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Contested Global Governance Space and Transnational Agrarian Movements
by Mauro Conti

An empirical, un-matched study of transnational movements deeply embedded in financialization theories.

This book is the first scholarly study of the new transnational agrarian movements (TAM) from their perspective. It explores how they strategize against the global governance of agriculture to confront neoliberal aims of expanding capital penetration in the countryside. TAMs oppose this phase of financialization and instead foster a system based on agroecology and re-peasantization of production, valuing labour and natural resources over capital. The book outlines how TAMs defend food sovereignty and oppose neoliberal policies in the context of climate change negotiations. It is written from their perspective, merging scholarship with activism through a methodology of observant participation.

MAURO CONTI is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Calabria, Italy. He works as a consultant on family farming for the FAO. He is the past global coordinator of the Secretariat of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty and was serving as president and policy officer at Centro Internazionale Crocevia.

agroecology; climate change; capital accumulation; family farming; globalization; food sovereignty
The Political Economy of Agribusiness
A Critical Development Perspective

by Maria Luisa Mendonça

The Political Economy of Agribusiness by Maria Luisa Mendonça is a brilliantly written small book about a huge issue confronting humanity: agribusiness — and how it causes social problems such as land grabbing, inequality and exploitation, and provokes resistance. It is a must-read for academics and activists alike.

— Saturnino M. Borras Jr., International Institute of Social Studies (ISS), now in the Netherlands

This book analyzes global economic policies that impact rural communities, land use, food sovereignty and environmental justice.

What is agribusiness? When did it emerge? In answering these questions, Mendonça traces the global contours of contemporary agriculture, bringing a critical analysis of the origins of agribusiness in the US and its subsequent international signature. The investigation reveals that the industrialization of agriculture was a result of a dialectical movement of economic crisis and expansion, and her analysis sheds new light on current debates about food sovereignty, agriculture technologies, international financial markets and farmland speculation.

Mendonça challenges the established contemporary discourse regarding the contribution that agribusiness makes to economic development. Industrialization of agriculture demands increasing amounts of credit for capital inputs, which are captured by agribusiness corporations, leading to market concentration. For those who are new to the study of agribusiness, this book provides a clear introduction to global trends. For those more engaged it serves as a valuable overview, an excellent text for students involved in studies of agriculture and food sovereignty.

MARIA LUISA MENDONÇA is director of Rede Social de Justiça e Direitos Humanos (Network for Social Justice and Human Rights), research scholar at the Center for Place, Culture and Politics, CUNY Graduate Center, editor of the annual book of Human Rights in Brazil and co-founder of the World Social Forum. Her expertise in the political economy of agriculture lends itself to experiences in documentary filmmaking, investigative journalism and community-based research and as an expert for the United Nations.
Tiny Engines of Abundance
A History of Peasant Productivity and Repression

by Jim Handy

This book demonstrates the fallacy of 200 years of proclaiming the necessity of industrial agriculture to feed the world. The author shows the various ways peasant livelihoods have been obstructed, attacked and betrayed, and debunks the arguments used to justify those attacks, which continue today. This book is essential reading for anyone interested in food sovereignty, which should be all of us.

—MIGUEL A. ALTIERI, emeritus professor of agroecology at the University of California at Berkeley and founder of the Latin American Scientific Society for Agroecology

Food production by small peasant farmers is both more productive and sustainable than food produced by corporate agriculture.

This book provides a historical and comparative perspective of peasant productivity using case studies portraying the extraordinary efficiency with which English cottagers, Jamaican ex-slaves, Guatemalan Mayan campesinos, Nigerian hill farmers and Kerala hut dwellers obtained bountiful and diversified harvests from small parcels of land, provisioning for their families and often local markets. These stories provide us with pictures of carefully limited needs, of sustainable livelihoods and of resilient self-reliance attacked relentlessly and mercilessly in the name of capital, progress, development, modernity and/or the state. For two hundred years we have been told that the hundreds of thousands, or millions, or billions of hungry mouths require that peasants be dispossessed to allow more industrious farmers to feed them. This book helps make it clear how wrong we have been. Handy’s approach is original, and the book will engage people interested in the history of the peasantry, rural development and the quest for food sovereignty.

