

Background and Theme

It is well known that agricultural sectors in developed countries undergo a far-reaching structural change which is driven by technological change, globalization, new societal demands, and a paradigm shift in agricultural policy. Though structural change is a traditional topic in agricultural economics and a vast literature already exists, it seems promising to reconsider this problem for several reasons. From a methodological viewpoint, many challenges remain. The lack of a comprehensive theory of structural change, a behavioral foundation of farmers' decision making, aggregation and endogeneity issues in farm and sector models, or the proper extraction of policy impacts in econometric analyses are only a few of the unsolved problems. However, the development of sophisticated tools for analyzing structural change is not an end in itself, but contributes to the discussion of current problems in agricultural economics. Among them are the conflicts between food and energy production, increasing price volatility on agricultural product and input markets, regional concentration of livestock production, and the unequal market power in value chains.

The seminar takes a fresh look at structural changes of agricultural sectors in developed economies. Structural change is understood in a broad sense. It goes far beyond the change of the number and size of farms and encompasses, for example, changes of production type and structures, technological and institutional changes as well as the dynamics of transactions within food chains with relevance for the structure of the farms. The objective of this seminar is to gain a deeper understanding of the adjustment processes that take place in agriculture. This requires an identification of causalities between exogenous factors, political intervention and farmers' decision making. Such knowledge is an essential precondition to predict and to govern structural change in terms of economic, environmental, and social objectives. The focus of the seminar is on theoretical models and quantitative methods supporting the analysis of structural change.

Topics

The seminar will be based on oral presentations in plenary sessions by invited speakers and in parallel workgroups. Without prejudging the organization of the sessions, expected topics to be covered by the papers include the following items:

- Theoretical Concepts for the Analysis of Structural Change in Agriculture
- Structural Change in Farm Level Models
- Structural Change in Partial and General Equilibrium Models
- (Micro)Econometric Analysis of Structural Change
- Behavioral Models on Entrepreneurial Decision Making
- Economic Performance and Efficiency of Different Farm Structures
- Impacts of Policy on Farm Structures
- The Role of Factor Markets for Structural Change
- The Impact of Technical Change
- Agricultural Production of Renewable Energy

Objectives

The seminar intends to discuss and to analyze the state-of-the-art in research methods for economic analysis of structural change in agriculture. It offers a platform to exchange ideas and to generate an integrated view of structural adjustments in agriculture. As current topics of agricultural policy shall be addressed, the seminar is not only relevant for a scientific community but also for decision makers in politics and administration.



Call for Papers

The organizers invite an international scientific audience in the fields of agricultural economics, agricultural policy, farm management and any other field referring to the subject.

In order to organize the seminar in the best possible manner, participants who intend to contribute a paper are requested to e-mail an abstract of maximal 2 pages (about 500 words) in English by November 15, 2009, to

reinhold.wilhelm@agrar.hu-berlin.de.

The abstract should indicate: 1) the question addressed, 2) the concepts and theories to which one refers, 3) the methodology used, and 4) the results obtained.

Authors of accepted abstracts will be notified by December 31, 2009. The deadline for the final submission of accepted papers is March 1, 2010. All accepted papers will be published on a CD-ROM, and fed in the *AgEcon* Research database. A selection of contributed papers will be published in a Special Issue of the European Review of Agricultural Economics (ERAЕ) after an external review process.

Location

The seminar will take place at the University Campus of the Humboldt-University Berlin. In 2010, Humboldt-University celebrates her bicentenary and will carry out an abundance of festivities.



Berlin is one of the most dynamic and cosmopolitan cities of Europe. It is a place of dense history, offering a wide range of opportunities for business, culture, science and tourism.

The campus is located in the center of Berlin. It can be reached within approx. 10 minutes walking distance from the S-Railway station Friedrichstraße. Accommodations are available in nearby city hotels.





The seminar will be jointly organized by the Department of Agricultural Economics at Humboldt-University Berlin and the DFG Research Unit "Structural Change in Agriculture".

Local Organization Committee

- Martin Odening**, Humboldt-University Berlin (chair)
Harald Grethe, University of Hohenheim
Silke Huettel, Humboldt-University Berlin
Reinhold Wilhelm, Humboldt-University Berlin (secretary)

International Program Committee

- Alfons Balmann**, Leibniz-Institute of Agricultural Development in Central and Eastern Europe (IAMO), Germany
Martina Brockmeier, Johann Heinrich von Thünen-Institute (VTI), Germany
Cornelis Gardebroek, Wageningen University, The Netherlands
Harald Grethe, University of Hohenheim, Germany
Hervé Guyomard, French National Institute of Agricultural Research (INRA), France
Guido van Huylenbroeck, Ghent University, Belgium
Stefan Mann, Agroscope Reckenholz-Tänikon Research Station (ART), Switzerland
Alan Matthews, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
Martin Odening, Humboldt-University Berlin, Germany
Kyösti Pietola, Agrifood Research (MTT), Finland
Frank van Tongeren, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), France
Patrick Westhoff, Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI), USA

Registration

Participants are kindly asked to pre-register by February 1, 2010. Pre-registration and registration will be available through the seminar website at

www.eaae114.hu-berlin.de

Participation Fees

Participants of an EAAE-Seminar have to be member of the EAAE. Registration will be possible until the seminar starts, but reduced rate subscription is offered until February 1, 2010.

	EAAE-Members	Non-EAAE-Members ¹
before February 1	250 Euro	295 Euro
after February 1	295 Euro	335 Euro

The fees include lunches on both seminar days, dinner on the first day, coffee during the breaks and a CD-ROM of the conference contributions. Accommodation is not included. The participation fees for the Non-EAAE-members include the EAAE membership fee (45 Euro) for the period September 2008 - August 2011.

Important Dates

Abstract Submission:	November 15, 2009
Author Notification:	December 31, 2009
Deadline Papers:	March 01, 2010

The 2-day seminar will last from about morning, Thursday, April 15, until about afternoon, Friday 16, 2010.

The official language of the seminar will be English.

Note that the number of participants is limited to about 80 for organizational and technical reasons.

Contact

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European Association of
Agricultural Economists (EAAE)



SiAg - DFG-Research Unit
Structural Change in Agriculture



Announcement and Call for Papers

114th Seminar of the EAAE

Structural Change in Agriculture: Modeling Policy Impacts and Farm Strategies

April 15 - 16, 2010
Berlin, Germany

Organization

Martin Odening, Humboldt-University Berlin

Harald Grethe, University of Hohenheim

www.eaae114.hu-berlin.de

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