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2020/07

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Congress

Careers in Dairy Farming - Let's Talk Dairy Webinar - Teagasc

25 June 2020

Event Time 10.30am

Venue Online

Part of a series of webinars for Irish dairy farmers

Gordon Peppard, Teagasc Farm Business Structures Specialist will be joined by farm managers to discuss their entry path into dairy farming.

Links: https://www.teagasc.ie/news--events/national-events/events/careers-in-dairy-farming-.php

Let's Talk Dairy Webinar - Successful farm employment - legal requirements - Teagasc

6 August 2020

Event Time 10:30am

Venue Online



Relevant and practical advice to allow you make better management decisions on your dairy farm.

This webinar on Thursday, 30th July will focus on:

Successful farm employment - legal requirements and is part of a series of weekly webinar series for dairy farmers.

Links: https://www.teagasc.ie/news--events/national-events/events/letstalkdairyemployment.php

Tags: HRM

Publications

Fatal Agricultural Accidents in Kansas: A Thirty-Nine-Year Follow-Up Study with an Emphasis on Vehicular Fatalities

The purpose of this study was to evaluate trends in agricultural mortality before and after implementation of safety initiatives. Retrospective review of Kansas mortality data from agriculture-related injuries from 1979 to 2018. The 39-year period was stratified into four periods to compare mechanisms of injury and fatality rates between study periods. There were 780 agricultural-related deaths. Mean age significantly increased between study Period I to Period IV from 46.4 to 55.3 years (P = 0.013). Tractors remain the primary cause of farm-vehicle mortality overall; however, tractor-related deaths significantly decreased during the study periods from 75.6% to 44.3% (P < 0.001). Tractor rollover mortality also decreased from 50.8% to 25.6% (P = 0.036). ATV-related deaths significantly increased from study Period II to III (5.1% to 23.9%, P < 0.001), but decreased from Period III to IV (23.9% to 17.0%). Tractor-related fatalities are decreasing, but tractors still remain the most dangerous piece of farm equipment. ATV-related fatalities are a continued concern. Continued rural education and emphasis on the use of rollover protection structures is a critical focus in the effort to prevent fatal farming injuries.

Links: https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2020.1795033?af=R

Tags: Health and decent work

Medidas da OIT e da FAO para amenizar os impactos do coronavírus sobre o trabalho na agricultura

No informe anterior discutimos o que os órgãos internacionais de referência (OIT e FAO) vêm falando sobre os impactos do coronavírus no trabalho na agricultura, e quais as categorias de trabalhadores rurais mais vulneráveis a esses impactos. Foram destacados 8 principais impactos. Desse modo, nesse informe e no seguinte serão abordadas as recomendações feitas por esses órgãos internacionais para amenizar esses impactos sobre os trabalhadores rurais.

Vale ressaltar que todos os relatórios desses órgãos concordam que, para implementar medidas de combate aos impactos diretos (na saúde) e indiretos (na economia, e nas questões sociais) do coronavírus, deve-se ter:

- Envolvimento dos atores sociais: organização de empregadores e sindicatos;
- Diálogo com diversos setores: regionais, estaduais, federais e mundiais;
- Parcerias público-privadas para coordenar as medidas.

Links: http://www.cpr.uem.br/images/grupo-agro/19-agro-covid-agro-tema3-texto5.pdf

Tags: Rural Employment, Health and decent work, Policy

Rural youth and the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting all parts of society and livelihoods around the globe. It is though worth recognizing that disadvantaged segments of populations like rural young women and men will be impacted harder, nevertheless, when proactively engaged, they have demonstrated to be innovators in their own sectors to surmount the pandemic impact. As governments and development partners take steps to address the economic and social effects of COVID-19, they should not allow a reversal of the rural youth progress achieved in recent years in terms of inclusion in food systems, access to education, vocational education and training, and access to decent employment. While in the immediate future the majority of global resources will be redirected toward the fight against the virus, rural young women and men, should remain a top priority both during and after the pandemic in order to support them to reach their full potential, allow them to prosper and also ensure a sustainable rural recovery. Furthermore, transforming food systems to be inclusive, sustainable, efficient, healthy and in line with the Sustainable Development Goals, should be connected in all COVID-19 recovery measures.

