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2021/04

Realized by Priscila Malanski at 05/05/2021

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Congress

Travail humain - travail animal - travail des « autres vivants »

Valoriser notre sociabilité avec les plantes peut-il infléchir l'ensemble despratiques nécessaires pour fournir des nourritures durables ? Cette question est sous-jacente dans les pratiques agroécologiques et recouvre plusieurs lignes d'exploration. Tout d'abord, la prise en compte des plantes comme des êtres de relation, et non des matériaux à exploiter. Ensuite, la redéfinition des contours des activités ou « agentivités » humaines et végétalescoopérant à l'élaboration des nourritures. L'interrogation porte ainsi sur la place de l'être humain au travail dans son milieu concret peuplé d'êtres vivants. C'est la définition même du travail qui est interpellée : qu'entendons-nous par « travailler » ? Au-delà des êtres humains, peut-on aussi parler de travail ? La notion de travail a pu être étendue aux animaux domestiquesgrâce au cadre théorique de la psychodynamique, qui interroge le plaisir et la souffrance au travail. Dans le cas des plantes, pour lesquelles les notions de plaisir et souffrance n'ont pas la même signification, quels cadres théoriques complémentaires peuvent être mobilisés ? Changer notre regard sur les plantes peut-il aussi changer notre rapport au travail pour nous nourrir écologiquement ?

Links : https://calenda.org/865939

Cycle de webinaires "Refonder l'agriculture à l'heure de l'Anthropocène"

Comment allons-nous manger demain et qui produira notre nourriture ?

Un évènement d'une ampleur considérable fragilise notre sécurité alimentaire telle que nous la connaissons depuis 50 ans : l'Anthropocène. Nous basculons dans une nouvelle époque géologique qui déstabilise grandement l'activité agricole et nous oblige à réinventer en profondeur le fonctionnement de nos systèmes alimentaires, depuis la production des biens agricoles jusqu'à leur consommation.

Links : <u>https://www.agreenium.fr/actualites/cycle-de-webinaires-refonder-lagriculture-lheure-de-</u> lanthropocene

Société française d'économie rurale



Une transformation numérique est en plein essor partout dans le monde, et en particulier dans les activités liées à l'agriculture et à l'alimentation. De nombreux bénéfices sont attendus du numérique, notamment en matière d'amélioration des productivités, des conditions de travail ou de l'information des consommateurs, mais aussi de réduction de la faim et de la pauvreté dans le monde, d'inclusion des

agriculteurs dans les chaînes de valeur et de lutte contre le changement climatique (FAO, 2013). Le développement des technologies de l'information et de la communication (TIC) modifie en effet les systèmes agri-alimentaires, tant au niveau de la production des biens et services que de leur fonctionnement global. L'arrivée de nouveaux acteurs (ex. start-ups, plateformes...) proposant de nouvelles solutions technologiques et numériques (ex. capteurs, big data, algorithmes, blockchain, IA...)

modifie les structures traditionnelles, diversifie les modes de production et de commercialisation et appelle des innovations managériales et organisationnelles importantes.

Links : <u>https://www.sfer.asso.fr/event/view/42</u>

31st ICAE Virtual Conference

VIRTUAL: 31ST ICAE CONFERENCE

Your IAAE program committee has been hard at work on the first ever triennial online conference (ICAE 2021) now scheduled for August 17th to August 31st 2021. The decision to shift it from Delhi, its original location, made in February 2021, turned out to be right.

Some of the highlights of the conference include a session on the COVID 19 Pandemic: Lessons and Implications, Prospects for realizing Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, issues of trade, policy reforms, climate change, water and the rising importance of Digital Agriculture.

Links : <u>https://iaae-agecon.org/page/31st-icae---virtual-2021</u>

Il Seminário Internacional e IV Jornada da Agricultura Familiar

Nos dias 19 e 26 de maio, e 02 e 09 de junho, ocorrerá o II Seminário Internacional e IV Jornada da Agricultura Familiar, do qual a Rede de Estudos Rurais faz parte da realização. Este ano, o evento conta com o tema "Territórios Rurais, Sistemas Alimentares e a Agenda 2030" e abrirá um espaço de discussões para uma nova geração de políticas para o desenvolvimento territorial.

