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Contents; Preface; Chapter 1 Introduction; 1.1 The history of human diet; 1.2 The diet of the hunter-gatherers; 1.3 Demographic change linked to the beginnings of agriculture; 1.4 To which diet is modern man adapted?; 1.5 Consequences of an agricultural life-style; 1.6 Domestication of animals; 1.7 Interactions between demographic pressures and diet; 1.8 Height and nutrition; 1.9 The working class diet in pre-industrial England; Chapter 2 Mortality Oscillations in 404 English Parishes - a Metapopulation Study; 2.1 Use of time-series analysis techniques
2.2 Exogenous oscillations in 404 parishes 2.3 The role of wheat prices in driving exogenous population oscillations; 2.4 Short wavelength oscillation in baptisms in 404 parishes; 2.5 Conclusions; Chapter 3 The Staple Food Supply: Fluctuating Wheat Prices and Malnutrition; 3.1 Hypotheses to account for fluctuating grain prices; 3.2 Sources for the data series; 3.3 Cycles in the wheat price index; 3.4 Oats and barley price indices; 3.5 Correspondence between the grain price indices in England; 3.6 The effect of seasonal temperatures on wheat prices; 3.7 The effect of rainfall on wheat prices
3.8 Wheat prices and short wavelength temperature cycles 3.9 Use of a predicted wheat prices series; 3.10 What drove the different cycles in wheat prices?; 3.11 Rust and other parasitic infestations of grain crops; 3.12 Conclusions; Chapter 4 Famine; 4.1 Major famines in world history; 4.2 The demographic impact of famine; 4.3 Changes in fertility; 4.4 The Bangladesh famine of 1974-5: a case study; 4.5 The Dutch famine of 1944-5: a case study; 4.6 The siege of Leningrad, 1941-4; 4.7 Why do women survive famine better than men?; 4.8 Famines in pre-industrial England
4.9 Famine at Penrith, Cumbria, 1623: a case study 4.10 Interacting economic factors causing famines in northwest England; 4.11 The mortality crisis of 1623 in northwestern England; 4.12 Conclusions; Chapter 5 Long-term Demographic Effects of even a Small Famine; 5.1 Endogenous oscillations in the population at Penrith, Cumbria, England; 5.2 Modelling the population dynamics; 5.3 Incorporation of density-dependent constraints into the matrix model; 5.4 Conclusions: endogenous population oscillations; Chapter 6 Fertility; 6.1 The importance of body fat; 6.2 Adipose tissue
6.3 The role of leptin in the control of fertility 6.4 Menarche; 6.5 Is leptin needed for the initiation of puberty?; 6.6 Nutrition and fertility in the twentieth century; 6.7 Hutterite women: the upper limit of fertility?; 6.8 Fertility in the bushmen of the Kalahari Desert; 6.9 Effects of chronic malnutrition on fertility: a case study; 6.10 Procreative power; 6.11 Fertility in pre-industrial England; 6.12 Breast-feeding, fertility and population growth in the twentieth century; 6.13 The menopause; 6.14 Does malnutrition really affect fecundity?
6.15 Overview of the fertility levels in England during a 400-year period

This exciting and important book covers the impact on demography of the nutrition of populations, offering the view that the change from the hunter-gatherer to an agricultural life-style had a major impact on human demography, which still has repercussions today. Demography and Nutrition takes an interdisciplinary approach, involving time-series analyses, mathematical modelling, aggregative analysis and family reconstitution as well as analysis of data series from Third World countries in the 20th Century. Contents include details and analysis of mortality oscillations, food supplies, famine