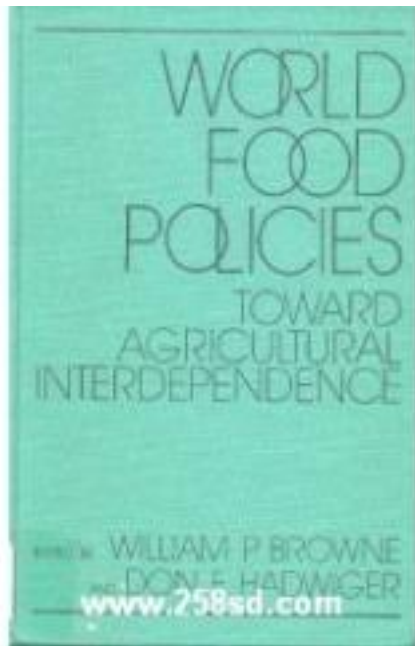


World Food Policies: Toward Agricultural Interdependence



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著者:

出版者:

出版时间:

装帧:

isbn:9780931477799

Preface
The editors and the sponsors of this book address a subject that needs much attention~national food policies as the setting for international food depend-ency. We regard this book primarily as a way in which scholars of public pol-icy-in this case political scientists---can offer their insights on dais subject to an interested audience that includes those who make food policy. The world food situation is a product of interdependent food systems. Countries with developing agriculture as well as those with highly developed systems depend upon food exports for income; and increasingly they also de-pend upon imports for adequate quantity and variety of food. Even in the de-velopment of

domestic agriculture have been and still are very much dependent upon others for capital, organizational energy, technology, and Skills. This interdependence is achieved within an environment of national public policy and subnational group interests that are predictably oriented to national and subnational group interests. One could say that interdependence is achieved within a highly flagmented protectionist policy framework. The intent of this book is to examine that paradox keeping in mind that a better understanding of the relationship between public policy and interdependence will enhance our capacity to assure sufficient supplies of food for the world's expanding population. Both the editors and sponsors of this book are very much aware that decisions on food policy have been and are being made in many governments. Directions for food assistance are being debated everywhere. In 1985 for example the U.S. Congress was confronted with the need to write a new farm bill. It also considered revisions of U.S. trade, diplomatic, fiscal, and monetary policies in ways that heavily impact upon the U.S. agricultural system. Confusion reigned. Domestic protectionism and international interdependence were sources of irreconcilable conflict. Eurocentric history and economic theory have sought more information on international linkages. To find our authors we searched the scholarly literature, consulted leading experts, and examined the present and future program agendas of academic conferences of political scientists, economists, sociologists, and historians as well as the interdisciplinary International Studies Association.

作者介绍:

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