

FARMING COSTS

BY

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Being
a new edition
rewritten and brought to date
of 'The Determination of
Farming Costs'
1917

OXFORD
AT THE CLARENDON PRESS

1921

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

London Edinburgh Glasgow Copenhagen

New York Toronto Melbourne Cape Town

Bombay Calcutta Madras Shanghai

HUMPHREY MILFORD

Publisher to the University

N O T E

THE interest in the study of Farm Management through the agency of scientific book-keeping has been greatly stimulated by the demand for information on the cost of farm products arising out of the control of agriculture necessitated during and since the War, and the first edition of this study of Methods and Principles of Agricultural Costing was exhausted within a few months of its appearance. This new issue has been largely re-written and to a certain extent re-planned, but the fresh experience gained during the further period of work has necessitated but few alterations in principle. Further consideration of some of the problems, as for example how to divide a total cost between two articles produced simultaneously, has led to the recommendation of new methods in a few cases, and other problems such as the costing of farmyard manure and the distribution of manurial residues, and of the cultivation-costs on bare fallows and fallow-crops, are still only tentatively solved.

New illustrations have been introduced in every case of methods, principles, and results, so as to bring the figures more into accord with present-day values, and all the Tables are derived from actual farm accounts.

Further attempts have been made to demonstrate the value of scientific book-keeping and recording on the farm for wider purposes than that of the information of the farmer alone, and in the fifth chapter examples are given of the fundamental importance of such data in the examination of the organization of the Agricultural Industry as a whole. The method described for the comparison of the efficiency of farm management in different cases is the work

of Mr. A. W. Ashby ; the survey of the productivity of holdings of different sizes in a Welsh farming district was made by Mr. Pryse Howell ; Mr. S. J. Upfold prepared the graphs illustrating the effect of the rise of wages on farming finance.

All members of the Institute have participated in the production of the various Tables used throughout the book by way of illustration, and an alternative method for arriving at Farm Costs based on the compilation of the cost of farm operations, which appears as Appendix I, has been contributed by Mr. A. Loose. This method has not yet been tested in practice.

The Bibliography appearing as Appendix II has been brought up to the end of September 1920.

Once more it is desired to record the indebtedness of the Institute for Research in Agricultural Economics to those farmers who have co-operated in its work by supplying records of their operations day by day throughout the year from which the illustrations have been drawn.

C. S. ORWIN.

OXFORD,

December 1920.

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