



The competitiveness among European regions: The concentration and the specialisation in agriculture

5.1.1

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The aim of this work is to analyse the specialisation and concentration of the main agricultural productions (cereals, fruits, vegetables, wine, olive oil, milk, beef, pork and poultry) in the European regions. In fact, the competitiveness for the agricultural products, is more and more among regional system of production instead than among countries. The concentration of production will be analysed by appropriate indexes (Gini, Theil...). For the specialisation process we will show how the changing position of the different European regions will depend upon change of the production structure or the growth of production (using shift-share analysis from 1983 to 1993).

LCA - An important environment tool for the European food industry

5.1.2

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Abstract was not available at time of printing.

Quality management of food

5.1.3

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In this paper a special attention has been paid to the definition of "quality", its main characteristics, and the chain of responsibilities for food products quality. The total quality management (TQM) has been presented as an integrated approach and as the main business strategy of the company that require a revolution of thought in the field of management. The series of standards ISO 9000, conception HACCP and GMP has been presented as one of the powerful levers for quality assurance in food industries.

Differences in German consumer concerns over suggested health and food hazards

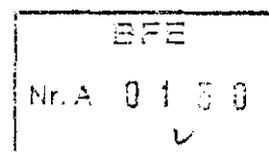
5.1.4

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There is an ongoing controversy about the proper information and perception of food-related risks. While experts state an excellent standard of food quality and faulty dealing with foods ranks as highest hazard, German people mostly fear 'chemicals in foods'. In order to investigate this complex information process, the institute monitors German mass media regarding food and nutrition related issues and since 1992 trends in food-related consumer concerns by annual surveys.

The results of six consecutive surveys indicated, that nutrition related concerns are rather stable. Overall they are higher in West Germany, but people in East Germany have adjust their perception, e.g. they classify risk related to pesticides almost as high as western people. Risks attributed to gene technology in foods are no longer increasing, but unfortunately risks due to spoiled foods are failed to recognise.

163
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