Nesta Jornada Internacional, professores e pesquisadores membros de cinco Redes e dois Núcleos de pesquisa em desenvolvimento rural e territorial localizados no Brasil, Colômbia e México, com apoio da Fundação de Apoio à Pesquisa do Distrito Federal (FAP-DF), buscam identificar de forma conjunta com estudantes de graduação e pós-graduação, gestores públicos, representantes de movimentos sociais e organismos internacionais os desafios das políticas públicas para a agricultura familiar.

Links : <u>https://redesrurais.org.br/participe-do-ii-seminario-internacional-e-iv-jornada-da-agricultura-familiar/</u>

Call for Papers

O trabalho animal

Este número da revista propõe-se, assim, analisar, com base em experiências concretas, a complexa realidade dos animais no mundo do trabalho. O objetivo é refletir sobre a interação humano/animal em situações reais para responder a algumas das seguintes questões:

- Como abordar as situações e problemáticas referidas neste convite à apresentação de contribuições, e as suas características próprias?
- Quais foram as evoluções históricas e sociais dos mundos socioprofissionais assentes no trabalho animal? De que modo influenciaram as condições de trabalho dos humanos e ascondições de trabalho dos animais com humanos? Que efeitos tiveram em termos de saúde no trabalho?

- Quais são as condições éticas e sociais da cooperação no trabalho entre humanos e animais? Que obstáculos há? De que forma é que a dimensão comunicacional verbal e corporal afeta essas situações de trabalho?
- Como tratar a dimensão política de situações frequentemente denunciadas por movimentos sociais e alguns meios de comunicação social?
- Em que termos se deve entender essa dimensão política quando o trabalho animal é fonte de valorização económica e social de um território?
- Poder-se-á recorrer à ergonomia para analisar o trabalho dos animais? Que ergonomia? De que forma?
- Quais são os limites para se discutir o trabalho concreto dos homens com animais e o trabalho dos animais? Será possível contorná-los?
- Será admissível pensar que em certos locais é impossível discutir o trabalho concreto realizado com animais? Porquê?

31 de julho 2021: Data limite para a receção de propostas, com o título; resumo (máximo de 500 palavras); e cinco referências bibliográficas (as propostas de contribuições devem ser enviadas ao secretariado da revista, através do seguinte endereço de correio eletrónico: laboreal@fpce.up.pt).

31 de agosto 2021: Data limite para informar os autores dos resultados da avaliação dos resumos.

Links : https://journals.openedition.org/laboreal/17480

Publications

Parution : « Quantifier l'égalité au travail », Soline Blanchard et Sophie Pochic (dir.)



La production de chiffres est au cœur des mobilisations féministes et des politiques du genre, que l'on pense aux quotas, aux indicateurs sexués, aux procès pour discriminations, au gender budgeting ou au décompte des féminicides. Vecteur potentiel d'une prise de conscience de l'existence de situations injustes et inacceptables, elle génère aussi des controverses sur ce qui doit être compté comme sur la façon de compter. Les écarts de salaire entre femmes et hommes en sont l'illustration parfaite : suivant les modes de calcul, on passe ainsi de 25% à 9%. Pourtant, les enjeux de pouvoir et de savoir soulevés par de tels outils restent souvent dans l'ombre. Centré sur la sphère du travail, cet ouvrage vise à combler ce manque avec un double objectif : montrer comment la sociologie de la quantification permet de penser de manière critique les politiques publiques

d'égalité et les stratégies des organisations s'appuyant sur des nombres et des indicateurs ; analyser le cadrage de l'égalité professionnelle et salariale qui se cache derrière les chiffres pour en révéler les jeux et enjeux politiques. Il s'appuie sur des enquêtes approfondies en sciences sociales (sociologie, science politique, gestion, économie et droit) et des témoignages d'expertes engagées, en se nourrissant de la comparaison internationale (France, Angleterre, Belgique, Danemark, Suède et Québec).

Links : <u>https://socioeco.hypotheses.org/7287</u>

Tags : Gender

"Back to the Land" among "Neo-Rural" Farmers: The Price to Pay

The article deals with the social processes that incite "neo-rural" women - i.e. who do not themselves originate from agricultural families - to become fruit and vegetable farmers alongside their partners and work in their shadow, with no professional status. It shows, first, the extent to which their decision to become independent workers is sometimes governed by family rather than professional considerations. Secondly, it exposes the causes of their statutory invisibility: beyond the feeble economic resources that constrain small farmers and limit their ability to pay into social security schemes, they largely ignore the existing systems and the risks incurred, and they mistrust the established forms of social protection, preferring to count on couple solidarity and develop individual strategies in compensation.

