

# C O W B E L L

XXV International Conference of Agricultural Economists, August 16-22, 2003, Durban, South Africa



CONFERENCE BULLETIN



Issue#3

19 August 2003

## Programme Changes

### Programme Changes for Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> of August

Stephan von Cramon-Taubadel is the Chairperson of Contributed Paper Sessions 3-4 (Agricultural Trade Policy and Reform, Meeting Room 12 AB)

### Programme Changes for Thursday 21<sup>th</sup> of August

Jens-Peter Loy is the Chairperson of the Contributed Paper Session 4-2 (Price and Marketing Issues, Meeting Room 11 AB)

### Other Programme Changes

Thank you to John McInerney for chairing Contributed Paper Session 1-5 at short notice

### Programme Change for Thursday 21<sup>th</sup> of August

Invited panel session 2, The Millennium Round So Far. In stead of Lynn Kennedy, Divid Orden will be speaking.

## New Session Thursday at 13.30 in Room 22ABC

**Daniel Deybe of the Strategies for Sustainable Development Unit in the European Commission** wishes to present details of the opportunities for funding and collaboration offered by the Second Call for proposals under the EU Commission's 6<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme on research, Development and Technology.

The current second call for proposals addresses in particular the issues of agriculture and multifunctionality. The request is for economic tools to carry out ex-ante policy impact assessment analysis, including externalities, for all major policies.

The INCO programme is also open for proposals.

Daniel Deybe will explain the calls and outline the Commission's expectations to those who may be interested in participating.

## Invited Panel Session 2 – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>. August 14.00 – 15.20.

Topic	Organiser/Chair/Discussant	Speakers and title
8. Livestock industrialisation; trends, causes, impacts and policy options	<b>Org.</b> Chris Delgado <a href="mailto:C.DELGADO@CGIAR.ORG">C.DELGADO@CGIAR.ORG</a>  <b>Chair/discussant</b> Nick Vink, University of Stellenbosch	Christopher Delgado (IFPRI), Clare Narrod (FAO), Henning Steinfeld (FAO) and Simeon Ehui (ILRI)– Unpacking “economies of scale” in livestock production in developing countries: efficiency, transaction costs and market distortions
		Achilles Costales (U. of Philippines), M. Lucila Lapar (ILRI), Nipon Paopongsakorn (TDRI, Thailand), M.A. Catelo (U. of Philippines) and Clare Narrod – Economies of scale and the environment in hog and poultry production in Southeast Asia
		Mohammad Jabbar (ILRI), Fakhru Islam (BSMRAU, Bangladesh), Rajesh Mehta (RIS, India), Viroj NaRanong (TDRI, Thailand) and Marites Tiongco (IFPRI)– Economies of scale and contract farming in poultry and eggs in South and Southeast Asia
		Steve Staal (ILRI), John Omiti (IPAR, Nairobi), Vijay Paul Sharma (IIM, India), Geraldo Sant’ Ana de Camargo Barros (U. of Sao Paolo) and Nipon Paopongsakorn – Economies of scale in dairy in Kenya and India compared to Thailand and Brazil
		Clare Narrod , Geraldo Sant’ Ana de Camargo Barros, Mirian R. Piedade Bacchi (U. of Sao Paolo), Viroj NaRanong and Archie Costales – Economies of scale and location in hogs and poultry in Brazil compared to SE Asia

## Computer Sessions

The Computer Sessions on Tuesday will provide an opportunity to get an introduction to important software and data bases currently being used by agricultural economists for quantitative analyses. Altogether six sessions are scheduled.

Two sessions take place parallel to poster session 2 (11:30 – 12:50). These sessions will introduce “Multi-Agent Systems” (Session 1) and “Tools for Spatial Analysis in AgEcon” (Session 2), respectively. Given the complexity of both modeling approaches, both sessions will be continued in the afternoon (16:00 – 17:20; session 3&4). Also in the afternoon two additional sessions have been scheduled which will deal with “Tools for Agricultural Trade Modeling” (Session 5) and with “Selected Issues” (Session 6).

