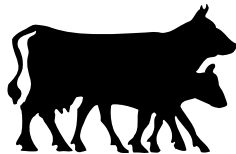




The XXVIII International Conference of Agricultural Economists

18 – 24 August 2012

Rafain Convention Center, Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil



COWBELL



CONFERENCE BULLETIN

Issue #6

Friday, 24 August 2012



Conference attendance 2012

| Country | Delegates | Country | Delegates | Country | Delegates |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| USA | 159 | Switzerland | 8 | Cameroon | 1 |
| Germany | 74 | Nigeria | 7 | Czech Republic | 1 |
| Brazil | 55 | Norway | 7 | Denmark | 1 |
| China | 32 | Colombia | 5 | Eritrea | 1 |
| Italy | 29 | Mexico | 5 | Greece | 1 |
| Kenya | 28 | Austria | 4 | Hong Kong | 1 |
| France | 24 | Malawi | 4 | Indonesia | 1 |
| UK | 18 | Senegal | 4 | Iran | 1 |
| South Africa | 17 | Sweden | 4 | Kazakhstan | 1 |
| Canada | 15 | Ghana | 3 | Korea | 1 |
| India | 15 | Peru | 3 | Mali | 1 |
| Australia | 14 | Tanzania | 3 | Mozambique | 1 |
| Japan | 14 | Tunisia | 3 | Nicaragua | 1 |
| Belgium | 13 | Uganda | 3 | Pakistan | 1 |
| Chile | 13 | Zimbabwe | 3 | Rwanda | 1 |
| Spain | 13 | Bangladesh | 2 | Saudi Arabia | 1 |
| Argentina | 12 | Equador | 2 | Singapore | 1 |
| Netherlands | 12 | Finland | 2 | Thailand | 1 |
| Ethiopia | 10 | Ireland | 2 | Uruguay | 1 |
| Poland | 10 | Philippines | 2 | Total | 694 |
| Unknown | 10 | Vietnam | 2 | | |
| Hungary | 9 | Burkina Faso | 1 | | |

Henry A Wallace

The information in this article was taken from a biography of Henry A Wallace called "American dreamer: a life of Henry A Wallace" by John C Culver and John Hyde (New York, Norton & Co, 2000) as well as the respective IAAE Conference Proceedings.

One of the more interesting delegates at the first International Conference of Agricultural Economists was Henry A Wallace, listed in the Proceedings as coming from the 'Wallace Publishing Company, Des Moines, Iowa.' Henry A Wallace started his career in the family publishing business that was established by his grandfather and father, the latter a Professor at Iowa State University (he was appointed associate professor of dairying in the same year he was awarded his bachelor's degree!).

Henry A Wallace's father was appointed Secretary of Agriculture in the Harding administration, at which point the son took over as Editor of the *Wallaces' Farmer* in Des Moines after having graduated with a degree in agriculture from Iowa State. During the 1920s Wallace Jnr. developed a range of ideas on agricultural policy to help cope with the post-war slump in farm gate prices that preceded the Great Depression. It was also during this time (1926) that Henry A Wallace and eight other men established a company called the Hi-Bred Corn Company, with Henry providing 50% of the initial capital (\$5000). Eventually the company was renamed Pioneer Hi-Bred. When it was sold to Du Pont in 1999 for \$7.7bn, about a quarter of the shareholding was still in the hands of Henry's three children!

His interest in farm policy issues eventually resulted in an introduction to Rexford Tugwell, a member of Franklin Roosevelt's original 'Brain Trust', and then to Roosevelt himself. This resulted in his appointment as Secretary of Agriculture in 1932, and eventually as Vice-President of the USA in 1940. Had Roosevelt kept him on the ticket as Vice-President in 1944, he would have become President on Roosevelt's death four months into his fourth term instead of Harry Truman.

According to Culver and Hyde, Henry A Wallace read two papers at this first IAAE Conference. One was supposedly a 'highly technical study of the graphic versus the statistical method of computing multiple curvilinear regression lines', of which Wallace said, "I put a lot of work into it and the British didn't give a damn!" There is some mystery here, as the paper is not included in the Proceedings of the first Conference. However, the second paper, entitled 'Relation of the tariff to farm relief in the United States' is included.

In this paper, Wallace argued against protectionist tariffs on manufacturing goods by the USA, as these impoverished consumers in Europe, with the result that they could not afford to repay war loans and buy agricultural exports from the USA at the same time. He is quoted as saying: "When we demand that the European countries pay up the money they owe us and at the same time raise our tariff, it is just like our having hold of them back of the neck with one hand pulling them toward us, and using a pitchfork against their belly with the other hand

poking them away from us." This was weeks before the Wall Street Crash of 1929 ...