Links : <u>https://journals.openedition.org/travailemploi/10053</u>

Tags : Gender, Rural Employment

Issues Facing the Californian Fruit Sector

The value of fruit production in California has grown to over \$18 billion, making up to two-thirds of the total value of U.S. fruit farming in 2018. This increase provides consumers a variety of fruits available all year around; however, Americans' daily fruit consumption is still lower than the level recommended in the 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Fruit farming receives minimal assistance relative to commodity crops, but Farm Bill supports reducing farming risks and government programs encouraging more fruit consumption have gradually increased in recent decades.

Links : http://www.aaea.org/publications/publications-update/issues-facing-the-californian-fruit-sector

Tags : Rural Employment, Migration, Policy

Factors Associated with Musculoskeletal Discomfort in Farmers and Ranchers in the U.S. Central States

Agricultural work involves ergonomic and psychosocial strain, which contribute to musculoskeletal conditions. The aim of this study was to assess if specific ergonomic, psychosocial, and preventive factors are linked to musculoskeletal pain or discomfort symptoms (MSS) in farmers and ranchers. We analyzed data from the Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health survey that was conducted in 2018 in a seven-state region of the central United States. MSS were assessed with questions from the Standardized Nordic Questionnaire. The survey included questions on demographic, ergonomic, psychosocial and preventive factors. Farm production variables were added from the Farm Market iD database. We analyzed the data using Generalized Estimating Equations. The overall prevalence of MSS for all body sites combined was 59% among 4,354 farmers and ranchers who responded (19% response rate). After controlling for age, sex, and operator status, three factors (high stress level, sleep deprivation, and exhaustion/fatigue) showed the strongest associations with MSS in any body site, with adjusted odds ratios (OR) ranging from 4.8 to 5.6. Forceful exertions, repetitive tasks, awkward postures, frequent manual labor, and vibration were also significantly associated with MSS. New effective strategies are needed to reduce the high burden of musculoskeletal outcomes among farmers and agricultural workers.

Links : https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2021.1893880?af=R

Tags : Health and decent work

Nonfatal Agricultural Injuries Treated in Emergency Departments: 2015-2019

Utilizing emergency department admissions to estimate and describe agricultural injuries in the United States (U.S.) provides a unique view of one of the country's most dangerous occupations. This study characterizes and provides nationally representative estimates of persons with non-fatal agricultural-related injuries treated in emergency departments in the U.S.

We conducted a cross-sectional study using U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) data for patients treated in emergency departments from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2019. We queried all cases in the NEISS database using the location code "farm" and with a narrative search using relevant key words.

An estimated 62,079 people were treated in an emergency department for agricultural related injuries. The mean age estimate in this population was 39 years-old, with ages ranging from 1 to 95. Almost twothirds of patients were male, and almost 80% were white. Approximately 30% and 22% of those injured were youth and elderly patients, respectively. The majority of injuries occurred from April through September. The most common injury was fracture, followed by open wound or amputation. There were significant differences between the body parts injured in youth versus adult patients. The primary source of injury was in the vehicles category, with tractors being the dominant vehicle type.

Agricultural vehicles remain a major source of injuries that require treatment in emergency departments. Previous methods of quantifying severe ag-related injuries were limited; our research utilized NEISS data to portray injury statistics more accurately.

Links : https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2021.1913271?af=R

Tags : Health and decent work

Tempered disruption: Gender and agricultural professional services

Agriculture has traditionally been framed as men's work, while women's contributions to the sector have largely been rendered invisible. This article examines the emerging agricultural professional services sector, asking how a changing environment for agriculture may be disrupting traditional gender norms framing agricultural employment. Drawing together the literature in gender and agriculture, professional services and entrepreneurship and interviews with 22 women who have built businesses in agricultural professional services in Australia, our analysis identifies that a confluence of macro and micro activities are shaping new opportunities for women in agricultural employment. Through leveraging a changing industry environment, exercising agency, (valuing) local matters and communion, participants are disturbing traditional gendered patterns of agricultural employment. Our analysis highlights how, as participants build their businesses and demonstrate agency in a dynamic environment, they value the integrating, reconciling, and synthesizing they experience from supporting the flow of activities in their communities. In claiming their space in the changing landscape of agricultural professional services, they exemplify communion enriched by agency, and we see a tempered disruption of the gendered norms in

agricultural employment. The article contributes to scholarship on agricultural professional work and identifies how historical patterns of employment and masculine privilege are being disrupted.

