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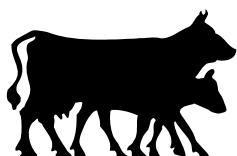


The XXX International Conference of Agricultural Economists

28 July – 2 August 2018

Vancouver, Canada

Agriculture in an interconnected world



COWBELL



YOUR CONFERENCE BULLETIN

Issue # 2

Monday 30 July 2018



In this issue

Canadian Agriculture	2
Past Presidents.....	4
From Member to Member	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Canadian Agriculture

Canada is the second largest country in the world with 9.8 million square kilometers, smaller than Russia (No. 1) and larger than the USA (No. 3). About seven percent of Canada's land mass is used for agricultural production, spread across several soil types, climate and rainfall levels, latitudes and growing conditions. Canada's agricultural resources are capable of generating considerably more output than its small population demands leaving Canada with a strong interest in exports. Several products, wheat, canola, soybeans, pork, beef, potatoes, pulses and greenhouse vegetables have complete supply chains operating at global scale. In other segments, Canadian agri-food is more limited. Canada produces a broad range of products, although many of these are not at sufficient scale to motivate full global-scale supply chains. With its temperate climate, Canada is also a major importer of foods and food products from tropical and semi-tropical regions.

Agriculture and food represent about 6.6 percent of Canada's GDP and about 12.3 percent of employment in Canada. Agriculture and food production, processing, distribution and retail can be found in all provinces and territories although there are considerable differences by region. Agri-food in British Columbia is dominated by wines, milk, and fruits, and vegetables. The prairie provinces (Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba) are renowned for cereal and oilseed crops, pulses, beef and pork. Ontario and Quebec are the largest milk producing provinces in Canada. Besides milk, Ontario produces soybeans, corn, field and greenhouse fruits and vegetables, as well as cattle, pork, poultry and eggs. Quebec is also a major producer of pork, poultry and eggs, as well as maple syrup. Agri-food in Atlantic Canada (Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador) is represented by

fruits and vegetables, pork, feeder cattle and dairy products.

Canada has a trade surplus of \$12.7 billion (2017) in agricultural and food products.¹ The two largest contributors in agriculture to the net trade surplus are cereals and oilseeds, pulses, beef and beef animals, and pork in HS I and HS II. Fats and oils (HS III) trade surplus in 2017 has increased nearly eight-fold since 2000. Canada is a significant net importer of food products and beverages (HS IV). Canada is the fifth largest exporter of agricultural, fish and seafood and food products after the EU, US, Brazil and China, and the fifth largest importer of these products. It is estimated that half of the value of primary agricultural products is exported in raw or processed form.

Canada is a part of several major multilateral, bilateral and regional trade and investment agreements including the WTO, NAFTA (Canada, US and Mexico), CETA (Canada-EU, CPTPP (eleven Pacific nations), Canada-Korea Agreement, as well as with many Caribbean, Latin American, African and Asian countries nations. Negotiations are underway or under consideration for several more.

Canada's agri-food policy development is dominated by six priority areas in the Canadian Agricultural Partnership five year agreement (2018-2023) among federal and provincial governments covering (1) business risk management programs cost shared 60:40 between federal and provincial/territorial governments (AgriStability, AgriInvest, AgriInsurance, AgriRisk and AgriRecovery), (2) science, research, and innovation, (3) environmental sustainability and climate change, (4) value-added agriculture and agri-food processing, (5) public trust, and (6) markets and trade. Individual provincial programs and federal only programs also provide assis-

¹ Measured as net trade in the four sections of the Harmonized System, HS I to IV (Chapters 1 to 24). This covers animals and animal products, vegetable products including cereals, fats and

oils, and food products, beverages, vinegar and tobacco products.

tance in risk management, innovation, and environment. Additionally, the federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Lawrence MacAulay is leading the development of a “national food policy” for Canada with extensive consultations through provinces and industry groups.