Links: http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ca9531en

Tags: Youth

Working during COVID-19

The outbreak of COVID-19 and the unprecedented measures taken by many countries to slow down the spread of the coronavirus caused large economic and psychological costs. This paper uses real time survey data from two waves run at the end of March and in mid-April to provide a snapshot of the actual labour market outcomes in twelve countries. Our study reveals large cross-country differences. At the end of March, when large disparity existed in the diffusion of the pandemic and in the lockdown measures, a large share of employed individuals had stopped working in France (38%) and Italy (47%), but much less in Australia (13%) and the US (10%). Large differences remained in mid-April. Yet, some common patterns emerge. Labour market outcomes varied according to workers' educational attainments and occupation types. College graduates and white collars worked more from home and less from the regular workplace. Instead, low educated workers and blue collars were more likely to remain in the regular work place or to stop working. Similar patterns emerge with respect to the workers' (family) income. This evidence suggests that initial labour market effects of COVID-19 (and of the lockdown measures) may have contributed to increase pre-existing inequalities.

Links : https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/working-during-covid-19 34a2c306-en

Tags: Health and decent work

The new hazardous jobs and worker reallocation

This paper analyses several dimensions of workers' safety that are relevant in the context of a pandemic. We provide a classification of occupations according to the risk of contagion: by considering a wider range of job characteristics and a more nuanced assessment of infection risk, we expand on the previous literature that almost exclusively looked at feasibility of working from home. We apply our classification

to the United States and to European countries and we find that roughly 50% of jobs in our sample can be considered safe, although a large cross-country variation exists, notably in the potential incidence of remote working. We find that the most economically vulnerable workers (low-educated, low-wage workers, immigrants, workers on temporary contracts, and part-timers) are over-represented in unsafe jobs, notably in non-essential activities. We assess the nature of the reallocation of workers from unsafe to safe jobs that is likely to take place in the years to come, and the policies that could mitigate the social cost of this reallocation.

Links: https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/the-new-hazardous-jobs-and-worker-reallocation 400cf397-en

Tags: Health and decent work

Évaluation multicritère des performances socio-économiques et environnementales de systèmes viticoles et de scénarios de transition agroécologique

Le défi majeur du monde agricole aujourd'hui est de réduire de facon drastique l'usage des pesticides tout en maintenant un niveau de rendement, de qualité et de rentabilité satisfaisant. Dans le cadre d'un projet de recherche, nous avons étudié l'usage des produits phytosanitaires dans le Bordelais. Nous avons ensuite évalué les performances des systèmes viticoles existants afin de construire des scénarios de changement de pratiques pour réduire le recours aux pesticides, et préserver l'environnement et la santé humaine. Trente-huit viticulteurs pratiquant différents modes de conduite ont été interrogés. Les systèmes ont été évalués en utilisant deux méthodes d'analyse multicritère d'aide à la décision appartenant à la famille des méthodes ELECTRE : ELECTRE Tri-C et ELECTRE III. Sept critères d'évaluation ont été retenus, dont trois pour les performances socioéconomiques (rentabilité économique, charge de travail, complexité du système viticole) et quatre pour les performances environnementales (pression phytosanitaire, écotoxicité des pesticides, pratiques agroécologiques, niveau de la dérive des produits). Trois scénarios de changement de pratiques ont été construits en intégrant les bonnes pratiques identifiées sur le terrain: un scénario conventionnel raisonné optimisé (scénario Raisonné-Max); deux scénarios en démarche agroécologique: Agroécologie (avec usage optimisé de produits de synthèse) et Agroécologie-Bio (sans produits de synthèse). ELECTRE Tri-C a permis d'affecter chaque système viticole ainsi que les trois scénarios dans l'une des quatre catégories prédéfinies de performance. Puis ELECTRE III les a classés dans chaque catégorie. On note une supériorité de la performance socio-écoenvironnementale des scénarios agroécologiques et des systèmes biologiques. Cela tient principalement à un niveau de valorisation de la production plus élevé dans ces systèmes et à un niveau de pression phytosanitaire plus faible lié aux pratiques plus favorables au renforcement de la biodiversité. Ces résultats axés sur des démarches concrètes et réalistes constituent des modèles adaptables à des exploitations viticoles conventionnelles.