Links : https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/gwao.12623

Tags : Gender, Extension

Trends and Issues Facing the U.S. Citrus Industry

Citrus fruits are consumed throughout the world, but production is concentrated in a few countries. The United States is a leading producer, behind Brazil and China (Jegede, 2019; Zhang, 2019). The total value of the U.S. citrus industry is about \$3.33 billion (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2020b). Major citrus crops grown in the United States are oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, and lemons. Based on the average value of production between 2013 and 2018, oranges are by far the leading citrus fruit (59%), followed by lemons (19%), tangerines (15%), and grapefruit (7%) (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2020b). Though oranges are the leading citrus fruit, only 17% of oranges enter the fresh market; the remainder are used for processing. By contrast, about 76% of lemons, 73% of tangerines, and 55% of grapefruit are used for fresh consumption and the remaining are utilized for processing. With fruit and juice combined, citrus consumption exceeds that of any other fruit in the United States (Flores-Gonzalez et al., 2019).

However, in the past two decades, the U.S. citrus industry has faced many challenges—serious disease problems, weather damage, import competition, dwindling farm-retail price spread, and labor shortages—threatening its survival. Very recently, scientists have discovered a potential cure for citrus greening—a particularly devastating bacterial disease—that could revive the citrus industry. This article focuses on these issues, current status, and trends of the U.S. citrus industry.

Links : <u>http://www.aaea.org/publications/publications-update/trends-and-issues-facing-the-us-citrus-industry</u>

Tags : Migration

About Time to Join Forces within Agricultural Health & Safety!?

We are now well into the year 2021 - fully into a new decade, and still, those who work in agriculture do so at great risk serving an industry with one of the highest rates of fatalities worldwide.1 As an example; agriculture in Great Britain has the worst rate of worker fatal injury (per 100,000) of the main industrial sectors.2 It is 18 times as high as the average rate across all industries. Similar figures are reported from other countries.3-6 The pressures on farmers, farm families, and farm workers due to changing politics, economic challenges, unpredictable weather, natural disasters, global markets, transport systems, rural isolation, and rural crime leads to increasing frustration, stress, mental health concerns, and suicide.7-10 In 2020, we also saw BOTH the pressures induced by a global pandemic, but also the direct impacts of the SARS-CoV-2 on farm workers added to current pressures.

Links : https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2021.1893879?af=R

Tags : Health and decent work, Skills and training

Uber for tractors? Opportunities and challenges of digital tools for tractor hire in India and Nigeria

Digital tools hold great promise to promote agricultural transformation and benefit smallholder farmers in the developing world. One such tool is Uber for tractors, which aims to enable farmers to access tractor hire services in a way that is deemed similar to the Uber service for ride-hailing. While widely praised, Uber for tractors has not yet been rigorously analyzed. How does it work in practice? And what is its potential to reduce the transaction costs of tractor service provision, both for tractor owners and for smallholders who use tractor services? To answer these questions, we present case studies of two companies that apply digital tools in support of tractor hire: Hello Tractor in Nigeria and EM3 Agri-Services in India. A transaction costs economics framework was developed to identify how Uber for tractor tools can, in theory, influence the attributes of service hire transactions and, thus, reduce transaction costs. For the empirical analysis, a mixed-methods approach was applied involving approximately 400 respondents and comprising net-maps (a participatory mapping tool), focus group discussions, interviews with tractor owners and other stakeholders, and a survey among farmers. Our results show that the Uber for tractor models have indeed the potential to reduce transaction costs for service providers, in particular the owners of several tractors, by enabling the monitoring of tractors and operators through GPS devices. Farmers who access services have, so far, only indirectly benefitted from the new digital tools, because they still relied on "analog" solutions - booking agents and phone calls - rather than a smartphone app to request services. Overall, the paper shows that Uber for tractors is a pioneering concept, but investment in enabling conditions, such as digital literacy and network coverage, is required to harness the full potential of such digital innovations for smallholder farmers in the developing world.

Links : <u>https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305750X21000929</u>

Tags : Innovation

Which farms feed the world and has farmland become more concentrated?

