MILK COMPOSITION AND FARM BUSINESS CHARACTERISTICS: SUR ESTIMATION OF PRODUCTION FUNCTIONS VERSUS AN OUTPUT DISTANCE FUNCTION

A Thesis
Presented to the Faculty of the Graduate School of Cornell University
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science

by
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January 2007
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Jaesung Cho was born in Korea on September 27, 1977. Throughout his entire childhood, he worked on his parents’ pig farm in Korea. This experience naturally encouraged him to study farm management and livestock production.

He has studied the livestock industry in several different places. First, he studied livestock management from 1996-7, at Konkuk University in Seoul, Korea, where he was awarded several scholarships. Then, after completing 26 months of compulsory military service in Korea, he went to IPC Barneveld in the Netherlands for one year (2000-2001) to study more technical skills and gain more knowledge about animal production; he completed two programs there: pig husbandry and animal feed training. During these courses, he conducted two pilot projects where he created plans for establishing a small feed mill and increasing profits for a medium-scale pig farm.

As an exchange student, from August 2002 to May 2003, he studied at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in order to learn about the American agricultural market system. This educational experience encouraged him to further his studies in the U.S.

After he graduated from Konkuk University with a bachelor’s degree in livestock management in 2003, he entered Cornell University as a graduate student in applied economics. He focused his graduate studies at Cornell on quantitative method and economic theory courses, especially those related to farm management, production economics, and the dairy industry. He completed his Master’s of Science degree in 2007, and he is currently working on a PhD at Cornell University.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

First, my deepest thanks go to my graduate committee chair, Professor Loren W. Tauer. Without his sage advice and kind support throughout every stage of this thesis, it would not have been possible for me to complete this thesis. His depth of insight on the diary industry inspired me to start my research on milk production, and his outstanding expertise lead me to explore and complete this research. I also admire his patience with my academic and research development. I am sincerely honored to have had the opportunity to research with him at Cornell University.

I would like to express my deep gratitude for the encouragement and advice of my committee minor member, Professor Thomas R. Overton. His excellent knowledge and deep experience on New York dairy farms greatly helped me to understand milk production and diary nutrition. His valuable advice and suggestions on my research made it possible to complete this thesis.

I am very grateful to Professor Seung-Churl Choi, who is a professor at Konkuk University in Seoul, Korea. He encouraged me to study abroad and gave me ongoing advice and pushed me to further study agricultural economics. I am also thankful to my friend, Michelle Goodrich, who helped me to use better English to write this thesis.

Lastly, but especially, I would like to thank my family. Without their endless love and support, it would have been impossible for me to complete my graduate studies at Cornell University. In particular, thanks to my wife, Ina, for her dedication during last two years.
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