2. Henry Wallace in Canada, 1938

Henry Wallace's connection with the IAAE did not end at the first Conference. In 1938, when Secretary of Agriculture, he again presented a paper at the Canada conference in a session entitled 'International trade in relation to agricultural development'. The author of the other paper in this session was G. Minderhoud from Wageningen. Both were accused by their discussant, Asher Hobson from the University of Wisconsin, who detected a 'dominant note' in the two presentations, namely that: "... too much dependence may not be placed upon the likelihood of increased volume of foreign trade in agricultural products." Note the date of this debate, however – on the eve of the Second World War. Both turned out to be correct – the presenters in the following decade, the discussant in the longer term. In his reply to the discussants, Secretary Wallace addressed this point as follows:

"It has been suggested that Prof Minderhoud and I were very pessimistic about the future of international trade ... I am quite willing to grant that the time may come five or ten years from now ... when international trade might again expand extraordinarily and might conceivably expand faster than it has ever expanded before. I see no indication of that at the present time either from the facts or from the psychology of the situation ... "

3. The basis of international trade in agricultural goods

Continuing the history of Henry Wallace's connection with the IAAE, there was another interesting intervention at the 1938 Conference in Canada as a result of the discussion on the presentations in the session on 'International trade in relation to agricultural development' by Henry Wallace and Prof. Minderhoud from Wageningen. Their second discussant, Oliver Master, from the Economic Division, Commercial Intelligence Service, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, made the following comment, which is as relevant today as it was then (this quote covers only the first of the two points):

"Running through the opening papers that have been presented by Mr. Secretary Wallace and Professor Minderhoud, there are two veins of common thought that keep constantly coming to the surface.

First, there is the insistence in both papers upon recognition of the fact that international trade rests upon the principle that, if nations are to sell, they must be prepared to buy. Professor Minderhoud, in referring to the types of trade agreements that are now so much in evidence, says: 'The

negotiations about these agreements show the truth of the old adage that in order to be able to export one has to import as well.' It seems hardly conceivable that the world should have reached its present stage of commercial development without having acquired an ingrained grasp of that basic fact. But we cannot blink our eyes to the sober reality that the lesson has not been learned. In nine short words Secretary Wallace has stated the cold truth that has still to be faced: 'Every one wants to sell. None wants to buy.' How can one explain the power of resistance with which this attitude is held? Partly perhaps in this way. Prior to the great depression and particularly in the pre-War period the flow of international trade and of capital movements worked so smoothly along multilateral lines, made its adjustments of balances so unobtrusively in triangular and multi-angular ways, that the fundamentals of the system were hidden from the common view. Under those conditions there was some excuse for failure to see and fully to understand that nations must buy in order to sell.

There is no such excuse for failure to-day. Recent years have stripped the mechanism of world commerce of its refinements and accessories. To quote from a recent study by the Royal Institute of International Affairs: 'The system of international investment lies shattered, and the idea of international lending is viewed with profound misgiving both in debtor and in creditor countries.' Gone also, without immediate prospect of return, are the gold standard and the monetary system that furnished the operating equipment, if not the basis, of exchange stability. Shorn of these vital complements, trade between many countries has been thrown back upon primitive methods, has been reduced to the simplest form. The fundamentals of commerce between countries have been laid bare and exposed for all to see. International trade no longer appears as an intricate, delicate, and mysterious mechanism, requiring an expert to explain what makes it go. The processes of bilateral bargaining and of bilateral balancing, as we now see them

in action, should clear away—if anything can clear away—all doubt as to whether nations must buy in order to sell. Every clearing and payments agreement is nothing more or less than a two-sided admission that 'we can buy from you only if you will buy from us'. The formula admits of little variation. It may be stated in any one of half a dozen ways, but it is always reducible to words of one syllable that no one can mistake. Whether they are willing to recognize it or not, all countries have been compelled to accept to some extent this basis of doing business.

I am enough of an optimist, or of a fatalist, to believe that the very universality of this reversion to primitive methods of carrying on commerce is bound to serve a large purpose over and above its primary utility in rescuing international trade from a descent to even lower levels. Education of the most practical and vivid type—one might almost say of the roughest, hardest kind—must precede and underlie any durable reconstruction of world commerce. Speaking of the obstacles that confront the trade-restoring objectives of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Programme, Secretary Wallace has said: 'Each nation wants to expand its exports and cut down its imports.' That attitude or aim, if not broken down, spells deadlock and stagnation in the field of international trade. If it is to be combated with success, it must be through demonstration of its futility. Could there be any more convincing form of demonstration than the world is now receiving in regard to the fact that buying and selling must go hand in hand? How long must the demonstration be continued before that fact is fully digested? And, when it is fully digested, what will be the result? Shall we find that, broadly speaking, the desire to expand exports is stronger among nations than their desire to cut down imports? Or shall we be forced to the view that the desire to sell is weaker and less insistent than the urge to restrict imports? In the one event we may expect the restoration and renewed growth of trade; in the other, continued shrinkage.



