

The Status of EAA in China and Its Reform Ideas

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Abstract: Agriculture is an important sector in China. The value-added of agriculture took a share of 11.8 percent to GDP in 2006. The EAA (Economic Accounts for Agriculture) is the basis of national economic accounts. The value-added of agriculture is a comprehensive indicator in reflecting agriculture production. Before the year 2000, the calculation of growth rate of China's agriculture output value was based on constant price in 1990. However, along with the emerging of new products, the variety and quality structure of agricultural products had changed greatly; therefore, the structure of agricultural products and their price levels, which were determined in 1990 for the calculation of agriculture growth rate, no longer reflect the current structure of agricultural products and changes in their prices. So, in 2000, NBS improved the list of agricultural products for the calculation of gross output in agriculture, and developed a survey on producer prices of agricultural products. In 2003, the price deflator method was applied. Moreover, NBS strengthened the management of the EAA at the provincial level, focusing on the areas of coverage, methods, data sources, data checking standards and data utilization, which makes the EAA more systematic and specific.

This article introduces the coverage of the EAA in China, the collection of basic data, the calculating methods for quarterly and annual gross output value of agriculture, its value-added and its growth rate, as well as the management on accounting results. The article also indicates some problems in China's EAA, and suggestions on improving China's EAA in the future.