Links: https://www.cahiersagricultures.fr/articles/cagri/abs/2020/01/cagri200040/cagri200040.html

Local Food Market Orientation and Labor Intensity

This research uses descriptive analysis to provide a preliminary examination of the role of human capital in farms and ranches that sell through local food markets. We first provide an in-depth review of previous research investigating the role of human capital in local food markets. Then, we use U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Resource Management Survey data to provide national descriptive statistics to

investigate if the repositioning of food and agricultural supply chains towards more localized markets affects the role of human capital in the business model (in terms of the share of business activities spent on human capital), and secondly the returns to human capital (in terms of wages). Given the place-based nature of these strategies, we also investigate how these human capital investments vary across the rural urban continuum. We find that local food producers devote a larger share of total variable expenses to labor, and have significantly higher average estimated wages; this is especially true for operations with intermediated-only or intermediated and direct sales, as opposed to direct-only sales. We also find that wages are higher for local food producers in more urban locations.

Links: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/aepp.13059?campaign=wolearlyview

The new contadini: transformative labor in Italian vineyards



Contadini—peasant farmers—are central figures of belonging in a Northern Italian winegrowing community. The skills and languages in which contadini are fluent and who is recognized as one of them organize the values attached to various roles in this world. I show how the immigrant vineyard workers who maintain local landscapes engage with this identity, producing new selves through the labor of

caring for vines. Earning the title of contadino allows some immigrants to cross social boundaries usually policed by strict ethnic lines in Italy, generating recognition and benefits unavailable from the state. At the same time, Italian employers' relation to the land changes as they hand off ways of knowing and doing to categorical outsiders. 'Traditional' labor and products are what pull these two groups into a collaborative encounter, but rather than simply keeping the past in practice, immigrants and Italians also generate new forms of personhood and value.

Links: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10460-020-10125-6

Tags: Migration, Identity

Employment Dynamics and Linkages in the Rural Economy: Insights from Senegal

Evidence on rural wage employment is thin and lacks nuance for different employment sources, insights on dynamic effects, and an understanding of the channels of effects. We assess conceptually and empirically the direct and indirect welfare effects of entry and continuation in different types of wage employment in rural Senegal. Using panel data, fixed effects and first-difference estimation, we show substantial positive welfare and linkage effects. We find that participation in wage employment increases per capita income by 143%, and reduces poverty, poverty gap and food insecurity by, respectively, 63%, 89% and 48%. While the direct effect on income is larger for non-agricultural and contractual wage employment, the indirect income effects through self-employment are more pronounced for agricultural and casual wage employment. Our results imply that job creation is important for rural development, that wage employment in agriculture can lead to considerable growth multiplier effects, and that synergies exist between large-scale and small-scale agriculture.

Links: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/1477-9552.12387?af=R

Tags: Rural Employment

Gendered Roles in Agrarian Transition: A Study of Lowland Rice Farming in Lao PDR

Traditional lifestyles of lowland rice farmers of the southern provinces of Lao People's Democratic Republic are rapidly changing, due to two important trends. Firstly, there is a push towards modernization and commercialization of farming. Secondly, though farmers still focus on rice farming as a key activity, there is an increasing move towards diversification of livelihoods. The changes have seen the uptake of non-rice crops, livestock husbandry and forest and river utilization; as well as non-farming activities. This has influenced gender relations, impacting household agricultural production decisions and amplified transitional trends. To explore the processes, we analyzed data from a study of innovation adoption amongst rice farmers in southern Lao PDR. The study revealed nuances of gender-based differences in the priorities and attitudes towards farming and off-farm activities, as well as differences in behaviour related to the adoption of new practices. Women were more focused on non-farming practices and considered engaging in the modern, non-traditional, economy more so than men. Women also reported experiencing greater challenges when engaging and trading in the agricultural marketplace. The study supports the importance of taking a gendered approach to understanding the inherent complexities within agrarian change.