Numerous attempts have been made to estimate the share of the world's food produced by family farms and by farms of different sizes. This paper updates estimates of the number of farms worldwide, their distribution and that of farmland, using the most recent agricultural censuses available, in combination with survey data where needed. It finds there are more than 608 million farms in the world, more than 90% of which are family farms (by our definition), and they occupy around 70-80% of farmland and produce roughly 80% of the world's food in value terms. The paper also underscores the importance of not referring to family farms and small farms (i.e., those of less than two hectares) interchangeably: small farms account for 84% of all farms worldwide, as per the available census information, but operate only around 12% of all agricultural land, and produce roughly 35% of the world's food (well below the 80% produced by family farms). A comprehensive examination of changes in farmland distribution over time is also provided to showcase the increased concentration of farmland among large farms as economies grow. The largest 1% of farms in the world (those larger than 50 ha) operate more than 70% of the world's farmland. These estimates are not free from bias given existing data gaps. The paper underscores the need to ensure that agricultural censuses cover non-household farms in order to enhance our understanding of agriculture and food production worldwide.

Links : <u>https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305750X2100067X</u>

Migration, labor and women's empowerment: Evidence from an agricultural value chain in Bangladesh

As a substantial portion of the rural labor force migrates to urban areas, it is commonly assumed that women could take over traditionally male tasks in agricultural production, with potentially empowering outcomes for women. We study how changes in the supply of labor may influence female labor participation and empowerment outcomes. Using a detailed panel dataset on jute producers in the delta region of Bangladesh, we test whether out-migration of household members and perceived labor shortages are associated with the share of household and hired labor performed by women, and women's empowerment. When a household experiences reduced household or hired labor supply, we observe a relatively larger use of female household labor, but a reduced share of female hired labor. We also find that reduced labor supply is not associated with significant reductions in gender wage gaps, or enhanced women's empowerment. These findings suggest that given existing gender norms, male and female labor are not perfect substitutes for one another, and as a result, male outmigration is not associated with improved outcomes for women in cash crop production in the short run. Our results demonstrate a need for better understanding of the role of gender in rural labor markets, particularly in contexts of rapid urbanization.

Links : https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305750X21000577

Tags : Gender, Rural Employment, Value chains

Towards agriculture as career: predicting students' participation in the agricultural sector using an extended model of the theory of planned behavior

Purpose

The aim of the study was to identify factors associated with tertiary students' intention to pursue agriculture-related careers. The moderating effect of gender and geographic location on the predictive relationships was also examined.

Design/methodology/approach

Quantitative data were collected from 488 students studying in five agricultural-based institutions of higher learning in Malaysia. Structural equation modeling (SEM) was used to analyze the data.

Findings

Attitudes towards agriculture, perceived behavioral control, agricultural knowledge, and perception of sustainable agriculture methods predicted students' intention to join agricultural-related occupations. The results differed according to gender and place of residence for all predictors except conditions of resource facilitation.

Practical implications

The findings offer insight into the factors agricultural students consider when deciding whether to pursue careers in agriculture. This can help educational decision-makers respond to the motivational needs of students in recruiting and retention.

Theoretical implications

By introducing three new constructs, the study extends application of the theory of planned behavior for predicting intention and behavior in the field of agriculture.

Originality/value

The study addresses an important gap on key factors predicting tertiary students' pursuit of careers in agriculture. A better understanding of factors that shape students' decision-making about future careers in agriculture can raise critical awareness of where programing efforts are likely to be effective.

Links : https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1389224X.2021.1910523?af=R

Tags : Youth

Development of an Educational YouTube Channel: A Collaboration between U.S. Agricultural Safety and Health Centers

Objectives: The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing Centers (AFF Centers) collaborated to initiate a joint YouTube channel in order to raise awareness of agricultural, forestry, and fishing occupational hazards; provide information to prevent AFF injuries and illnesses; increase the visibility and influence of the AFF Centers; and establish a collaborative model that can be replicated by other organizations.

Methods: The collaborators sought to produce a structured channel with high scientific standards. Policies, procedures, and a standard review process were established. Representatives from the AFF Centers coordinated the review process and the procedures by which videos were uploaded to the site. A marketing plan was created including a press release and ideas to promote new videos. Promotions are targeted to agricultural cooperative extension agents, educators, producers, owners, operators, first responders, families and community organizations. Viewership was tracked using YouTube metrics.