Another component of agricultural policy in Canada is the legacy role that supply management plays in dairy, poultry and eggs. This is an arrangement involving the federal and provincial/territorial governments and the commodity marketing boards in each province. The arrangements provide for administered domestic prices, and limited imports under tariff rate quotas. These arrangements have faced considerable scrutiny in recent years, including from other countries regarding the limited access to Canadian markets and the higher prices enjoyed by Canadian producers. It faces Canada with the dichotomy of seeking improved access in other countries for most of Canada’s agri-food products, while defending the maintenance of import limitations on the supply managed industries.

Several significant issues are playing out in Canada’s agri-food industry and the economy more generally. Two high profile issues are the re-negotiation of NAFTA and the design and implementation of a nation-wide carbon tax. On the former, the US imposition of tariffs on steel and aluminum and the threats of tariffs on additional products including

potential US withdrawal from NAFTA, as well as the Canadian (and other countries’) responses threaten the investment climate in Canada and elsewhere. For the latter, the issues involve promoting economic growth while finding solutions to longer term environmental sustainability. Within agriculture, the review of the risk management programs and possible program changes is continuing, as well as the consultations on the development of a food policy for Canada.

A final issue to note is internal trade within Canada. Section 92 of the Canadian Constitution prescribes specific provincial powers, jealously guarded by provinces, that can have the effect of limiting movement of goods across provincial boundaries. This is juxtaposed with the requirement in Section 121 of the Constitution for free trade within Canada. The Supreme Court recently upheld the right of a province to limit movement of goods from one province to another so long as the rationale was based on societal objectives and not primarily to restrict trade. This determination and previous legal precedents underlie the *raison d’être* for the use of federal provincial/territorial agreements in agri-food to align policies on a nation-wide basis, including supply management, the Canadian Agricultural Partnership as well as the continuing work on strengthening the internal trade agreement in Canada.

Student emails...



Past Presidents

The Constitution of the International Association of Agricultural Economists was first approved in 1934, with the first slate of officers elected in that year. Prior to this, Leonard K. Elmhirst provided the leadership and chairmanship at the first conference and George F. Warren of Cornell University at the second Conference.

Founder President: Leonard K. Elmhirst, U.K.	1958-1974
Presidents	
Leonard Knight Elmhirst, U.K.	1934-1958
Sherman E. Johnson, USA	1958-1961
Nils Westermarck, Finland	1961-1970
Samar R. Sen, India	1970-1976
Dennis K. Britton, U.K.	1976-1979
Theodor J. Dams, Germany	1979-1982
Glenn L. Johnson, USA	1982-1985
Michel Petit, France	1985-1988
John W. Longworth, Australia	1988-1991
Csaba Csaki, Hungary	1991-1994
Robert L. Thompson, USA	1994-1997
Douglas D. Hedley, Canada	1997-2000
Joachim von Braun, Germany	2000-2003
Prabhu Pingali, USA	2003-2006
David Coleman, UK	2006-2009
Keijiro Otsuka, Japan	2009-2012
Jo Swinnen	2012-2015
Will Martin	2015-2018
Nick Vink	2018-2021

From Member to Member

The last pages of the daily Cowbell is the place for exchanging ideas, distributing information and communicating with members. If you want to organize an ad-hoc discussion group or a reunion, or communicate other things to the conference attendants, just let us know and it will be published in the next day's Cowbell!

Email your notices for the Cowbell to jancg@sun.ac.za by 14h00 (2pm) of the day before publication.

Relax with a discount massage at the Westin Visa Spa

All delegates are eligible for a 15% discount on all 60 or 90-minute Vida Massages and Facials (not valid on RMT Massages) at the Westin. You should quote IAAE or ICAE to receive this discount.



