ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS PROGRAMS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS

David Mulkey and Alan W. Hodges

Florida FIRST is a strategic planning process to enhance the University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) mandate for serving Florida and its food, agriculture, natural and human resource sectors. As a part of that initiative, the Department of Food and Resource Economics (FRED) is developing a special program emphasis in economic impact analysis focused on Florida’s agricultural and natural resource based industries.¹

The Economic Impact Analysis Program is housed in FRED and supported by a group of faculty with expertise in regional, marine, and natural resource economics. Activities focus on data collection and analytical studies designed to enhance the understanding of natural resource based industries and their role in the Florida economy.

Specific objectives of the Economic Impact Analysis Program are listed below.

- Compile and maintain a comprehensive information base on economic activity in Florida’s natural resource based industries.
- Conduct economic impact analyses of various natural resource based commodity sectors and service industries for counties and regions of Florida.
- Publish results of analyses in a form suitable for policymakers, industry officials and the general public.
- Conduct in-depth economic impact studies as sponsored projects for industry and government clientele groups.
- Support needs for economic impact information with the UF/IFAS organization for purposes of program and proposal development.

Faculty members are also available to provide technical assistance to industry groups, government agencies and local communities and to conduct specific research projects involving detailed analysis of specific industries, regions or situations. A list of faculty who support the economic impact work is included as Table 1 with telephone numbers and email addresses.

Implan Software and Databases

Much of the economic impact analysis work depends on the ability to estimate the total effect on a local or regional economy from changes that take place within a particular industry. These estimations depend on input-output models that quantify the interactions between firms and industries and social institutions within a particular study region.²

IMPLAN is a computer software package that consists of procedures for estimating local input-output models and associated databases.³ The acronym is for Impact Analyses and Planning. IMPLAN was originally developed by the U.S. Forest Service in cooperation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Land Management. IMPLAN is available

¹ The authors are, respectively, Professor and Coordinator of Economic Analysis, Department of Food and Resource Economics, University of Florida, IFAS, Gainesville, Florida.
under license from the Minnesota Implan Group, Inc.

IMPLAN is based on data collected by the U.S. Department of Commerce, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and other federal and state Data are compiled by Standard Industrial Categories for 528 industry sectors of the national economy, and corresponding data sets are produced for each county in the United States. Databases allow analyses at the county level and for geographic aggregations such as clusters of contiguous counties, individual states or groups of states.

The Department of Food and Resource Economics at UF/IFAS is a licensed user of IMPLAN software. The department maintains current databases for Florida and for all counties within Florida.

Services Available to Industry and Government Clients

Regional Economic Analysis: The primary function of the Economic Impact Analysis Program is analytical studies, which are focused on the general area of economic impacts. Activities and services available include:

- construction of regional economic models at the county, region or state level using Implan software and databases,
- economic impact analysis of industry activity, commodity production, special events, government regulations or policies, industrial or community development projects and business locations,
- evaluation of economic linkages among industries, institutions and households, and
- business analysis and budgeting for agricultural and natural resource operations.

Survey Research: A variety of economic and market survey research activities are available through the Economic Impact Analysis Program and the Florida Agricultural Market Research Center in FRED. Services available include:

- survey questionnaire and statistical sampling design, and mail and telephone survey implementation,
- measurements of industry or commodity output, imports and exports, employment, and value added, and profiles of industry or market structure, production and marketing practices,
- measurement of consumer expenditures, purchasing patterns, opinions, preferences and expectations, and
- valuation of non-market or non-monetary goods, services and natural resources.

Other: A number of other, general, research services are available through the Economic Impact Analysis Program or other FRED programs. Available services include research project management, literature reviews, report preparation and peer review and dissemination of research results to include publications, presentations, seminars and training programs.

Project Examples

A number of special projects have been completed within recent months and several others are currently in progress. Several are listed here to provide examples of the type of projects undertaken by the economic impact group in FRED.


Development of an Economic Impact Assessment Methodology for the Occurrence of Red Tide. Funding provided by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for 1999 with continued funding for 2000.


Economic Impact of the Florida Apiculture (Beekeeping) Industry. Funding provided by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Final report due September 2000.


Publications Available

A number of publications, county level data and other information are available through our web site. Publications are listed below.

http://www.fred.ifas.ufl.edu/impact

Economic Importance of Florida’s Horticultural Industry. Alan W. Hodges, and John J. Haydu.

Impact of Hurricane Andrew on Ornamental Nursery Profitability in Dade County, Florida. DeArmand Hull and Alan W. Hodges.


An Assessment of the Economic Importance of the San Carlos Island Shrimp Processing Industry to the Lee County Economy. Charles Adams, David Mulkey and Alan Hodges.

The Economy of Manatee and Sarasota Counties. Effie Philippakos, Alan W. Hodges, David Mulkey and Chuck Adams.


Economic Impact of Agriculture and Agribusiness in Dade County, Florida. Robert L. Degner, Susan D. Moss and David Mulkey.

Contact Us

Interested individuals or agencies may contact us directly at the addresses provided below.

David Mulkey or Alan Hodges
PO Box 110240
Gainesville, Fl 32611-0240

Telephone: (352) 392-1854
Mulkey ext. 406, Hodges ext. 312

mulkey@fred.ifas.ufl.edu
hodges@fred.ifas.ufl.edu

We may also be contacted through the local UF/IFAS Cooperative Extension Office located in each county in Florida. Office locations and telephone numbers are available at the following web site.

http://www.ifas.ufl.edu/www/extension
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Area of Expertise</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Janaki R.R. Alavalapati</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Forestry Resources</td>
<td>(352) 846-0899</td>
<td><a href="mailto:janaki@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu">janaki@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles M. Adams</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Marine Resources</td>
<td>(352) 392-1826 x223</td>
<td><a href="mailto:adams@fred.ifas.ufl.edu">adams@fred.ifas.ufl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothy A. Comer</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>(352) 392-1826 x213</td>
<td><a href="mailto:comer@fred.ifas.ufl.edu">comer@fred.ifas.ufl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Degner</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>(352) 392-1871 x454</td>
<td><a href="mailto:degner@fred.ifas.ufl.edu">degner@fred.ifas.ufl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Gordon</td>
<td>Professor and Chair</td>
<td>Public Policy</td>
<td>(352) 392-1826 x206</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Gordon@fred.ifasu.ufl.edu">Gordon@fred.ifasu.ufl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Haydu</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Ornamental Horticulture</td>
<td>(407) 884-2034</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jih@icon.apk.ufl.edu">jih@icon.apk.ufl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan Hodges</td>
<td>Coordinator of Economic Analysis</td>
<td>Economic Analysis, Ornamental Horticulture</td>
<td>(352) 392-1845 x312</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hodges@fred.ifas.ufl.edu">hodges@fred.ifas.ufl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Walter Milon</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>(352) 392-1881 x301</td>
<td><a href="mailto:milon@fred.ifas.ufl.edu">milon@fred.ifas.ufl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Mulkey</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Regional Resources</td>
<td>(352) 392-1845 x406</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mulkey@fred.ifas.ufl.edu">mulkey@fred.ifas.ufl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fritz Roka</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Economics of South Florida Region</td>
<td>(941) 658-3400</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fmro@icon.imok.ufl.edu">fmro@icon.imok.ufl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Zimet</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Economics of North Florida Region</td>
<td>(850) 875-7125</td>
<td><a href="mailto:djz@icon.qcy.ufl.edu">djz@icon.qcy.ufl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>