Program announcements

Program changes

The Paper Session "Retail Food Prices", scheduled on Friday, August 24 from 8.30 to 10.00 will be held in Iguacu V.

Moderator: Willis Kosura

Speakers: Giovanni Anania, University of Calabria, Charles Seguin, University of California, Berkeley and Tim Lloyd, University of Nottingham

Papers:

Sales Behaviour and Supermarket Pricing: A Duration Analysis of UK Supermarket Prices

Hao Lan, University of Nottingham; Tim Lloyd, University of Nottingham; Christopher Wyn Morgan, University of Nottingham

Price Dispersion, Search Costs and Consumers and Sellers Heterogeneity in Retail Food Markets

Giovanni Anania, University of Calabria; Rosanna Nisticò, University of Calabria



XIX IFMA CONGRESS **(The International Farm Management Association)**

21-26 JULY 2013,
Warsaw, Poland

Transforming agriculture - between policy, science and the consumer

General Program

Day 1. Plenary sessions

Day 2 and 4. Field visits - farms, agri-food businesses, research and consulting institutions

Day 3. Plenary, contributed papers and poster session

Day 5. Plenary session and thematic (organized) session

Pre- and Post-Congress Tours as well as program for accompanying persons will be offered.

Call for papers

Submission: 31 January 2013

Notification of acceptance: 31 March 2013

Detailed information on the website:

<http://www.ifma19.org/>

IAMO Forum 2013

Rural areas for future generations: Public services, entrepreneurship and quality of life

19-21 June 2013, Halle (Saale), Germany

Leibniz Institute of Agricultural Development in Central and Eastern Europe (IAMO) and Johann Heinrich von Thünen Institute (vTI) invite to IAMO Forum 2013. It offers platform for academic exchange focusing on the development of rural areas in transition economies of Eastern Europe, the Former Soviet Union, and Asia. We welcome contributions discussing the depopulation of rural areas, the development of off-farm rural activities or impact assessment of rural policy interventions. Especially, we invite work on new concepts to measure well-being of rural households and economic development beyond income based poverty or GDP-like measures. The papers may exploit a wide variety of theoretical and methodological approaches from economics, sociology, geography or political sciences. Interdisciplinary contributions are particularly appreciated.

We also encourage proposals for organised sessions and for mini-symposia that focus on a specific topic within the interests of the Forum.

For further information visit www.iamo.de/fileadmin/forum2013/flyer.pdf or contact Diana Traikova (traikova@iamo.de).



Conference Announcement

GMCC-13, the 6th International Conference on Coexistence between Genetically Modified (GM) and non-GM based Agricultural Supply Chains will take place in Lisbon, Portugal, on November 12-15, 2013 (www.GMCC13.org).

Call for Papers will be launched in the coming weeks.

The organization of GMCC-13 is a partnership between the Faculty of Agronomy of the University of Lisbon (ISA), the Polytechnic Institute of Santarem (IPS), the Portuguese Association of Maize and Sorghum Producers (ANPROMIS) and the Portuguese Association of Feed Manufacturers (IACA).

As with previous GMCC conferences, the event will gather academic and industry experts, regulators, policy makers and other key stakeholders from around the world to discuss both specific and comprehensive coexistence topics.

Information about the previous conference is available at <http://gmcc-11.com/>

TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT MÜNCHEN

TUM is the first university in Germany to reinforce its recruitment policy by a comprehensive tenure track system. Based on best international standards and transparent performance criteria, TUM FACULTY TENURE TRACK offers quality-oriented academic career options for high-potential young scientists, from the appointment as Assistant Professor through a permanent position as Associate Professor and on to Full Professor.

The TUM Center of Life and Food Sciences Weihenstephan invites applications for the

Tenure Track Assistant Professorship »Governance in International Agribusiness«

BayWa Endowed Professorship; initially pay-scale grade W2, to be filled as soon as possible.

We are looking for an excellent junior scientist with a high potential for developing an internationally recognized research agenda in the field of governance and/or institutional economics applied to agribusiness. The successful candidate is expected to conduct research and teaching on the role of international organizations, global enterprises, company strategies and organization, intercultural management and/or corporate social responsibility. The initial appointment will be for 6 years. After positive evaluation in the final year, the candidate is tenured on an Associate Professor level. Tenure evaluation may be initiated after a minimum of three years only in exceptional cases, justified by extraordinarily outstanding achievements or in regard of particularly strategic significance in shaping the university's profile. Eligible candidates have established a strong track record in the postdoctoral phase, and demonstrate pedagogical and personal aptitude as well as substantial international experience. Family leave will be taken into consideration.

Supported by competitive start-up resources, candidates are expected to develop an independent and vigorous research program. Furthermore, candidates should be committed to excellence in undergraduate/graduate teaching and in supervising PhD students.

