

Agricultural Economics Call for Papers

Proposed Special Issue of *Agricultural Economics* on “Sustainable Agricultural Intensification”

The following is a call for papers for a special issue of *Agricultural Economics* on the theme of “Sustainable Agricultural Intensification”. The special issue builds on a subset of the papers presented at an international workshop held at Cornell University in May 2003 (workshop details available online at <http://afsnrm.aem.cornell.edu/poverty/>). The purpose of the call for papers is to supplement papers prepared for the workshop with other outstanding research papers related to the stated theme.

THEME:

Most of the world’s poor are engaged in agriculture, while food products dominate the expenditures of many of the poor not engaged in agriculture. Thus, agricultural growth is central to poverty reduction. Yet future agricultural growth will depend to a large extent on increased output per unit of land and water as few additional natural resources are available for expansion at the extensive margin. Widely different approaches exist, however, regarding how best to stimulate agricultural productivity to reduce poverty and satisfy growing food demands without further stressing the natural environment. One paradigm, the “Green Revolution” approach, is based on the use of high levels of external inputs (irrigation, fertilizers, agro-chemicals) and improved management. A second approach depends on genetically engineered varieties to address plant disease, pest or environmental problems and/or to increase yields. A third, “agroecological” approach relies heavily on improved management and the intensive use organic inputs through intercropping, crop-livestock integration, improved fallows, IPM and other strategies. All of these approaches, and others, play out under a host of widely disparate agroecological, market and policy conditions that influence their acceptance by farmers and their success in addressing production, poverty and environment goals.

The objective of this special issue is to assemble recent findings on strategies for sustainable agricultural intensification. Recent research has focused a variety of relevant themes, including: the development of integrated household livelihood strategies that employ diverse technologies and systems to simultaneously address multiple goals (food production, poverty reduction, reduce environmental degradation); bioeconomic and systems modeling methodologies that integrate biophysical and socio-economic dimensions at different scales; differing strategic and policy approaches to achieving conservation and environmental goals in concert with food security objectives; etc. Research along these and related lines raises many questions: What are the tradeoffs involved in jointly achieving multiple goals? How replicable are micro-based systems and technologies, and what are the market and policy implications if they are successfully scaled up? What are the dimensions of successful agricultural intensification strategies that makes them truly “sustainable”? And how can we best promote these sustainable strategies through research, policy, and social learning strategies?

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES:

Submission of an article is understood to imply that the article is original and is not considered for publication elsewhere. Submission also implies that all authors have approved the paper for release and are in agreement with its content. Upon acceptance of the article by the journal, the author(s) will be asked to transfer the copyright to the publisher. Authors are asked to submit articles to the *Agricultural Economics* editorial office by November 1, 2003.

Submissions can be mailed to:

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Please format the submission following the Guide for Authors, which is available in *Agricultural Economics* 28(2003), pp. 79-83, or online at www.elsevier.com/locate/agecon
Please note in the cover letter that the submission is intended for the special issue on “Sustainable Agricultural Intensification”.