The chairpersons of the sessions will be:

Session 1 – Alfons Balmann, IAMO, University Halle, Germany

Session 2 – Darla Munroe, University of North Carolina, USA

Session 3 – Thomas Berger, Center for Development Research, Germany

Session 4 – Michael Epprecht, IFPRI, Vietnam Office

Session 5 – Rainer Thiele, Institute for World Economics, Kiel, Germany

Session 6 – Katinka Weinberger, AVRDC, Taiwan

**Participation is highly recommended.**

## **Reshaping Agriculture's Contribution to Society – Explanation of the Theme**

### **David Colman**

A theme has to be brief and embrace a range of sub-themes to be reflected in plenary sessions, which are in turn echoed in the parallel sessions of contributed papers and panels. One problem is to try and avoid using words which have been used in recent conferences and to nevertheless impart a forward-looking agenda.

The one word which cannot be eliminated from the title is 'agriculture', but I believe that we are all prepared accept that in a context such as this it is read to embrace the whole food supply chain, and the input sector as well as farming itself.

From my personal (university desk-based) perspective I became aware of the need to change my own thinking in a number of ways to adapt to the changing policy stances relating to agriculture. In both developing and developed countries there is reduced emphasis on agricultural policy in a narrow farm-based sense, and shifts to concerns for the impacts that agriculture has on things other than food and agricultural raw material production. Moreover, agricultural ministries are being re-badged to embrace such things as 'rural', 'environment', and 'food', and their budgetary allocations adjusted accordingly.

These changes are being driven by the response of policy-makers to strongly articulated demands by society, expressed through the media and well-organised pressure groups. These demands appear to require a 'reshaping' of agriculture to place greater emphasis on outputs other than the usual commodities in order to 'contribute' to these other ends demanded by civil society. From a political economy perspective that 'reshaping' and budgetary refocusing is facilitated by agriculture's relative decline in all economies, and in the developing countries by the rapid increases in urbanisation and the power of the collective voice of the urban dwellers. The reshaping is also part of a deal with society to maintain some measure of political and budgetary support.

Strikingly the changing demands on agriculture are in many respects similar in countries at different levels of development in a general sense, but with important, nuanced differences between rich and poor countries. That similarity enabled the selection of four sub-themes for the plenary sessions. These are:

1. Strategies for reducing poverty. This concerns a shift in emphasis from purely agricultural development (as in many former conferences), to rural development more widely and agriculture's role in this. It is a theme clearly of more relevance in poorer countries, but not exclusively so, and it was the subject of the opening plenary session and the President's address.
2. Increasing concern in rich countries about food safety (following major health scares in livestock products) is leading to tighter health restrictions, which are in turn leading to agricultural trade conflicts with both rich and poor nations, and is causing major rifts in WTO negotiations.. Examination of this issue is coupled with that of food security, in which there are many research developments, although food safety and food security are in most cases distinct issues.
3. Sustainability of agricultural systems and environmental protection/conservation are concerns everywhere, although the broad nature of that concern varies from countries where land and water resource degradation is the key issue, to those (such as Europe) where society is more concerned with preserving rural landscapes and communities. In all cases the issues relates to what are largely non-market benefits and costs of agricultural production.
4. Raising agricultural production and productivity remains as important as ever throughout the developing world. Many elements of the conference are devoted to what conditions and best policies best promote these. Substantial attention will be given to the presence or absence of particular institutions and markets. But in the plenary leading this theme the focus will be on the future for small farms, a matter of policy concern in all countries.

Underlying these 4 themes is the issue of reducing poverty and malnutrition. These are absolutely central issues for IAAE, and will be powerfully addressed in the conference.

Finally, I want to emphasise that what we are here for is to learn from each other and to further international co-operation with the aim of optimising agriculture's contribution to society. The conference allows agricultural economists from any one country to learn and understand the different priorities of colleagues from other countries, and to help find ways of eliminating trade and other conflicts. Already, I personally have latched on to several new insights, and wish to follow up on a number of publications and ideas.

The network of contacts in IAAE has proved influential and valuable in many fields, most notably trade reform and agricultural development, and this conference will focus our collectivity of minds on the changing agenda, or at least some parts of it. We cannot take up all major issues centrally in the programme, and can confidently expect that some of the missing ones will be taken up at our next conference in Australia.

## **Henry A Wallace**

Most of the information in this article was taken from a recent biography of Henry A Wallace: ‘American dreamer: a life of Henry A Wallace’ by John C Culver and John Hyde (New York, Norton & Co, 2000).