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Transforming Rural Africa

NBER Research Conference -- Call for Papers

February 28 – March 1, 2019

Sub-Saharan Africa is in the early stages of agricultural productivity growth and structural transformation. Agriculture's share of GDP and of employment have declined in recent decades across the continent and uptake of modern agricultural inputs has expanded along with rural communications and transport infrastructure, though slowly and unevenly. These trends have vast implications for the continent, especially for the region's poorest individuals, who are concentrated in rural regions and most of whom base their livelihoods in agriculture. Given that the World Bank projects 80% of the world's extreme poor will be in sub-Saharan Africa by 2030, the transformation of rural Africa is of tremendous global importance.

Africa's structural transformation process has, to date, largely involved its still-low-productivity agricultural sector, and it has tended towards non-tradable services. This pattern stands in contrast to the structural transformation in many countries on other continents, which involved a move toward manufacturing. The African trajectory risks high urban poverty and growing rural-urban inequality. Inequality has indeed increased in about half of sub-Saharan African countries, and the extent of the increase is strongly associated with the degree of urbanization. How can policy promote a transformation with broad and inclusive benefits? Policy levers that influence the nature of the transformation include instruments that influence the expansion of the non-tradeable service sector vis-à-vis manufacturing, as well as instruments that bolster productivity growth and stability of the smallholder agricultural sector.

To explore the determinants of structural transformation and the impact of various policies on it, the NBER will host a research conference in Cambridge, MA, on February 28-March 1, 2019. This conference is made possible by the generous support of the African Development Bank (AfDB). The conference will bring together researchers who offer a range of perspectives on the structural transformation underway in rural Africa, and will especially emphasize micro-scale evidence from households and firms. Suitable research topics

Editor: Jan C Greyling

Send announcements to jancg@sun.ac.za

include, but are not limited to, electrification, raising agricultural productivity, industrialization, increasing transportation infrastructure and regional connectedness, gender inequality, rural access to finance and factors that influence the quality of life for African people.

The conference will be organized by Chris Barrett (Cornell), Michael Carter (UC-Davis and NBER), Hanan Morsy (AfDB), Abebe Shimeles (AfDB), Tavneet Suri (MIT and NBER), and Chris Udry (Northwestern and NBER). In keeping with the constraints that apply to all NBER research, papers and presentations may not include any policy recommendations or normative statements. Papers presented at the conference will be eligible for distribution through the NBER working paper series. Presenters will need to provide an executive summary of up to 1000 words prior to the conference.

Researchers are invited to submit their papers through the [NBER website](#) no later than midnight EDT on Thursday, November 1, 2018. Authors must provide a complete paper to be considered for the conference; abstracts will not be considered. Proposers with and without NBER affiliations are welcome. Papers by researchers from Africa-based institutions, early career scholars, and from researchers from groups that are under-represented in the economics profession are especially encouraged. Decisions about which papers will be included on the program will be announced in early December, 2018.

	<h2 style="margin: 0;">6th AAE Conference</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">23 – 26 September 2019</h3> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Sheraton Hotel, Abuja, Nigeria</h3>	
 <p style="margin: 0;">6TH AAE CONFERENCE 23 – 26 SEPTEMBER 2019 SHERATON HOTEL - ABUJA, NIGERIA</p>	IMPORTANT DATES	
<p style="margin: 0;">Rising to Meet Evolving Challenges: Africa's Agricultural Development Beyond 2020 Vision www.aae2019.info</p>	ITEM	DATE
	First Call for Papers	30 July 2018
	Second Call for Papers	28 August 2018
	Final Call for Papers	28 September 2018
	Website open for submissions of contributions	20 November 2018
	Submission of Proposals for Symposia	08 December 2018
	SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE for all contributions	07 March 2019
	Early Bird Registration Opens	04 April 2019
	Notification of Acceptance of Papers	06 June 2019
	Early Bird Registration Deadline	20 June 2019
	Presenting Authors Registration Deadline	18 July 2019
	Deadline for Revised Papers Submissions	22 July 2019
	6th AAE Conference, Abuja, Nigeria	23-26 September 2019

Joke of the day: Manuscript-Earth