Links: https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/12/13/5403

Tags: Gender, Family work

Employment and Gross Value Added in Agriculture Versus Other Sectors of the European Union Economy

The aim of the paper is to recognize the level of employment and gross value added (GVA) in agriculture in relation to the other sectors of the European Union economy. The following research tasks were formulated: analysis of employment levels and GVA in the sectors of economy in 2000 and 2018 as well as the relationship between employment and GVA, assessment of GVA per 1 person employed in the investigated sectors and its changes in the analysed years, and assessment of the scale of surplus employment in agriculture assuming that GVA per 1 person employed in this sector would be equal to the average level reached in the industry and the services sectors. Comparative analysis and the deduction method were used in the study. Correlation coefficients between the level of employment in individual sectors and GVA per 1 person employed in the time series covering the years 2000-2008 were also calculated. A new measure of the "goal" of employment reduction in agriculture has been proposed, related to the measurement of the distance between agriculture and other sectors in terms of GVA generated per 1 employed—the Excess Employment Rate In The Agricultural Sector (EERAS). The research was based on EUROSTAT data from the years of 2000 and 2018. The process of changes in the sectoral structure of employment will probably be determined by the growth rate of demand for services, structural adjustment referring to matching the characteristics of the agricultural population to the demand for labour force in the services sector and the pace of structural transformations in rural areas. Rationalisation of employment levels in agriculture promotes improvement of its economic and social sustainability. Instruments based on financial transfers from nonagricultural sectors to agriculture should play a secondary role, since they are a burden to more efficient sectors, and in the long term, they may hinder reduction of employment in agriculture. However, due to the inevitable differences in productivity observed between agriculture and the nonagricultural sectors, at a technologically, economically, ecologically and socially justified level of employment in agriculture, transfers of the surplus generated in the secondary and tertiary sectors need at least to reduce, if not eliminate, economic consequences of these differences

Links: https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/12/14/5518

Tags: Rural Employment

FAO framework on ending child labour in agriculture

The purpose of the FAO's framework is to guide the Organization and its personnel in the integration of measures addressing child labour within FAO's typical work, programmes and initiatives at global, regional and country levels. It aims to enhance compliance with organization's operational standards, and strengthen coherence and synergies across the Organization and with partners. The FAO framework is primarily targeted at FAO as an organization, including all personnel in all geographic locations. But the framework is also relevant for FAO's governing bodies and Member States, and provides guidance and a basis for collaboration with development partners. The framework is also to be used as a key guidance to assess and monitor compliance with FAO's environmental and social standards addressing prevention and reduction of child labour in FAO's programming.

Links: http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ca9502en

Tags: Child labour

Connecting Public Policies for Family Farmers and Women's Empowerment: The Case of the Brazilian Semi-Arid

The role played by women in worldwide food production and food security has reinvigorated debates about the recognition of women's rights in the rural sector regarding better working conditions and the reduction of gender inequalities. In the 1980s, the social movement in Brazil restructured the politics in the agrarian sector by integrating farmers' rights and women's demands. Against this background, the objective of this study is to analyze, through the actors' perspectives, whether and how the combination of public policies for family farmers affected the socio-economic and political empowerment of women. Our case study covers family farmers from traditional communities located in the Brazilian semi-arid. The results show that women achieved economic stability by participating in public food procurement programmes. In addition, access to cisterns released women from the daily work of collecting water. Women became more involved with political issues, increasing participation in institutions such as NGOs, associations and cooperatives. Among the negative aspects, the study found that the sexual division of labor increased within the household context, and, despite being fundamental for ensuring household food security, women still struggle to have access to the means of production.

Links: https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/12/15/5961

Tags: Gender, Policy

Contrat de travail et performance des exploitations cacaoyères dans le Mbam et Kim au Cameroun

Dans le but d'appréhender l'influence des types de contrat de travail sur les performances des exploitations cacaoyères dans le Mbam et Kim au Cameroun, un échantillonnage raisonné a permis de sélectionner 114 exploitants cacaoyers. L'approche à deux étapes recourant aux modèles Data Enveloppent Analysis (DEA) et Tobit censuré a permis d'analyser l'efficacité des exploitations.