One of the more interesting delegates at the first International Conference of Agricultural Economists was Henry A Wallace, listed in the Proceedings as coming from the ‘Wallace Publishing Company, Des Moines, Iowa.’ Henry A Wallace started his career in the family publishing business that was established by his grandfather and father, the latter a Professor at Iowa State University (he was appointed associate professor of dairying in the same year he was awarded his bachelor’s degree!).

Henry A Wallace’s father was appointed Secretary of Agriculture in the Harding administration, at which point the son took over as Editor of the *Wallaces’ Farmer* in Des Moines after having graduated with a degree in agriculture from Iowa State. During the 1920s Wallace Jnr. developed a range of ideas on agricultural policy to help cope with the post-war slump in farm gate prices that preceded the Great Depression.

It was also during this time (1926) that Henry A Wallace and eight other men established a company called the Hi-Bred Corn Company, with Henry providing 50% of the initial capital (\$5000). Eventually the company was renamed Pioneer Hi-Bred. When it was sold to Du Pont in 1999 for \$7.7bn, about a quarter of the shareholding was still in the hands of Henry’s three children!

His interest in farm policy issues eventually resulted in an introduction to Rexford Tugwell, a member of Franklin Roosevelt’s original ‘Brain Trust’, and then to Roosevelt himself. This resulted in his appointment as Secretary of Agriculture in 1932, and eventually as Vice-President of the USA in 1940. Had Roosevelt kept him on the ticket as Vice-President in 1944, he would have become President on Roosevelt’s death four months into his fourth term instead of Harry Truman.

According to Culver and Hyde, Henry A Wallace read two papers at this first IAAE Conference. One was supposedly a ‘highly technical study of the graphic versus the statistical method of computing multiple curvilinear regression lines’, of which Wallace said, “I put a lot of work into it and the British didn’t give a damn!” There is some mystery here, as the paper is not included in the Proceedings of the first Conference. However, the second paper, entitled ‘Relation of the tariff to farm relief in the United States’ is included.

In this paper, Wallace argued against protectionist tariffs on manufacturing goods by the USA, as these impoverished consumers in Europe, with the result that they could not afford to repay war loans and buy agricultural exports from the USA at the same time. He is quoted as saying: “When we demand that the European countries pay up the money they owe us and at the same time raise our tariff, it is just like our having hold of them back of the neck with one hand pulling them toward us, and using a pitchfork against their belly with the other hand poking them away from us.” This was weeks before the Wall Street Crash of 1929 ...

Henry Wallace’s connection with the IAAE did not end at the first Conference. In 1938, when Secretary of Agriculture, he again presented a paper at the Canada conference in a session entitled ‘International trade in relation to agricultural development’. The author of the other paper in this session was G. Minderhoud from Wageningen. Both were accused by their discussant, Asher Hobson from the University of Wisconsin, who detected a ‘dominant note’ in the two presentations, namely that: “... too much dependence may not be placed upon the likelihood of increased volume of foreign trade in agricultural products.” Note the date of

this debate, however – on the eve of the Second World War. Both turned out to be correct – the presenters in the following decade, the discussant in the longer term. In his reply to the discussants, Secretary Wallace addressed this point as follows:

*“It has been suggested that Prof Minderhoud and I were very pessimistic about the future of international trade ... I am quite willing to grant that the time may come five or ten years from now ... when international trade might again expand extraordinarily and might conceivably expand faster than it has ever expanded before. I see no indication of that at the present time either from the facts or from the psychology of the situation ... ”*

Continuing the history of Henry Wallace’s connection with the IAAE, there was another interesting intervention at the 1938 Conference in Canada as a result of the discussion on the presentations in the session on ‘International trade in relation to agricultural development’ by Henry Wallace and Prof. Minderhoud from Wageningen. Their second discussant, Oliver Master, from the Economic Division, Commercial Intelligence Service, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, made the following comment, which is as relevant today as it was then (this quote covers only the first of the two points):

“Running through the opening papers that have been presented by Mr. Secretary Wallace and Professor Minderhoud, there are two veins of common thought that keep constantly coming to the surface.

