

Recent Books by ARE Faculty

Poverty Amid Prosperity: Immigration and the Changing Face of Rural California, J. Edward Taylor, Philip L. Martin and Michael Fix. Lanham, MD: The Urban Institute, 1997.

Poverty Amid Prosperity synthesizes the views of California's preeminent rural development researchers on how immigration is transforming rural communities. It is based on a series of papers prepared by leading academic and policy researchers, community leaders, and activists who met several times over two years to consider how immigration is affecting communities in three California regions: the San Joaquin Valley; the Central Coast; and Southern California. The empirical analysis is based on a unique underclass data base developed by the Urban Institute that permits the monitoring of poverty trends for individual census tracts over time.

The first part of the book is a history of immigration patterns and immigrant policies; the second reports and discusses the findings of community fieldwork by researchers who provide a ground-level view of demographic, social, economic, and political changes related to immigration in seven rural towns. The final section explores immigrant or integration policies, drawing from the findings on immigration patterns, impacts, and community studies reported in the first two parts of the book.

The Urban Institute is a nonprofit, nonpartisan policy and research organization that investigates social and economic problems confronting the nation and private and public means to alleviate them. **Poverty Amid Prosperity** is available from the Urban Institute Publications Office. Please call (202) 857-8687.

Applications of Computer Aided Time Series Modeling, Masanao Aoki and Arthur M. Havenner, editors. Berlin : Springer-Verlag, 1997.

Applications of Computer Aided Time Series Modeling presents applications of the state-space algorithm for multivariate time series in a variety of contexts ranging from commodity prices and finance to natural resources. In addition, it reports on new methods and includes introductory material and practical tips for those just learning vector-valued time series modeling. This book will be useful to those who are disappointed by the performance of ARMA methodology in a multivariate setting and would like to learn more powerful state-space methods through actual applications.

The End of Agriculture in the American Portfolio, Steven Blank. Westport, CT: Quorum Books, 1998.

American agricultural production is destined to end, argues Steve Blank, but this should be no cause for alarm. In this work, he shows that the changes leading to the end of American agricultural production are part of a natural process that is making us all better off. Beginning with broad observations from history and the current status of agriculture around the world, Blank explores how the decisions of individuals combine to make the end of American agricultural production predictable and rational. The inevitable creeping of international economic development is shown to be the sum of individual struggles facing producers across America and around the world. Also, decisions regarding operating an agricultural business derive from many interrelated peculiarities of the industry, both in America and elsewhere. The story is fascinating in its global scope and is relevant to everyone because the simple economic decision-making processes involved will be repeated in the story of other industries.

U.S. Agricultural Response to Income Taxation, Hoy F. Carman. Ames : Iowa State University Press, 1997.

U.S. Agricultural Response to Income Taxation is the first extensive examination of research on how income tax policy affects agriculture in the United States. This book outlines, documents, and provides empirical evidence, where possible, on the effects of the federal income tax on production and investment decisions in agriculture and the effects of major income tax incentives for agricultural investments over the past 25 to 30 years. Included are the effects of income taxes on land prices; decisions concerning machinery, equipment, orchards, and livestock investments; management practices that take advantage of cash accounting, capital gains tax provisions, and depreciation provisions; the effects of tax rules on output, especially when tax sheltering is profitable; the effects of income taxes on farm size and growth; interactions of income taxes with social security taxes, estate and gift taxes, and corporate income taxes. There is also a review of how various tax proposals, ranging from revisions to current law and replacement of the income tax with some form of a consumption tax, might affect farm taxpayers and U.S. Agriculture.