Deux types de contrat ont été identifiés: le contrat annuel fixe (CAF) et le contrat par pourcentage de vente (CPV) de cacao récolté. Les résultats montrent que le CPV semble plus performant par rapport au CAF en termes de productivité et de d'allocation. Par ailleurs, l'augmentation de la superficie des exploitations, du nombre de défrichements et le traitement mixte sont les facteurs qui contribuent mieux à l'inefficacité de ces cacaoyères, tandis que la récolte sanitaire, l'augmentation du nombre de réglages d'ombrage et des tailles du cacaoyer sont sources d'efficacité.

Links: http://afjare.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/3.-Nso-Ngang-et-al.pdf

Tags: Rural Employment

Farm-Related Injuries and Fatalities Involving Children, Youth, and Young Workers during Manure Storage, Handling, and Transport

Objective: Manure storage, handling, and transport facilities and equipment have been associated with life threatening hazards on many livestock farms. These hazards have been documented in prior research as including 1) exposure to toxic manure gases or lack of adequate oxygen in enclosed structures, which can be fatal to both humans and livestock; 2) below and above ground liquid manure storage structures that have the potential risk for drowning and falling; and 3) mechanical hazards associated with manure handling and transport equipment, including entanglement, road collisions, runover, and equipment failure.

Methods: Over the past 40 years, Purdue University's Agricultural Safety and Health Program (PUASHP) has collected, documented, and maintained data regarding agricultural-related injuries and fatalities associated with agricultural confined spaces in the United States. As part of ongoing surveillance, a total of 369 fatal and non-fatal cases relating to manure storage, handling and transport equipment, and facilities have been documented. Of these, 89 have involved children, youth, and young farm workers ages (birth-21) documented between 1975 and 2019. The purpose of this study was to summarize these 89 documented cases to better understand contributing factors and to develop recommendations for evidence-based strategies to reduce the frequency and severity of these incidents. Though recognized as not comprehensive for all incidents of this type, the data represent the largest data set known to exist, providing insight into previously unstudied hazards facing children and youth living and working on, and visiting farms as non-workers.

Results: Findings in this study include: there has been an increase in the documented frequency of these incidents, which may be due, at least partially, to enhanced or more aggressive surveillance efforts; 57% of the cases were fatal; incidents involving underground or inground manure storage facilities were the most frequent type; incidents involving manure transport vehicles were higher than expected; 33% of the victims were five years of age and younger; and July was the month with the most documented incidents.

Conclusions: Recommendations for future injury prevention strategies include incorporation of information on manure-related hazards in curricula targeting children and youth, more aggressive enforcement of child labor laws that currently prohibit the employment of youth to work in manure storage structures or to be involved in their operations, and greater use of physical and administrative controls, including safety signage, fencing, gates, and covers to restrict access to manure storage structures.

Links: https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2020.1795034?af=R

Tags: Health and decent work

Female Workers and Transformation of Rural Economy into Urban Economy

Many rural areas have been classified as an urban area, specifically as census towns, in the 2011 Census. Shift of majority of working population from farm employment to non-farm employment is the main criterion, among other demographic characteristics, for the classification of rural areas as the urban areas. Change in occupational structure has changed the economy of these settlements. An attempt has been made to analyse the employment structure of female labour in these settlement, particularly census towns of Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. Census towns which are far away from the nearest class I city, more than 100 km, have been selected for the study. An assessment of evolution of employment patterns among female and male workers during the decade of 2001-2011 has been attempted by using data provided by 2001 and 2011 Census. A substantially high percentage of female workers are agricultural labours in these census towns. This pattern is contrary to the pattern observed in the case of male workers. Further, employment vulnerability has increased more among female workers as compared to male workers in these settlements during the period of 2001-2011. Moreover, majority of these settlements experienced comparatively lower intensity of farm to non-farm employment shift among female workers as compared to male workers. The trend is same in both Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

Links: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s41027-020-00226-5

Tags: Gender, Rural Employment