First, there is the insistence in both papers upon recognition of the fact that international trade rests upon the principle that, if nations are to sell, they must be prepared to buy. Professor Minderhoud, in referring to the types of trade agreements that are now so much in evidence, says: ‘The negotiations about these agreements show the truth of the old adage that in order to be able to export one has to import as well.’ It seems hardly conceivable that the world should have reached its present stage of commercial development without having acquired an ingrained grasp of that basic fact. But we cannot blink our eyes to the sober reality that the lesson has not been learned. In nine short words Secretary Wallace has stated the cold truth that has still to be faced: ‘Every one wants to sell. None wants to buy.’ How can one explain the power of resistance with which this attitude is held? Partly perhaps in this way. Prior to the great depression and particularly in the pre-War period the flow of international trade and of capital movements worked so smoothly along multilateral lines, made its adjustments of balances so unobtrusively in triangular and multi-angular ways, that the fundamentals of the system were hidden from the common view. Under those conditions there was some excuse for failure to see and fully to understand that nations must buy in order to sell.

There is no such excuse for failure to-day. Recent years have stripped the mechanism of world commerce of its refinements and accessories. To quote from a recent study by the Royal Institute of International Affairs: ‘The system of international investment lies shattered, and the idea of international lending is viewed with profound misgiving both in debtor and in creditor countries.’ Gone also, without immediate prospect of return, are the gold standard and the monetary system that furnished the operating equipment, if not the basis, of exchange stability. Shorn of these vital complements, trade between many countries has been thrown back upon primitive methods, has been reduced to the simplest form. The fundamentals of commerce between countries have been laid bare and exposed for all to see. International trade no longer appears as an intricate, delicate, and mysterious mechanism, requiring an expert to explain what makes it go. The processes of bilateral bargaining and of bilateral balancing, as we now see them in action, should clear away—if anything can clear away—all doubt as to whether nations must buy in order to sell. Every clearing and payments agreement is nothing more or less than a two-sided admission that ‘we can buy from you only if you will buy from us’. The formula admits of little variation. It may be stated in any one of half a dozen ways, but it is always reducible to words of one syllable that no one can mistake. Whether they are willing to recognize it or not, all countries have been compelled to accept to some extent this basis of doing business.

I am enough of an optimist, or of a fatalist, to believe that the very universality of this reversion to primitive methods of carrying on commerce is bound to serve a large purpose over and above its primary utility in rescuing international trade from a descent to even lower levels. Education of the most practical

and vivid type—one might almost say of the roughest, hardest kind—must precede and underlie any durable reconstruction of world commerce. Speaking of the obstacles that confront the trade-restoring objectives of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Programme, Secretary Wallace has said: ‘Each nation wants to expand its exports and cut down its imports.’ That attitude or aim, if not broken down, spells deadlock and stagnation in the field of international trade. If it is to be combated with success, it must be through demonstration of its futility. Could there be any more convincing form of demonstration than the world is now receiving in regard to the fact that buying and selling must go hand in hand? How long must the demonstration be continued before that fact is fully digested? And, when it is fully digested, what will be the result? Shall we find that, broadly speaking, the desire to expand exports is stronger among nations than their desire to cut down imports? Or shall we be forced to the view that the desire to sell is weaker and less insistent than the urge to restrict imports? In the one event we may expect the restoration and renewed growth of trade; in the other, continued shrinkage.

## Members Noticeboard

The last pages of the daily COWBELL is the place for exchanging ideas, distributing information and communicating with members. If you want to organize an Ad-hoc discussion group or reunions or communicate other things to the conference attendants, just let us know and it will be published in the next COWBELL!!

Leave your notices for the COWBELL with your name and your hotel room and phone number at the IAAE Office (Room 24B) by noon of the day before publication.

### Notice to all Members

Conference participants, please check your membership records (including address, telephone numbers, email address, etc.) with the IAAE membership desk (in the registration area) from Saturday (16 August) through Thursday (21 August). The preferred way to check the accuracy of records is on-line at: <http://www.iaae-agecon.org>. You can make corrections and submit the changes (which will be updated automatically).

### Notice

#### AgEcon Search

Economists know that nothing is free, but stop by the AgEcon search exhibit to learn about a valuable hub resource that is free for users. AgEcon Search has the full text of our 11 000 documents, mainly working papers & conference papers. Most 2003 IAAE contributed papers are available. We are actively seeking more working papers & conference papers from all parts of the world. Please stop by the exhibit, or contact us via the hub site, at <http://agecon.lib.umn.edu>.

