Appendix A2: Wages of agricultural workers in Prussia, first half of the nineteenth century

Neumann's compilation is the source for average male day wages of agricultural labourers.[1] Data refer mostly to low-level administrative units (*Kreise*) and individual state domains; information relating to upper-level districts (*Regierungsbezirke*) or whole provinces as well as two extreme values were discarded. Where the information relates to several years, the mean year was coded (+0.5 in the case of an even number of years). A time series of nominal wages was created using unbalanced panel regression on five-year centred averages with time and province fixed effects (Table A2.1).[2] Breusch-Pagan test suggests that the OLS estimate is homoscedastic. Nominal wages of males in centred five-year periods are normalized to the average of all provinces in 1848/52. Comparison with surveys conducted in 1848/50 show that the wage level implicit in Neumann's data is probably too low. Specifically, wages computed on the basis of province fixed effects in the provinces of Pommern, Sachsen and Westphalen are on average only 0.914 times the observed male day wage in 1848/50.[3] This ratio is used to transform the values both for provinces and time periods in the last column of Table A.2.1.

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[1]   *A. Neumann*, Die Bewegung der Löhne der ländlichen "freien" Arbeiter im Zusammenhang mit der gesamtwirtschaftlichen Entwicklung im Königreich Preußen gegenwärtigen Umfangs vom Ausgang des 18. Jahrhunderts bis 1850, Berlin 1911, pp. 276–328.

[2]   See *U. Pfister*, Real wages in Germany during the first phase of industrialization, 1850–1889, this journal, this issue, section 2, for a description of this methodology.

[3]   *A. Meitzen*, Der Boden und die landwirtschaftlichen Verhältnisse des preußischen Staates nach dem Gebietsumfange von 1866, 4 vols., Berlin 1868–9, vol. 2, p. 91.

Table A2.1: Wages of agricultural workers (males) in Prussia, first half of the nineteenth century

	OLS regression estimate		Day wage (Mark)
	Coefficient	Std. Error	Provinces (1850)
(Constant)	4.396	0.048	
Brandenburg	0.122	0.072	1.00
Hannover	-0.114	0.054	0.79
Hessen-Nassau	-0.082	0.055	0.82
Ost/Westpreußen	-0.321	0.061	0.64
Pommern	-0.025	0.066	0.87
Rheinland	0.069	0.058	0.95
Sachsen	-0.247	0.061	0.69
Schlesien	-0.482	0.057	0.55
Schleswig-	-0.071	0.076	0.82
Westfalen			0.88
			Centred five-year periods
1800	-0.029	0.129	0.78
1805	0.029	0.062	0.83
1810	-0.606	0.224	0.44
1815	-0.060	0.059	0.76
1820	0.277	0.054	1.06
1825	-0.098	0.056	0.73
1830	-0.126	0.071	0.71
1835	0.034	0.051	0.83
1840	-0.068	0.078	0.75
1845	-0.111	0.037	0.72
1850			0.80
Marshland	0.381	0.061	1.29
R^2 adj.	0,426		