JIM HANDY is a professor of history at the University of Saskatchewan. He has written extensively on Guatemalan history and more generally on peasant economies, agrarian reform and political economy. He has been president of the Canadian Association for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, which awarded him a Distinguished Fellow recognition in 2015, particularly for his contribution to graduate student training. He has received numerous teaching awards and the J.W. George Ivany Internationalization Award by the University of Saskatchewan.
Global Fishers
The Politics of Transnational Movements
by Elyse Noble Mills

This very well researched book provides a valuable overview of key network organizations, tracing their origins, development and engagement in contemporary political spaces.
— CHARLES LEVKOE, Lakehead University

This book fills an important gap in the literature on global politics and transnational social movements through its focus on small-scale fishers’ movements.
— KRISTEN LOWITT, Queen’s University

A must read for anyone working at the intersection of movements and food governance.
— JESSICA DUNCAN, Wageningen University

This book analyzes political economy and ecology debates to focus on socio-ecological dynamics of fisheries politics.

Contemporary politics around fisheries are complex and contentious. Fishers’ movements and their political agendas have played a critical role in global fisheries, particularly in the context of rural and environmental transformations. This book explores two transnational movements representing small-scale fishers — the World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP) and the World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers (WFF). It brings the politics of these movements into academic and political debates by exploring three connected analytical spheres: transnational movements contesting and seeking to influence the politics of global fisheries; international political spaces movements are prioritizing; and contentious fisheries issues movements are struggling over. This book draws upon political economy and political ecology debates, focusing its multi-layered analytical approach on socio-ecological dynamics of fisheries politics.

ELYSE NOBLE MILLS is a program associate with the International Collective in Support of Fishworkers, working with fishers’ organizations on international processes and campaigns. She has a PhD from the International Institute of Social Studies in the Netherlands, where her research focused on the politics of transnational fishers’ movements and global fisheries.

Fishers’ Forum; anti-WTO protests; Indian Ocean earthquake; FAO; COP21; CFS; small-scale fisheries guidelines; aquatic genetic resources; sustainable development
Speculative Harvests
Financialization, Food, and Agriculture
by Jennifer Clapp and S. Ryan Isakson

The centralization of finance and the corporatization of agriculture is having a dramatic impact on the quality and availability of the food we eat.

In *Speculative Harvests*, Clapp and Isakson investigate the evolving relationship between the agrifood and financial sectors, paying particular attention to how the contemporary process of financialization is reshaping agrarian development and food systems. Understood as the growing prevalence of financial actors, markets, motives and profits in an economy, financialization is a defining feature of modern-day capitalism that is reconfiguring the distribution of wealth and economic power in a variety of contexts across the globe. In a clear and accessible manner, Clapp and Isakson explain the character and ramifications of these changes for the world food economy and systematically detail how different elements of agrifood provisioning — including commodity trading, farmland tenure, the management of agricultural risk, and food trading, processing, and retailing — have been reconfigured for financial purposes. Clapp and Isakson highlight the importance of confronting the financialization of food and agriculture, identify the challenges of conventional approaches to food system reform and consider innovative alternatives.

*Speculative Harvests* is essential reading for food scholars and activists who not only seek a better understanding of the problems inherent to the contemporary food system but also are also in search of effective interventions towards its positive transformation.

Jennifer Clapp is a professor and Canada Research Chair in Global Food Security and Sustainability in the School of Environment, Resources and Sustainability at the University of Waterloo.

S. Ryan Isakson is an assistant professor of International Development Studies and Geography at the University of Toronto.

agrochemicals; price risk; ABCD companies; OECD; climate change; FAO; monsanto; socioecological resilience; private equity
Growing and Eating Sustainably
Agroecology in Action

by Dana James and Evan Bowness
foreword by Hannah Wittman

In times of crisis, there is nothing better than a book “upwards,” full of light and life. This delightful and straightforward book allows the reader to travel through thoughts to imagine how the interaction between people and nature produces rural landscapes and a food culture.

—Sergio Schneider, Rural Development/Food Studies, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil

A creative and refreshing delivery that puts the voices of the people practising agroecology daily as front and centre. The extensive use of photography and accessible language represents an important contribution to anyone implementing agroecology as a transformative approach.

—V. Ernesto Méndez, professor of agroecology and environmental studies, University of Vermont

Through photostories, this book explores how agroecology is practised by Brazilian farmers and community organizers who are leading the way in creating sustainable and just food systems.

A few powerful multinational corporations have consolidated control of agricultural markets and wealth while many farmers struggle to make a living and millions of people go hungry every day. Consumer access to healthy and culturally appropriate food remains largely an option for only those who can afford it. Responding to these destructive practices, global agrarian movements are calling for a transition to agroecology. Agroecological farming follows ecological principles for growing food in a way that respects diverse sociocultural contexts, connects urban eaters and rural growers, and attends to power dynamics.