Results: The site was launched in November 2013. Over a 6-year period, the channel grew from 48 videos to 125 videos with over 10,500 cumulative watch time hours. The channel is promoted by the AFF Centers through email, social media, conference presentations and outreach exhibits. The channel is also publicized during coordinated national outreach events.

Conclusion: Each AFF Center benefitted from increased exposure of their content and the collaboration provided an opportunity to achieve labor efficiencies. YouTube metrics demonstrated that coordinated marketing increases views, watch time and subscriptions. In addition, the success of the channel communicates the benefits to collaboration among organizations with common missions.

Links : https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2020.1845269?af=R

Tags : Health and decent work

Forestry - Integrating Safety in a Time of Rapid Change

Forestry contractors are often small employers or independent contractors who may be operating with limited financial resources. In the last two decades, more timberland is being managed as investment trusts. Meanwhile, those working in the logging industry struggle to maintain their workforce that heavily relies on immigrant labor.5,6 This fissured organizational system complicates addressing worker safety needs and may inadvertently exacerbate hazardous conditions. Enumeration of the forestry workforce is challenging due to the high number of independent contractors and farm foresters, undocumented immigrant workers, and crossover with other occupations. Occupational health and forest management professionals need to be prepared to address an upswing in forest products and land management. These trends are driven by the threat of wildfire and expanded demand for US timber.

Links: https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2021.1849294?af=R

Tags : Health and decent work

Surveillance of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing Injury, Illness, and Economic Impacts

Surveillance involves the ongoing systematic collection, analysis, and interpretation of health data and timely dissemination of the findings to those who need to know. Understanding the changing nature of farming, forestry, and fishing; populations at risk; exposures; risk factors; and characteristics of injuries is essential for successful prevention. Surveillance of injuries and illnesses in these populations is challenging, however. There is no single system that identifies these incidents comprehensively. The large number, small size, and geographic dispersal of operations, and the diversity of the populations at risk pose challenges. Different approaches for surveillance were discussed in six presentations, followed by a panel discussion. The presentations are summarized below.

Links : https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2021.1849508?af=R

Tags : Health and decent work

Moving out of agriculture in Bangladesh: The role of farm, nonfarm and mixed households

This paper explores patterns of exit from agriculture in rural Bangladesh by utilizing nationally representative repeat cross-section and pseudo-panel survey data. Our analysis focuses at the rural household level where we focus on three types of households: (a) "pure" agriculture households in which all workers are employed only in agriculture; (b) "mixed" households in which some members remain in the farm sector and others pursue nonfarm activities, and (c) rural "nonfarm" households who are exclusively dependent on non-agricultural employment.

We find that non-farm orientation has increased over the 2000 to 2013 period, and that nonfarm households rely more on salaried employment and less on unpaid work. Pseudo-panel data based on agecohort of household heads from the Labor Force Survey (LFS) of 2000 and 2013 also shows a notable increase in mixed households formed by diversification of activities of formerly farm-only households. Employment patterns of younger households are changing especially rapidly: the share of mixed households with heads age 15-30 years increased from 17% to 30% in this period. Proximity to urban areas also is associated with a rapid shift in household employment patterns over time. In areas less than 2.5 kms from cities, the share of pure farm households fell from 46.5 to 30.3 percent of households, while the share of mixed households rose from 14.8 to 33.7 percent.

Overall, our findings confirm a process of transformation involving a shift from predominantly agriculture employment to increased non-farm employment. We find that the structural transformation considered does not necessarily involve large-scale permanent migration to cities. Rather, much of the shift out of agriculture occurs within rural areas with especially rapid change happening in areas of close proximity to cities.

Links : https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305750X21000917

Tags : Rural Employment

Challenges for the U.S. Fruit Industry: Trends in Production, Consolidation, and Competition

The noncitrus tree fruit industry is a vital part of the U.S. agricultural sector, with \$21.6 billion in revenues representing nearly 14% of the value of the country's agricultural production in 2017 (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2019a). But value of production tells only part of the story of the industry's importance. Fresh fruit is a fundamental input into other segments of the food economy such as food processing and manufacturing. And since fruit production is typically a highly labor-intensive activity, with wages accounting for more than 25% of production costs in 2017 (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2020b), the livelihoods of many farm workers are reliant on the industry. Further, U.S. exports comprise roughly 27% of world cherry trade, 13% of apple trade, 8% of plum trade, and 6% of peach and nectarine trade (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2020), making the United States one of the world's largest exporters of fruit.

