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HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY
SUMMARIES OF ARTICLES

Agricultural System in Marginal Upland Area

Hiroki Ukawa

Upland farms in Hokkaido, have achieved an enlarged scale and a specialization of product. They are in the face of problems of cost reduction, quality improvement of upland products and introduction of new intensive product. In Shirataki village, that is located in marginal upland area, the agricultural system is solving the problems.

This agricultural system consists of regional resource utilization and introduction of beef cattle in upland farming. The beef cattle raising center, which is managed by agricultural co-operatives, feed new born bull calves produced in dairy farming. Roughage for beef cattle is ammonia treated wheat straws which are by-products in upland farming. They also utilize bark which is by-product in sawmill as bedding. Compost and barnyard manure are supplied to upland farming.

In this integrated system, ammonia treatment is a key technology. This system enables to raise beef cattle by utilizing regional resource, and to supply compost and barnyard manure to upland. Raising beef cattle is intensive and profitable. Supply of compost brings yield increase and improvement of quality in upland products. In this way, this system enables to solve the above problems and increase productivity and income level in regional agriculture and upland farmings.

(Hokkaido National Agricultural Experiment Station)

Organizational Innovation in German Agriculture

Atsuyuki Asami

Organizational Innovation has become the most important innovation for agricultural development in these days. Organizational Innovation in Germany is introduced in this paper in order to analyze the traits of Japanese agricultural organization, because we can find a lot of similarities in economic environment between Japan and Germany. All kinds of agricultural organization are introduced, for example "Maschinenringe", "Erzeugergemeinschaften", "Kreditgenossenschaften", "Warengenossenschaften", "Dienstleistungsgenossenschaften", "Genossenschaftenverband", "Bayerische Genossenschaften", "Baurnverband" and others.
After the comparative analysis between Japanese and German organization, I can conclude that Japanese organization pursue the economies of inter-organizational transactions but German organization try to pursue the merits of market transactions. (Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine)

Evaluations of Farmland Externality in the City Area: Hedonic Price Approach

Yukio Hiromasa and Fumiki Fukazawa

The objective of this study is to measure the value of the agriculture as an environmental goods, especially the value of externality of farmland in the city area. Although the externality of farmland is not evaluated directly by a market, we can find it as the attributes of land which is priced in land market. Therefore, the spatial variation of land prices elucidate the evaluation of its externality on some conditions.

In this study, hedonic price approach is applied to the measurement that how farmland is evaluated as green tract in Sapporo city area. First, we examine the capitalization hypothesis. Next, we build the hedonic price model, a dependent variable is land price for residence and independent variables are those represent the attributes of each residential area including green tract, convenience and environmental factors.

Our major conclusions are summarized as follows.

1. The evaluation of externality of farmland in city area is the same as the other green tract.

2. The evaluation of externality of land as green tract including agricultural land is negative, but the places with abundant in green tract are evaluated positive as same as convenience. (Hokkaido University)

Multi-Logit Regression Analysis on Dairy Managers’ Awareness of Trade Liberalization of Milk Products

Masakazu Nagaki

An attempt has been made to identify dairy managers' awareness of the trade liberalization of milk products based on the factors relating to individual farm household and personal factors such as farming philosophy, creativity, and managerial attitudes.

A farm survey was conducted of dairy managers in Hokkaido and 613 dairy farms responded. A multi-logit model was used in order to relate the distribution of four different awareness levels regarding trade liberalization with the factors causing these attitudes. The result of estimation, based on a maximum-likelihood approach, satisfactory interpreted. Finally, simple simulation has
been made. Significant causal factors for managers' attitudes were the 1) dissatisfaction as to prevailing production quota, 2) heavy farm debt, and 3) dairyman's practices as a manager. Consequently, if increased production is allowed under the current production quota scheme and if loan repayment is subsidized, calculated probability of the attitude that agree to gradual liberalization of domestic market will increase. It should be stressed that education and extension activities are essential since it was found that dairy managers who want to continue a protection policy have not been executing basic management practices, such as data recording, numerical analysis, the basis for scientific management decisions.

(Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, Tottori University at Present)