### Notice

As an International Non-Governmental Organisation with consultative status at FAO, IAAE takes part in the activities of the Ad Hoc group of INGO Representatives residing in Rome – a group which includes Organisations active in many aspects of rural development. The Group is preparing documentation of activities of the individual INGOs for World Food Day celebrations, 16<sup>th</sup> October, and the International Alliance against Hunger. The academic and networking activities of the IAAE as a whole will be documented by me; if individual members of IAAE would like to give me news of their own participation in specific programmes for the fight against hunger and the right to food, I shall be glad to submit this too. The first deadline is 26<sup>th</sup> August. Contact me at the Conference or at [loseby@unitus.it](mailto:loseby@unitus.it). Margaret Loseby, University of Tuscia, Viterbo, Italy.

## **Election for the IAAE Executive Committee**

During the IAAE Council Meeting on Thursday an election will be held for the following positions on the Executive Committee for 2003-2006:

- President (elect)
- Vice-president (Program)
- Members at large (3)

Please submit any nomination you have to any of the following members of the IAAE nominations committee:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prabhu Pingali (Chair)</li> <li>• Donald Maclaren</li> <li>• Vasant Gandih</li> <li>• Issac Minde</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alberto Valdes</li> <li>• Jock Anderson</li> <li>• Ulrich Koester</li> <li>• Dan Bromley</li> </ul> |
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### **Notice**

#### **European Association of Agricultural Economists**

Organized Session: "Reform of the agricultural Policies of the EU and its implications for World Agriculture".

Do not forget your opportunity to find out everything you may possibly want to know about the 2003 Mid Term Review Fischler Reform of the EU Common Agricultural Policy!

Today: 16h00 – 17h20, Hall 2CDE

Chair: Sophia Davidovo (UK)

Speakers: Tassos Haniotis (EU Commission), Jerzy Kilkin (Poland), Giovanni Anania (Italy), Soran Frandsen (Denmark)

Discussion Openers: Alberto Valdes (Chile), Waly Tyner (USA)

### **Notice**

At the occasion of the retirement of Prof. Laurent Martens, the Department of Agricultural Economics of Ghent University and the Belgium Association of Agricultural Economists have organised the 80th EAAE seminar on "New institutions and policies for EU agriculture" from September 24th to 26th, 2003 in Ghent (Belgium). Flyers and registration forms can be found on the info table at the entrance of the main hall or at the website <http://fltwww.urgent.be/80thEAAEGhent>. More information can also be obtained from the members of the organising committee, Guido Van Huylenbroeck and Ludwig Lauwers.

### **Notice**

#### **Conference Dinner**

Gather your friends together and book your seat or a table of 10 for the Conference Dinner by presenting your Conference Dinner Voucher, which you will receive at registration, at the Conference Dinner desk on Tuesday and Wednesday.

If you do not book your seat by 17h00 on Wednesday, you will be seated at the organizers' discretion.

The dress for the dinner is business attire or traditional dress.

The voucher for the Conference Dinner has been included in your registration envelope

## Notice

<p><b>University of Pretoria Dinner</b>          Invitation to all MSc or PhD students of Prof Jan Groenewald at the University of Pretoria, to a dinner on Tuesday, 19 August 2003 at 8:00 at the Indian Restaurant - Elangeni Hotel.          Please confirm your attendance by speaking personally to Gerhard Backeberg before tea/coffee break this afternoon.</p>	<p><b>Wisconsin Dinner</b>          Alumni and friends of the University of Wisconsin-Madison will meet for dinner at 7h00 pm on Tuesday, August 19 at the THE FISH COMPANY. The restaurant is at Kings Battery (the harbour). This is a 10-minute taxi ride from the Hilton. Contact Dan Bromley, Hilton, room 622.</p>
<p><b>Ohio State University Gathering</b>          OSU alumni and friends are invited for drinks and conversation in the lobby bar of City Lodge Hotel immediately after the end of the last session on Tuesday, August 19, 2003.          Richard Meyer</p>	<p><b>Reading University Get-together</b>          Students, alumni and friends of Reading University will be meeting for a drink at the poolside bar of the City Lodge Hotel on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> of August at 19h00.</p>
<p><b>Purdue University Reunion</b>          Graduates and friends of Purdue University are invited to a reunion Tuesday, August 19, 19:15-20:30 in the Hilton Hotel, Floor M Mkhomazi Room.</p>	<p><b>Michigan State University Conference Dinner</b>          Staff and alumni will have at least one table at the Conference dinner on Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> of August. Please hand in your name and dinner voucher at the registration desk.          Mike Weber &amp; Thomas Jayne</p>
<p><b>Cornell Table at Conference Dinner</b>          Alumni and friends of Cornell University are cordially invited to join other Cornellians for dinner at one of the Cornell tables at the Conference Dinner on Thursday evening at 7:00pm. Please sign up for one of the Cornell Tables by leaving <b>your name and dinner voucher</b> at the conference dinner desk at registration by Wednesday noon. Questions? Contact David Lee by leaving a message on the message board next to the registration desk.</p>	
<p><b>Wageningen Dinner</b>          Staff and Graduates of Wageningen University and Research Centre will meet for dinner on Tuesday, 19 August, at 7:00 pm. We gather after the IAAE meetings in the Central Hall of the ICC. Contact: Vinnus Zachariasse and/or Ruerd Ruben.</p>	
<p><b>Canadian members</b>          IAAE members from <u>Canada</u> will meet for dinner at 8 p.m. (20:00h) on Tuesday at the Jewel of India in the Holiday Inn Elangeni.</p>	

