievers on Sunday or Monday at the discussion group desk located at the Vice President Program Office.

*Agricultural Economics* Editorial Advisory Board and Associate Editors Meetings will be held at 7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. on Monday, August 10, in Big Sur A and at 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11, in Big Sur A. The Monday meeting is a breakfast meeting hosted by the Agricultural Economics Editorial Office at Iowa State University and the Tuesday meeting is a lunch meeting hosted by Elsevier Science, publisher of *Agricultural Economics*.

### ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆NOTICE☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ REVIEWERS' HAPPY HOUR

The Chairs of the Program Committee, Contributed Papers and Poster/Computer Session Organizers would like to show their appreciation to all reviewers of papers for their kind cooperation by inviting them for a happy hour 19:30 on Tuesday, August 12, at the Bar in the Lobby of HYATT Hotel. Drinks are free from 19:30 to 20:30 for the reviewers. CHEERS!!!!

All Agricultural Economics Editorial Advisory Board members and Associate Editors are requested to attend.  
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Joachim von Braun, Peter Hazell, Arie Oskam  
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### DO YOU HAVE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE CONFERENCE?

The discussion groups/ mini symposia sessions may be extended to 19:30 in each session if the group decides to do so.

Please check at the speakers' desk located at the Ballroom area.

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