Codebook: Wages of Agricultural Day-Laborers in England, 1740-1850


Since not all individuals of the same sex received the same wages, some explanation is needed of how I arrived at one wage for each gender in each season. For observations where the variable “Isolate Wage Quote” is equal to one, the source provided only one male and one female wage. In other cases the full record of wages paid to all workers was available, and the wage recorded for each season is the median wage paid to individuals of that gender. Using the median wage gives a wage for adult men and women, rather than children.

Definition of Variables:

1) County
   County in which the farm was located.

2) Year
   Date of the observation.

3) Mwinter
   Male winter wage, in pence per day.
   Winter is defined as October to May.

4) Msummer
   Male summer wage, in pence per day.
   Summer is defined as June through September, except for harvest (where harvest is the time of peak wages).

5) M harvest
   Male harvest wage, in pence per day.
   Harvest is identified as the time when the highest wages were paid. If wages were constant all summer, then the harvest wage equals the summer wage.

6) Fwinter
   Female winter wage, in pence per day.
   Winter is defined as October to May.

7) Fsummer
   Female summer wage, in pence per day.
   Summer is defined as June through September, except for harvest (where harvest is the time of peak wages).

8) F harvest
   Female harvest wage, in pence per day.
Harvest is identified as the time when the highest wages were paid. If wages were constant all summer, then the harvest wage equals the summer wage.

9) Farm No
Unique identifier for each farm. Some farms appear only once. Other farms have multiple observations at different dates. Some numbers are not used.

10) Isolated Wage Quote
Equal to one if the wage was determined from one wage observation rather than a complete accounts.

11) H74region
Region 1 includes Essex, Kent, Middlesex, and Surrey.
Region 2 includes Cornwall, Devonshire, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset, and Wiltshire.
Region 3 includes Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, and Suffolk.
Regions 4 and 5 are in Wales, and are not used.
Region 6 includes Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire, and Warwickshire.
Region 7 includes Lincolnshire, Rutland, and the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire.
Region 8 includes Cheshire, Lancashire, and the West Riding of Yorkshire.
Region 9 includes Cumberland and Westmorland.
Region 10 includes Durham and Northumberland.

12) CottageInd
Prevalence of cottage industry in 1851. Number of females in the county employed in the occupations straw hat and bonnetmaker, glover, embroiderer, straw plait manufacturer, and lace manufacturer, divided by the number of females age 20 and over in the county, from the 1851 census. *Source*: BPP 1852-53 LXXXVIII.

**Sources:**
Bedford Record Office OR 1370, OR 1373
Berkshire Record Office, D/EWE/A13, D/ESv(M) F54, D/ELV E68, D/ELV E71-72
Buckingham Record Office D/C/2/45, D/LE/8/64, D/DR/2/166-8, D/X 958/1, D85/13/1
Devon Record Office 346M/E6, 8, 10-11, 13, 1508M Labour books V10
Dorset Record Office D/FRA D29/E2, D83/22
Durham Record Office, D/Sa/E177, D/Sa/E762, D/Sa/E181, D/Sa/E768, D/St/E5/21/68-69
Essex Record Office D/DJn/E5, D/DOp/E15, D/DBs/A3, D/DU 441/52, D/DP/A214
Gloucestershire Record Office D1571 A12-14, A21-48
Hampshire Record Office, 35M63/18, 2M37/341-343, 142M84/14, 41M63/5
Hertford Record Office  D/DE/115, 61589, 18104, 48686,  D/EB/1118/E1, D/EB 1297 E2,  D/ER/110, D/EP EA 50/1-2, D/EL B300
Huntingdon Record Office  ddM5/5, ddM44D/7
Kent Record Office, U269/A49/2, U269/A60-61, U593/A7, U593/A10
Lancashire Record Office DDHE 62/35
Lincoln Record Office, 3 Anc 6/24, Misc Dep 150/2, Dixon 4/6, Dixon 5/4/2, Brace 23/8/1, SE 19/3
Northampton Record Office, G2580, T(KEL) 126, TS 66/2, F(M) Misc Vol. 239
Northumberland Record Office (North Gosforth) ZBL 283/1-2, ZCL.A
North Yorkshire Record Office Z862/1, ZW III 7/3, Z1026
Nottinghamshire Record Office, 213/5-7, 213/11, 213/21, DDE 1/5 & 12, DDE 3/24, DD5P/4/1, DDSJ/36, DD1571/11
Rural History Center, University of Reading  BED 5/2/1, BUC 11/1/11, DOR 8/1/1, GLO 1/2/1-5, KEN 4/7/2, OXF 11/1/1, SAL 5/1/1, SUR 2/1/1-2, P242, P245, P262, P320, P338, DX 1393
Sheffield Archives OD 1518
Shropshire Record Office, 552/10/849, 5586/5/17/22, 5586/5/17/29, 5586/5/17/32, D3651/B/20/3/3/9
Somerset Record Office, DD/TB/Box 14/11, DD/X/REE/1, DD/TD/Box 17, DD/FS 7/4, DD/L 1/5/16
West Yorkshire Archives Service, Leeds, TN/EA/12/11, WYL250/3/222