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Contents

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Foreword

The European Research Area (ERA) is conceived as a unified research area, open to the world and based on the European Union's (EU) Internal Market. By making national research systems more open, inter-operable and inter-connected, fragmentation of research efforts and barriers to free circulation of researchers can be reduced. The EU's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme for the period 2014-2020 is expected to help to further develop the ERA. However, in the first two years of the programme the 11 post-socialist EU Member States have secured just 3 per cent of the available funding[1].

There are several, legitimate, reasons for this apparent imbalance. Not least is that researchers from 'western' EU Member States have many more years of experience of the EU's international research programmes. Over time, they have established networks of collaborators that they know and trust, and may be reluctant to work with new and unknown partners. The reality is, however, that the very many, highly competent researchers in the 'eastern' Member States of the EU make specialist, even unique, contributions to the global pool of knowledge. This point is illustrated by this issue of *Studies in Agricultural Economics*, which includes papers from Czech, Hungarian, Polish and Slovenian contributors alongside those from Brazil, China, Ireland, the Russian Federation and the USA. Publishing in international journals can help researchers from the region to increase their participation in research networks, both at the European level and globally.

Continental climatic regions are expected to be severely affected by climate change. Jankó, Németh, Bertalan and Pappné Vancsó researched perceptions of climate change among farmers in Hungary and identified some significant factors such as the role of extreme weather events. Some farmers are seeking to adapt to climate change, but others seem unwilling to do so.

In the context of the removal of the EU milk quota regime, Emicha, Heanue, Hyland, Hennessy, Dillon and Buckley examined the economic, environmental and social sustainability of dairy farms in Ireland. Using sustainability indicators, they created a typology of farms, composed of three types, which could assist policy makers to formulate more targeted policies.

EU farmers are increasingly exposed to price volatility. Using the IACS database, Zgajnar studied the sustainability of farms in Croatia with respect to income risk and indemnification. The approach described can to be of use to policy makers when designing income risk mitigation measures and identifying potential beneficiary groups by either sector or economic farm size.

The topic of farming risk is taken up by Soliwoda, Špička, Vilhelm, Pawłowska-Tyszko and Gorzelak, who explored the relationship between the contrasting models of agriculture in the Czech Republic and Poland, and approaches to agricultural insurance schemes. In both countries, policy options should consider the balance between budget flexibility and the criterion of efficiency.

In the first of three papers related to trade, Sági and Nikulin assessed the effect of the food embargo imposed by Russia on its trade relations with the EU, using Hungary as an example. Hungary has failed to replace exports to Russia effectively and, in turn, Russia has not managed to replace the supply of most agricultural products.

A novel, network analysis based approach was used by Benedek, Bakucs, Fałkowski and Fertő to study changes in the structure of intra-EU milk product trade between 2001 and 2012. Integration of countries that joined the EU in 2004 or 2007 is only partial, and depends on the category of milk product considered.

Three major food scare events in the Chinese pork market, (porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome, swine influenza and classical swine fever) were shown by Dai, Li and Wang, using monthly data from 2001 to 2014, to impact retail price and price transitions differentially. In addition, shocks from the same incident on price and price transmissions are significantly different.

Finally, Almeida and Bravo-Ureta applied three different types of matching algorithms (optimal, greedy and nonparametric) to the evaluation of the impact of the MARENA programme in Honduras. Optimal matching did not produce better-balanced matches than greedy matching, and programme impact calculated from nonparametric matching regressions, such as kernel or local linear regressions, yielded more consistent outcomes.

By publishing papers contributed by authors based in eastern central and south eastern Europe alongside contributions from other parts of the EU and the rest of the world, *Studies in Agricultural Economics* can contribute to the strengthening of the European Research Area.

