

DatelineERS

New ERS research and analysis at: www.ers.usda.gov

Economic Research Service

November 2003

U.S. Department of Agriculture

ERS is the main source of research and analysis from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, providing timely information on economic and policy issues related to agriculture, food, the environment and rural America.

New Web Feature



Introducing our new, enhanced data page:

- ♦ Easy-to-navigate format
- ♦ Improved search engine
- ♦ Quick access to new and frequently used data products
- ♦ Links to mapping programs
- ♦ Key indicators of the food and farm sectors
- ♦ Plugins and tools to help users view the data
- ♦ Calendar of releases of new items and features
- ♦ Access to archives

www.ers.usda.gov/data

Commodity Markets and Trade

ERS Outlook reports provide timely analysis of major commodity markets and trade, including special reports on hot topics. All reports, along with a calendar of future releases, are available at: www.ers.usda.gov/publications/outlook

Trends in Global Food Demand

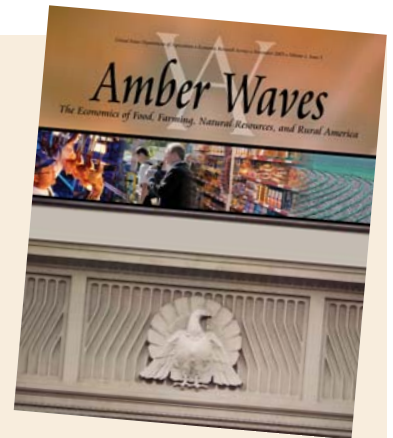
www.ers.usda.gov/publications/tb1904

International Evidence on Food Consumption Patterns discusses how global consumer food demand patterns can be used to forecast future food supply and demand or to simulate the impacts of various government policies on food demand. Understanding these patterns will help the United States determine the market potential for specific food products in foreign markets.

Amber Waves November 2003

Amber Waves magazine covers the full range of ERS research and analysis, including articles on food, farming, natural resources and rural America.

www.ers.usda.gov/amberwaves



Food Safety and Trade:

Regulations, Risks, and Reconciliation

Global food trade is expanding, bringing a wider, year-round variety of foods to consumers. There are many differences in food safety regulations among trade partners. How are countries navigating these differences while maintaining food safety and trade volumes?

From Supply Push to Demand Pull:

Agribusiness Strategies for Today's Consumers

Many forces are changing what products U.S. consumers demand—more mature consumers, greater ethnic diversity, larger incomes, and the quickening pace of daily life. Is the U.S. food marketing system responding adequately to these changes?

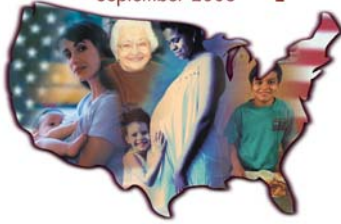
Consumers and the Future of Biotech Foods in the United States

U.S. farmers and chemical companies seem to be sold on biotechnology—but what about U.S. consumers? Farmers are rapidly adopting biotech crops, and agricultural biotech firms are investing in research and development, but what do consumers think about biotech food?

Emphasis Shifts in U.S. Agri-Environmental Policy

In the 2002 Farm Act, policymakers changed U.S. conservation programs to expand the amount of land and the number of farmers eligible for conservation funds. Will these changes add up to more cost-effective conservation?

The
**Food Assistance
Landscape**
September 2003



Food-Assistance Expenditures Increased 7 Percent in First Half of 2002

www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr28-3

Food Assistance Landscape, September 2003 examines trends in U.S. food assistance programs at the midpoint of fiscal 2003. It also discusses two recent congressionally mandated studies that ERS conducted—an assessment of WIC cost-containment practices, and an evaluation of the USDA Fruit and Vegetable Pilot Program.

Household Food Insecurity Rose Slightly in 2002

www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr35

Household Food Security in the United States, 2002, provides the most recent statistics on the food security of U.S. households, how much they spent for food, and their participation in Federal and community food assistance programs. In 2002, food insecurity rose from 10.7 percent to 11.1 percent, and food insecurity with hunger rose from 3.3 percent to 3.5 percent.



A Look at Hispanic Population Growth

www.ers.usda.gov/publications/aer826

Impacts of Hispanic Population Growth on Rural Wages examines how Hispanic population growth has affected the labor market in rural areas. Results suggest that changing labor market conditions have led to lower wages for workers with high school degrees (skilled workers).

Who Benefits from Biotech Adoption?

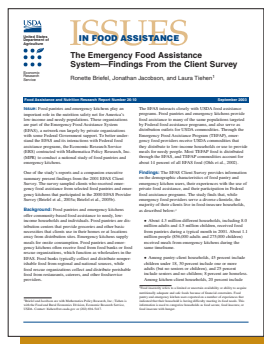
www.ers.usda.gov/publications/tb1906

Size and Distribution of Market Benefits From Adopting Biotech Crops estimates the total benefits of adopting agricultural biotechnology in 1997. It also looks at how those benefits are distributed along the production and marketing chain. The analysis focuses on three biotech crops: herbicide-tolerant soybeans, insect-resistant (Bt) cotton, and herbicide-tolerant cotton.

Eligible Households Don't Always Receive Food Stamps

www.ers.usda.gov/publications/fanrr26/fanrr26-10

Issues in Food Assistance—The Emergency Food Assistance System (EFAS): Findings from the Client Survey summarizes findings from a survey of EFAS customers. The survey found that the majority of EFAS households participate in a Federal food assistance program, but a substantial number of EFAS households do not receive food stamps, though they appear to be eligible for them.



Food Manufacturing Productivity is Slower to Grow

www.ers.usda.gov/publications/tb1905

Food Manufacturing Productivity and its Economic Implications analyzes why food manufacturing productivity has been growing slower than manufacturing productivity as a whole.

Differences in Food Safety Standards Affect World Trade

www.ers.usda.gov/publications/aer828

International Trade and Food Safety examines relationships between food safety and international trade in the meat and poultry, produce, food and feed grain, and seafood sectors.

How to get more information ...

More information about the items featured in **Dateline ERS** can be found at our Website: www.ers.usda.gov by typing in the listed address. This newsletter is also available online at www.ers.usda.gov/news