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Future Prediction of the Demand for Animal Protein in Egypt

Predicting the future demand for food products in general and animal protein in particular is an important economic method to identify future consumption and thus help decision makers to determine the size of production that commensurate with this consumption as well as the volume of imports of different commodities to bridge the gap between production and consumption. The problem of the study is the growing gap between the production and consumption of animal protein in the Egypt, due to the increase in the population at a rate higher than the rate of increase in production of animal protein, where the local production of animal meat was about 830 thousand tons, while domestic consumption is 1077 thousand tons, which means that there is a gap of about 247 thousand tons, the domestic production of white meat is about 872 thousand tons, while the domestic consumption amounted to 893 thousand tons. Which means that there is a gap of about 21 thousand tons, while the domestic production of fish is about 955 thousand tons? While the domestic consumption amounted to 1176 thousand tons, which means that there is a gap of about 221 thousand tons during the average period of (1995-2015). In addition to the absence of information of consumption and the future demand of animal protein in Egypt and the lack of vision among decision makers in determining the size of production that satisfies the future demand as well as the volume of imports of this protein to bridge the gap between production and consumption. The study aims to identify the current status of production and consumption of animal protein in Egypt, and predict consumption or future demand of animal protein. The study relied on secondary data; it is also relied on the prediction of the future consumption of both Poultry and fish meat, by using the current consumption rates of the studied commodity and by knowing the population growth rates and the rates of growth of the national income. Also, the elasticity of the income demand of each commodity through its consumption rates and the national income and the future consumption of the commodity. The results of the study indicate that the elasticity of the income demand for meat, poultry and fish is estimated at 0.29, 0.42 and 0.61, respectively. This means that meat, poultry and fish are essential commodities, also shows that by increasing the national income by 1%, the quantities consumed of meat. Poultry and fish are increasing by 0.29%, 0.42% and 0.61%, respectively. Future consumption of meat was predicted in the future (2019, 2020, 2022 and 2025)



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which is 1816, 1883, 2025 and 2257 thousand tons, respectively and the future consumption of poultry meat in (2019, 2020, 2022 and 2025) will reach 1430, 1493, 1630 and 1858 thousand tons, respectively and the future consumption of fish in the years (2019, 2020, 2022 and 2025) will reach 2145, 2266, 2527 and 2977 thousand tons. It is clear that there is an expected continuous increase in the future consumption of animal protein, so decision-makers should take this into consideration when putting productivity policies to cope with the expected increase in consumption.

Keywords: Demand, animal protein, future prediction, national income, elasticity factor.