Full Professorship »Agricultural Production and Resource Economics«

Pay-scale grade W3, commencing in October 2013.

We are seeking a scholar of distinction with a high international reputation in agricultural production and resource economics. The successful candidate will have demonstrated an internationally recognized research program as well as outstanding academic records and is expected to perform cutting-edge research in a relevant field in agricultural business economics. A proven ability to attract competitive national and international funding is expected.

Active participation in the Research Department of Agricultural Economics, the newly founded Hans Eisenmann- Centre for Agriculture, active participation in collaborative research projects, and cooperation with the TUM School of Management is highly appreciated. In addition to providing strong, committed leadership and inspiration in research, the candidate will also be expected to actively contribute to the ongoing development of the university's research and teaching program, support the promotion of young scientists and participate in university boards and committees.

Teaching assignments include courses in the subject area and the basic courses offered by the department as well as courses for other academic TUM departments. Prerequisites for these positions are a university degree, a doctoral degree, teaching skills at university level, and additional academic achievements (according to Art. 7 and Art. 10 Abs. 3 BayHSchPG). Candidates for these positions should be aged 51 or under at the time of appointment. The ability to teach in English is a prerequisite for TUM Professors.

As part of the Excellence Initiative of the German federal and state governments, TUM has been pursuing the strategic goal of substantially increasing the diversity of its faculty. As an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer, TUM explicitly encourages nominations of and applications from women as well as from all others who would bring additional diversity dimensions to the university's research and teaching strategies. Preference will be given to disabled candidates with essentially the same qualifications. The TUM Munich Dual Career Office provides support for dual career couples and families.

Applications accompanied by supporting documentation (CV, certificates, credentials, list of publications including 3 selected reprints, list of courses taught, and presentation of research and teaching strategies, names and addresses of at least 3 references) should be submitted by 30 September 2012 to:

Dean of TUM Center for Life and Food Sciences Weihenstephan, Technische Universität München, Alte Akademie 8, 85350 Freising-Weihenstephan, Germany. E-Mail: Dekanat@wzw.tum.de

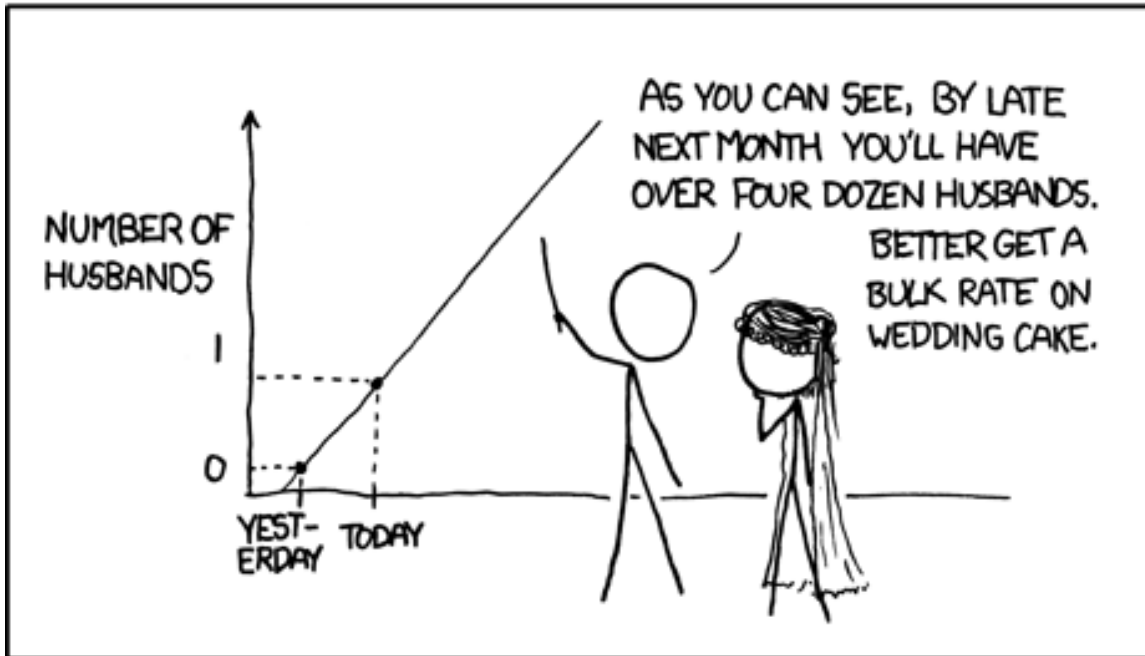


Thanks are due to Emily Bianchini for her help in ensuring that the Cowbell was printed every day.



JOKES OF THE DAY

MY HOBBY: EXTRAPOLATING



UNIVERSITY WEBSITE

