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East Meon bailiwick, 1350-1410; 11.3 Percentage of augmented virgates on the Taunton manors, 1350-1410; 11.4 Percentage of augmented half virgates on the Taunton manors, 1350-1410; 11.5 Percentage of augmented quarter virgates on the Taunton manors, 1350-1410; 11.6 Percentage of augmented virgates in the East Meon bailiwick, 189 1350-1410; 11.7 Percentage of augmented half virgates in the East Meon bailiwick, 1350-1410; 11.8 Transfer of cottages and quarter virgates (ferlings) as a percentage of total transfers: Taunton bailiwick; List of Tables ; 2.1 Price movements (five year averages), 1350-79; 2.2 Price movements (five year averages), 1370-1414; 2.3 Price movements (five year averages), 1405-39; 2.4 Price movements (five year averages), 1430-54; 2.5 Indices of sown acreages and total livestock units at Wisbech Barton (Cambridgeshire) (five year averages), 1350-1429; 2.6 Index of numbers of ewes and wethers at Crawley (Hampshire) (five year averages), 1350-1449; 2.7 Numbers of sheep and dairy cattle at Wisbech Barton (Cambridgeshire) (five year averages), 1350-1429; 2.8 Population index for Great Waltham and High Easter (Essex) (five year averages), 1350-1454; 3.1 Harvest classifications compared (Durham wheat prices with national price series); 3.2a Frequency of runs of low price years, 1350-1500 (wheat); 3.2b Frequency of runs of high price years, 1350-1500 (wheat); 3.3 Decennial correlations of regional wheat prices with a national series (Thorold Rogers); 3.4 Durham Priory: decennial correlations of wheat prices with barley and oats, 1330-1500; 3.5 Decennial correlations of wheat and rye prices, 1460-1500; 4.1 Assized prices of wheat and malt in Aberdeen, 1398-1462; 7.1 Arable production in the Cambresis (after Neveux); 8.1 Parish tithes and demesne crops of five manors, 1270-1338; 8.2 Parish tithes and demesne crops, 1350-1450; 8.3 Tithe production at Meon Church, 1348-1436; 9.1 The distribution of land in the territory of Chieri (Piedmont) in 1327 and 1437

Sommario/riassunto

This is a new collection of essays on agriculture and rural society in the late Middle Ages, in particular following the Black Death. It combines a broad perspective on agrarian issues such as depopulation and social conflict with illustrative material from detailed local and regional research to show how general problems were worked out in specific contexts. The contributors explore the wide regional variety across Europe (which was influenced by climatic differences and broad spatial variables such as levels of urbanisation and commercial infrastructure), yet they argue that a European history is nevertheless possible. They also supply detailed studies from regional British contexts relating to, amongst other issues, the use of the land, the movement of prices, the distribution of property, the organisation of trade and the cohesion of village society. There is new research on several aspects of regional development in medieval England and other European countries: Robert Swanson, a leading authority on the history of the late medieval Church, discusses how the collection of tithes to maintain local clergy in the medieval Church contributed to the commercialisation of trade in grain and other agricultural products; Peter Larson shows how villagers became increasingly prone to violence in the generations following the Black Death, in response to the social upheavals caused by the epidemic. If there is a single overarching idea that gives the collection coherence, it is that trends in agriculture during the late Middle Ages were more varied than has usually been supposed. Taken as a whole, the book supplies a valuable introduction to problems and research methods together with original contributions to knowledge based on current research.