Andrew Fieldsend
Budapest, July 2017

[1] see: https://ec.europa.eu/research/evaluations/pdf/h2020_2-years-on_brochure.pdf

Studies in Agricultural Economics

Information for authors

Studies in Agricultural Economics publishes original research papers, review papers, policy analyses and book reviews on agricultural economics, rural development and related topics including: agricultural production and competitiveness, environmental resource management, agri-food supply chain management, markets and marketing, international trade, econometrics, rural economic geography, rural economy and sociology, and development of information and knowledge based society in rural areas. *Studies in Agricultural Economics* is included in the Thomson Reuters™ Web of Science™ Core Collection.

Audience

Researchers, academics, policy makers and practitioners in agricultural economics and rural development, especially in eastern central and south eastern Europe.

Submission of manuscripts

Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published in English in any other peer-reviewed journal, is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, and that its publication is approved by all authors and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out. The author will retain the copyright of the article but agrees to identify AKI as the original publisher. Papers will not normally exceed 6000 words including the reference list and figure and table captions. Authors intending to prepare a book review should first consult the Editor-in-Chief and such a review should not exceed 2000 words.

Shorter papers and comments, of up to 1500 words, will also be considered for publication. Such notes might deal with the economic aspects of policy, with the results of small research projects that do not justify a full-length article, or comment on articles previously published.

Manuscripts should be submitted in .doc or compatible format. They should be prepared using A4 format, TNR 12 pt text and 1.5 line spacing and be in single-column format with wide margins. Do not hyphenate words and use **bold** face and *italics* only sparingly, but use subscripts and superscripts where appropriate. Avoid the use of single-sentence paragraphs. Tables should be placed at the end of the manuscript and figures should be submitted as separate files, numbered accordingly. Page and line numbering (restart each page) must be used but no reference should be made to page numbers in the text. You should use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your wordprocessor, which should be set to *English* English, to avoid unnecessary errors.

Manuscripts will be double-blind reviewed by at least two reviewers and may be returned to the author(s) for revision before acceptance for publication. The Editor-in-Chief will normally consider only one re-submission.

Article structure

Divide your article into clearly defined sections but do not use section or subsection numbers. Each heading should appear on its own separate line. For research papers you are urged to consider using the following structure:

- **Introduction.** State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background with reference to the international literature, but avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.
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- **Keywords.** Please provide a maximum of six keywords.
- **Abbreviations.** If necessary, define abbreviations that are not standard in this field on the first page of the article.

- **Acknowledgements.** If applicable, collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references. List here those individuals and/or organisations that provided help, including financial support, during the research.
- **Nomenclature and units.** Follow internationally accepted rules and conventions: use the international system of units (SI) i.e. metre, second, kilogramme etc. or accepted alternatives e.g. day, litre, tonne.
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- **Footnotes.** Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article, using superscript Arabic numbers. Indicate each footnote in a table with a superscript lowercase letter.

Tables and figures

- **Tables.** Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text. Each table should be accompanied by a title and fully descriptive caption. Column headings should be brief but sufficiently explanatory and standard abbreviations of units of measurement should be included between parentheses. Do not use vertical rules to separate columns. Large tables should be avoided. If many data are to be presented, you should consider dividing them over two or more tables. Reversing columns and rows will often reduce the dimensions of a table.
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References

Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Citations may be made directly (or parenthetically). Groups of references should be listed first alphabetically, then chronologically. For example: 'as demonstrated (Allan, 1996a, 1996b, 1999; Allan and Jones, 1995). Kramer *et al.* (2000) have recently shown ...' Citation of a reference as 'in press' implies that the item has been accepted for publication.

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- **Reference to a journal publication.** Van der Geer, J., Hanraads, J.A.J. and Lupton, R.A. (2000): The art of writing a scientific article. Journal of Science Communication **163**, 51-59.
- **Reference to a book.** Strunk Jr., W. and White, E.B. (1979): The Elements of Style (3rd edition). New York: Macmillan.
- **Reference to a chapter in an edited book.** Mettam, G.R. and Adams, L.B. (1999): How to prepare an electronic version of your article, in Jones, B.S and Smith, R.Z. (eds), Introduction to the Electronic Age. New York: E-Publishing, 281–304.

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