

## **"WHY AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS ARE IMPORTANT"**

A person's judgement is no better than his or her facts, and these statistics are basic facts of agriculture.

They provide an accurate, unbiased picture of Indiana's agriculture. The facts on present and prospective supplies furnish a sound basis of judgement and action by farmers, ranchers, other individuals, the business community, transportation companies, crop and livestock interests, and governmental agencies.

They reduce the amount of speculation in farm products. Speculation thrives on uncertainty. Unbiased official agriculture reports reduce uncertainty which limits speculation.

They eliminate the ill effects of misleading reports that might be circulated for private gain, if there were no official reports.

They give producers the same foresight to future price trends that organized dealers possess.

They aid farmers and ranchers in planning their production and marketing.

They are essential in enacting wise legislation affecting agriculture.

They are a check on fluctuation in price. Uncertainty of supply promotes undue fluctuation in price.

They are the basis of analysis of agriculture and other business conditions.

They are a guide to farm resources and for developing new resources such as irrigation, electric power, location of food processors, and other marketing outlets.

They are the best basis for adjusting supply to demand which is highly essential if maximum price is to prevail.

They give information on surplus and deficit areas of production making possible a more economical distribution of products.

They give information about supplies of agricultural products to anyone trying to develop new markets for these products.

They indicate potential buying power thereby enabling the manufacturer to meet the probable demand. With economical production and distribution, the manufacturer can sell at a lower price than with uncertain demand.