## Notice

### Reminder- Magagula Remembrance Dinner

Friends and colleagues of the late Prof. Glenn Magagula, Univ. of Swaziland.

The dinner honouring Glenn will be held Tues, Aug 19 at 7:30PM in the Ballroom, at The Hilton Hotel.

Those who may have inadvertently received invitations, please contact Rose Ali 082 3717923 or at Room 1421, Hilton Hotel.

## Notice

### Conference Questionnaire

It is important for the organisers of the next IAAE that the 2003 organising committee hand over as much information as possible. We cannot do that without your assistance. Please complete the questionnaire and return to the Registration Desk – a lucky draw will take place at the end of the conference for all those who submit their questionnaires.

## Notice

<p><b>Airport Transfers</b> Please be reminded that return Airport Transfers will only be available until Saturday 23 August 2003. Should you wish to make alternative arrangements, please see Michelle at the Travel/Tours desk.</p>	<p><b>All SAA Travellers</b> If you have travelled to the conference on SAA, please give a photostat copy of your flight ticket to Michelle at the Travel/Tours desk in order to qualify for a prize. The draw will be announced during the conference.</p>
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## Notice

### Lunch Vouchers

Lunch vouchers are still available at the Registration Desk at a cost of US\$10

## Notice

### Technical Tours, Wednesday 20 August 2003

Tour	Time	Meeting Place
Agricultural and Rural Development Tour	13h00	Outside the ICC at the front entrance.
Agri-Business Tour	13h00	Outside the ICC at the front entrance.
Commercial Wildlife and Eco-Tourism Tour	11h45	Outside the ICC at the front entrance.
Medical Plants Tour	12h45	Outside the ICC at the front entrance.
Oribi Gorge Nature Reserve: Scenic Tour	12h15	Outside the ICC at the front entrance.

### From our Cricket Correspondent

England's slightly sub-standard performance against South Africa in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Test was not really surprising, and their typically outstanding performance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Test was quite remarkable in the circumstances – because none of their best players were in the team. Boycott, Grower, Trueman, Cowdrey, Hutton, Compton & W.G. Grace were all unavailable. However, if they are included in the team for the 4<sup>th</sup> Test, the series will be won! (More inside information tomorrow.)

## Recommended South African Books

### Coffee Table

Looking for the perfect gift to take back to friends or relatives? We have a wide range of coffee table books with stunning photography about Africa, its people, culture, flora & fauna.

Craig Fraser's **Shack Chic** (R346.00) takes a look at the ingenuity of South Africa's population of shanty town dwellers and their innovative use of materials to create a uniquely South African variety of interior design.

If you want to know more about the indigenous peoples of South Africa, then take a look at Peter Magubane's **Vanishing Cultures of South Africa** (R254.00).

Finally, for the nature lovers there is Thomas Pakenham's **Remarkable Trees of the World** (R274.00), a photographic guide to exotic and interesting trees from around the world.

All the books are available at Exclusive Books (Durban International Airport).