Links : <u>http://www.aaea.org/publications/publications-update/challenges-for-the-us-fruit-industry-trends-in-production-consolidation-and-competition</u>

Tags: Rural Employment, Migration

European private food safety standards in global agri-food supply chains: a systematic review

Private food safety standards have become an important governance mechanism in contemporary food supply chains. While much has been written about private standards from the perspectives of different academic fields, there has never been a dedicated literature review to examine their interaction with global food supply chains. In this systematic review, 45 peer reviewed articles on private food standards, selected through extensive searches in four academic databases are critically appraised. Our analysis reveals that the most studied European private food safety standards are owned by retail conglomerates and therefore place the retail sector in a position of influence in the supply chain. These standards influence supply chain structures, market access, and the efficiency of food safety management systems. They also challenge the traditional relationship shared by actors in the supply chain with public authorities and the World Trade Organization. In the recent years, their scope has expanded to include topical issues such as environmental sustainability, worker safety, and animal welfare. Overall, the review suggests that European private food safety standards alter the operations of modern agri-food supply chains to accommodate consumer wishes while allowing the retail sector to exert its influence without taking on additional legal and economic liability.

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Tags : Value chains

Institutions and individual values motivating corporate social responsibility activities in large farms and agroholdings

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities have been shown to derive from external and internal motivations of a company. Little attention has been given to motivations of managers in large farms and agroholdings to undertake CSR activities thanks to individual values and pressure from institutions. We therefore investigate the types of CSR activities conducted by 18 managers in large farms and agroholdings

in Argentina. We underline their perception of social issues and their motivations to do CSR activities. The framework developed in this paper shows that given the lack of pressure from national-level formal and other informal institutions, individual values (informal institutions) and international institutions (certification schemes-formal institutions) carry more weight in managers' decision to do CSR activities. While some of these motivations have an instrumental background, they overlap with normative motivations that underlie the business activity.

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Tags : Value chains

COVID-19 and the Canadian cattle/beef sector: A second look

After a year of adjusting to the shocks associated with COVID-19 the Canadian cattle and beef sector faces a relatively optimistic future. This note examines the past year for this supply chain from the perspective of the consumer up to the cow-calf producer by considering consumer reactions, labor market constraints, and supply responses. In the second quarter of 2020, the sector faced a significant challenge with continent wide shutdowns of beef packers reducing the U.S. beef supply by one-third and Canadian beef slaughter by almost 60%. These shutdowns resulted in a sharp divergence between wholesale beef prices, which more than doubled, and fed steer prices, which declined by one third. Despite these dramatic shocks, the sector has returned to near normal conditions with prices and production levels similar to those observed prior to the pandemic. The near term prospects for 2021 are very similar to the current market situation.

Links : https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/cjag.12277?af=R

Tags : Rural Employment, Health and decent work, Value chains

Seasonal time trade-offs and nutrition outcomes for women in agriculture: Evidence from rural India

Women in agriculture are involved in agricultural activities and are solely responsible for household-level unpaid work. They face severe time trade-offs between agricultural and household activities across crop seasons. Recent literature suggests that these time trade-offs may negatively impact their nutrition. However, there is no quantitative evidence exploring this relationship within an agricultural context. This paper addresses this research gap by analyzing the relationship between women's time trade-offs and their nutritional outcomes. Using a unique ten-month primary panel data of 960 women from India, our findings show that women are severely time-constrained, as they contribute significantly to agricultural as well as domestic work. Our results show that during peak seasons relative to lean seasons, women's time trade-offs (rising opportunity cost of time) are negatively associated with the intake of calories, proteins, iron, zinc and Vitamin A. We show that this negative relationship is manifested severely among women who are landless and cultivate paddy alone (food crop) or paddy and cotton (mixed crop). This study highlights the gendered role of agricultural activities in rural households and the need to recognize time as a scarce resource when implementing policies and programs involving women in agriculture. We contribute to the literature of agriculture-nutrition linkages by examining the the time use pathway in detail. Besides providing novel metrics, we discuss several policy implications to reduce women's time constraints and enhance their nutrition.

Links : https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0306919221000518

Tags : Gender, Health and decent work