

Date Processing

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February 10, 1965

Mr. James Benes  
Agricultural Records Cooperative  
6225 University Avenue  
Madison 11, Wisconsin

Dear Mr. Benes:

The analysis reports arrived yesterday forenoon and the staff and I have been checking like mad to find every possible error that we or you might have made. As soon as we have fully acquainted ourselves with all possible pitfalls from this end, we will submit about fifty-five additional reports. These will not go out until tomorrow as we are spending one and one-half days reviewing and correcting.

For the past week I had entertained some grave doubts as to whether you would be able to successfully program our analysis. It is a very elaborate and complex project. I was pleasantly surprised with the results. While we did find many errors, all of them would seem quite easy to correct. In attempting to train just one new helper this year I can appreciate how bewildering this thing is to even the most intelligent clerical assistant. How your punch card operators can master the interpretation is a mystery to me.

Understandably enough, someone missed all "purchased feed." With this item on page 4 instead of page 2 careful checking will be necessary if this omission is to be avoided. This was a very important item, exceeding twenty thousand dollars in one instance.

The cash statement and the enterprise statement showed different labor earnings in three instances. These are shown below as of your report (without feed purchases).

Harold H. Smith (Code 1-14-039)

Cash Statement - Labor Earnings	\$12,099.
Enterprise Statement - Labor Earnings	12,019.

We found that the cash statement was \$80. short in gas purchases, and assume this to be the difference.

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*Correction*Steve Ulwelling (Code 1-02-002)

Cash Statement - Labor Earnings \$7,528.

Enterprise Statement - Labor Earnings 7,600.

There was a \$72. transfer out of other dairy into feeder cattle. Apparently this was treated as a purchase. It must not be treated as either a purchase or a sale. Transfers in and out in other than dairy seem to be causing considerable trouble.

*A "t" in dairy cow sale is not*

Robert Haugen - Labor Earnings (Code 1-14-016)

Cash Statement - \$254.

Enterprise Statement - \$351.

We found \$605. transferred out of other dairy and into feeders. This will also effect Tables 15 and 10. Table 13 is correct. The Sheet Enterprise (Table 16) - our terminology has been inconsistent and this has understandably confused the programming. "Net increases in values of animals" is very misleading. In this enterprise it should be added to the wool as you did in one case. This is "total value produced." Feed cost is subtracted from "total value produced" - not "net increase." This applied to the sheep enterprise only. Refer to Earl Prigge (Code 1-50-001). The following is the correct calculation:

Total value produced	\$27.27 (includes wool)
Total feed cost	15.36
Return over feed cost	11.91
Return over \$100 feed	177.00

You had the following:

(Based on net increase)	\$ 20.07 (excludes wool, etc.)
Total feed cost	15.36
Return over feed cost	4.71
Return per \$100 feed	138.45

Donald McGowan (Code 1-25-002) was also an error.

The crop, feed and seed figure from page 3 of the tabulation sheet was not correctly handled in table 3. Feed purchases were not subtracted as an expense.

Table 6 - "Operators Share" is essentially the same as Table 2 - "Cash Statement." For owners with debts there are only two differences (1) interest paid and interest on remaining equity are separated (2) return to capital and family labor is shown. With debt free owner operated farms, everything is the same except for the addition of "return to capital and family labor." For renters, Table 6 will be considerably different from Table 2.

Charles Srp (code 1-06-002) is a debt free owner, so Table 6 and Table 2 should have the same identical information except for the addition of "return to capital and family labor." Table 6 shows a minus (-) after decrease in farm capital. This was correctly added (not subtracted) so the error was only typographical. The handling of "tractor, truck and auto repairs" was different from the way it was handled in Table 2. It should be the same. You indicated a minus that you subtracted the personal share, but the farm share was completely omitted. Only the farm share should appear in the table.

No receipt is shown for the whole farm for cooperative patronage refunds in Table 2 and 3, but it is shown on Table 6. It should appear in all three tables.

In a few instances you failed to pick up acres of cropland pasture which leaves an acreage shortage for the total farm in Table 9.

Examples are R. Haugen (1-14-016); A. Gillan (1-14-019); and H. Smith (1-14-039). This also effects "crop rating."

While you seem to have the transfers for dairy under control, the transfers from "other dairy to feeders", "beef breeding to feeder", "feeder to breeding," etc. is creating difficulty in the enterprise calculations and also Tables 3 and 10.

There were small items that were in error. We failed to double check one set of sheets with near disastrous consequences. Note the following errors and omissions which we missed:

<u>Steve Ulwelling (code 1-02-002)</u>		
Omitted	Persons in family	4.
	Adult equivalent	2.6

Gerald Dusbabek (code 1-14-023)  
Table 3 omitted personal share of repair  
for auto - \$119.00 Also omitted in Table 4 household.

Robert Haugen (code 1-14-016)  
Missed 6 A corn silage total yield 40 T  
3 A annual hay (yield was reported at 5 T)

Adrian Gillen (code 1-14-016)  
Tabulation sheet 4 should show feeds under "feeder pigs"  
not under "hogs"

Robert Jahn (code 1-39-001)  
Tabulation sheet 4 should show feeds under "feeder pigs"  
tabulation sheets were not double checked on this. We  
are recalling the account book as we think there are  
other errors.

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These you missed:

Adrian Gillen (code 1-14-019)  
Other tillable pasture 13 A  
Several other acreage totals were in error as  
previously indicated

Earl Prigge (code 1-50-001)  
The total for "income from work off the farm" was in error.  
It seems that the "tractor share" of custom work is being  
missed in a number of instances. Similar omissions were  
found for C. Srp (1-05-001) and A. Gillen (1-14-019)

I hope that we have found all of the major shortcomings. It would take  
at least a day to prepare, complete and tabulate correction sheets.  
We will submit the second batch of sheets before you can make a re-run.

I feel certain that you can easily correct the programming and card  
punching difficulties. There will always be a few errors, but once  
the problems cited here are solved there should be 50% fewer than if  
we continued doing the project manually.

Very truly yours,

Charles M. Painter

CMP:hb

cc: G. Ferguson  
D. Hodgkins  
R. Anderson