## South African Trivia

<b>Language</b>		
<b>South Africa has 11 official languages: Afrikaans, English, Ndebele, Pedi, Sotho, Swazi, Tsonga, Tswana, Venda, Xhosa and Zulu.</b>		
<b>Slang:</b>	<b>Zulu:</b>	<b>Afrikaans:</b>
Howzit! - Hallo, how's things? Okes / Okies - Blokes/Guys Cheers - Goodbye, thanks China – Friend Cherry - Girl, girlfriend Boet – Brother Robot - Traffic Light Fundi - Expert at something Braai – Barbecue Bioscope – Movie	Yebo – Yes Tsha – No Sawubona – Hallo Kunjani?- How are you? Sekona - I am well Tsotsi - Criminal, gangster Hamba!- Go! Yabonga – Thanks Baba – Sir Madala - Old man	Lekker - Delicious, wonderful Dagsê – Hallo Eina!- Ouch! Waai – Go Wors – Sausage Bakkie - Pickup Truck Gogga – Insect Mooi - Pretty, great Voetsek! - Go Away! Totsiens – Goodbye Meneer – Sir Stukkie - Girl, girlfriend Bliksem - To hit, unpleasant guy

Source: [www.insanetree.com](http://www.insanetree.com)

### Jokes of the Day

WalMart opens a large superstore in a small town on a large lot opposite an old family grocery store. On day one the grocery store puts a sign in the window “special offer, beef 50% of normal price”. A week later the offer goes to 75%. An irate manager from WalMart comes across and says: “What the hell do you think you are doing, carry on like this and someone is going out of business.” The grocery store owner says, “Oh you think so, eh!” “Sure” says the WalMart man “And it will be you.” “No” says the grocery owner, “we don’t sell beef”.

The trouble with economists (not agricultural economists) is that they are so boring, unimaginative and lack any sense of adventure. For example, an economist is walking across the university campus when a fellow economist came along riding a bicycle.

“Hello John”, said the first “Where did you get that bike?”

“Well,” replies his colleague last evening I was walking along here when a beautiful girl came up riding this bike. She stopped, put the bike on the ground, then took off all her clothes and said “Please, you can have anything you want”

“You made a good choice” said the first economist. “The clothes wouldn’t have suited you anyway”

### Quotable Quotes

Rexford D Tugwell at the 1949 Conference in Stresa, Italy, on the preconditions for economic development in what were then still called ‘backward or non-industrialized areas’:

*“ ... I had in mind an implication running a good deal beyond a certain amount of international relief work ... The real doubt whether such a transformation will occur illustrates one distinction I have been trying to make here – whether industrial advance is to be used to benefit the elite or to transform a whole social organism ... ”*

Leonard K Elmhirst, in the Preface to the proceedings of the Eighth Conference in East Lansing, Michigan (1952), made the following comment, which is still valid today:

*“ We deal sometimes with technical and sometimes highly controversial matters and if the folks from differing backgrounds are to be able to get the true grasp of each other’s problems they must speak frankly, even with emotion, but always ready to salt their more serious reflections with a pinch of humour. As the*

*membership of the Conference grows and the size of our meetings increases, the task of getting the right atmosphere of friendly informality becomes progressively difficult...*

There is an early, alliterative, statement by Theodore W Schultz of his 'poor but efficient' hypothesis in his presentation to the 1952 Conference at East Lansing:

*"But when I compare the findings of Arthur Mosher, which appear in his PhD thesis, on the effects of religion and tradition on farm production in India with the better farm management studies that have appeared in Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana, there is a strong presumption that given the institutional conditions under which the cultivator in India operates he does about as satisfactory a job of farming as does the corn-belt farmer under other and much more favourable circumstances."*

W Arthur Lewis at the Tenth Conference in Mysore, India, on one of the basic tenets of our profession:

*"If the demand for food grows slowly while productivity grows rapidly, the terms of trade must move against the farmer unless the proportion of the population engaged in agriculture contracts. Poets and other romantics have always deplored this change but it is inevitable in the arithmetic. So far as the agricultural economist is concerned, the main remedy for the farmer's ills must always be to have fewer farmers."*

In responding to the paper of Lewis, D Gale Johnson quoted the English economist JS Nicholson, who wrote the following in 1906:

*"One of the most remarkable results obtained from the application of inductive and historical methods to economics is that wages in agriculture are generally lower than wages in other industries that involve similar hardships and require similar skill. So universal is this relative depression of agricultural wages, that in the matter of economic laws or tendencies it ought to take first place. The tendency to depressed wages in agriculture is certainly much less liable to be counteracted than the celebrated tendency to diminishing returns in agricultural production."*

Prof G Mackenroth, Institut für Weltwirtschaft, Kiel, Germany, at the Fifth Conference (1938):

*"The development from free international exchange of goods to forms of direct or indirect state control is world-wide for agricultural products and cannot be reversed ..."*