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INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE

The International Institute of Agriculture has just published its first International Yearbook of Agricultural statistics, (*Annuaire international de statistique agricole*, 1910), which is a collection of statistical tables systematically grouped, and containing figures of area and production of the principal crops and for the numbers of live stock, during the decennial period 1901—1910, in the countries adhering to the Institute, which are now 50 in number and include almost the whole of the civilized world.

The first part of the Yearbook contains tables showing the area and population of the various countries.

The second part shows the agricultural distribution of the total area of each country, firstly, into the two principal divisions of productive and unproductive area, and secondly, the sub-division of the former into: Arable land; untitled meadow land and pastures; Vineyards; Gardens and Orchards; other crops woods and forests; marsh, heath and uncultivated land. The class "arable land," being the most important of these divisions, and containing the greatest variety of crops, has in its turn also been sub-divided bringing into evidence the cereal crops and the fodder crops, and grouping into a single class all the other crops on arable land.

The third part of the Yearbook is addicted to individual crops and gives the area, production, and yield per hectare for cereal crops (wheat, rye, barley, oats, maize and rice, potatoes, sugarbeet and sugarcane, vineyards and oliveyards, coffee, hops, tobacco, cotton and flax, mulberry trees and cocoons.

The latter part of the volume is occupied by tables showing the numbers of live stock in the various adhering countries, the classes considered being cattle, horses, asses, sheep, goats and pigs.

All figures contained in the volume are official, having been either extracted

from official publications, or supplied to the Institute by correspondents authorized by the respective Governments. In order to add to the comparability of the tables, all figures of area have been given in hectares (except those showing the total area of each country, which are expressed in square kilometres,) and all figures of production, in quintals (except for the production of wine, which has been expressed in hectoliters, and the production of cocoons, which is given in kilogrammes.)

In all tables dealing with area, production, and yield per hectare two quinquennial averages (1901—1905 and 1906—1910) and one decennial average (1901—1910) have been calculated, and in order to bring into evidence the variations which have occurred in the area and production of certain crops during the decennial period tables have been added showing the index numbers of area and production, the figures for the first year (1901) having been made equal to 100.

The scope of this Yearbook is twofold; in the first place it shows what progress has been made up to the present time in the organization of agricultural statistics, and, secondly, gives the results obtained from such statistics. The tables, which extend over a period of 10 years, and include a long list of countries, make known the area and production of crops, and the years for which the figures exist. Figures from all countries having been expressed in the same measures, and grouped into tables which are at the same time concise and easily intelligible, and figures having been added showing the yield per hectare, index numbers, average productions, and summaries by continents, etc., the reader may easily form an opinion of the evolution of agriculture either in individual countries or in the whole group of countries adhering to the Institute.

The volume may be purchased from the International Institute of Agriculture (Villa Umberto I—Rome) and from the principal booksellers at 5 francs.