Growing and Eating Sustainably shines light on the process of this transition by showcasing the experiences of growers and eaters in southern Brazil, a country where agrarian movements have long been at the forefront of pushing for more sustainable and just food systems. Through stories and photographs of people, landscapes, farms and farming practices, and urban spaces, this book communicates how to advance systems-level agroecological transitions.

Dana James is a PhD candidate, Vanier Scholar and Public Scholar in the Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability at the University of British Columbia. Her doctoral research explores agroecological farming and participation in agrarian social movements in Brazil.

Evan Bowness is an environmental sociologist and urban political ecologist, UBC Public Scholar and PhD candidate at the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems and the Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability at the University of British Columbia.

agroecology; food sovereignty; food justice; organic agriculture
The Fair Trade Handbook
Building a Better World, Together

edited by Gavin Fridell, Zack Gross and Sean McHugh

This fantastic, insightful volume underscore how change does not simply happen, emphasizing what has been, is, and can be done by the movement that aims to make trade fair. An essential guide on the path that leads to a more sustainable and inclusive world.

—ADAM SNEYD, University of Guelph

This book is comprehensive and highly instructive, covering a broad range of topics, including climate justice, the challenges of small producers, fair trade fashion, the economics of free and fair trade, teaching fair trade, and a great deal more.... This is an essential reference guide to have at your school or educational setting.

—IAN SHANAHAN, Green Teacher

Can global trade be made fair? This handbook reflects on the shortfalls of conventional business, production and global trade and how we can change our policies, practices and behaviours.

Framed within the common goal of advancing trade justice and South-North solidarity, *The Fair Trade Handbook* presents a broad interpretation of fair trade and a wide-ranging dialogue between different viewpoints. Canadian researchers in particular have advanced a transformative vision of fair trade, rooted in the cooperative movement and arguing for a more central role for Southern farmers and workers. Contributors to this book look at the issues within global trade, and assess fair trade and how to make it more effective against the broader structures of the capitalist, colonialist, racist and patriarchal global economy. The debates and discussions are set within a critical development studies and critical political economy framework. However, this book will appeal to a wide range of readers, as it translates the key issues for a popular audience.

Includes: *A Lively Bean that Brightens Lives: A Graphic Story* by Bill Barrett and Curt Shoultz

GAVIN FRIDELL is the Canada Research Chair in International Development Studies at Saint Mary’s University.

ZACK GROSS has been a Prairie-based international development activist for more than fifty years. He is a member of the Board of Fairtrade Canada and Advisory Board of the Canadian Fair Trade Network.

SEAN MCHUGH is the founder and executive director of the Canadian Fair Trade Network (CFTN) and represents Canada on the International Fair Trade Towns Committee.

solidarity; justice; charity; coffee; sugar; human rights; Southern farmers
Frontline Farmers
How the National Farmers Union Resists Agribusiness and Creates Our New Food Future

edited by Annette Aurélie Desmarais

The book offers a front-seat look at some of the key organizing efforts undertaken by one of the founding members of the global food sovereignty movement. It is an important contribution to the conversation on contemporary food movements and offers numerous insights into the on-the-ground and evolving struggle for food sovereignty in Canada and beyond.

—AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN VALUES, 37, 931–932 (2020)

Who grows the food we eat, how do viable family farms help determine the safety, diversity and sustainability of Canada’s food systems, and why is this important to those of us who do not farm?

Who grows the food we eat? How important is it that family farms are viable in Canada today and in the future? How do viable family farms help determine the safety, diversity and sustainability of Canada’s food systems? Why is this important to those of us who do not farm? Frontline Farmers introduces readers to the National Farmers Union (NFU). For over fifty years, the NFU has been on the frontlines of our food system. From fighting against transnational corporations that seek to control our food system by imposing genetically modified organisms into our food, to protecting seeds, maintaining orderly marketing, saving the prison farms, keeping the land in the hands of family farmers, farming ecologically and building food sovereignty, the NFU has been front and centre of farm and food activism. This book collects the voices of NFU members who tell the stories of the key struggles of the progressive farm movement in Canada: fighting to build viable rural communities, protecting the family farm and creating socially just and ecologically sustainable food systems. Frontline Farmers reveals that the stakes for controlling our food in Canada have never been higher.

The book was made possible with support from the Canada Research Chair Program.

ANNETTE AURÉLIE DESMARAIS is the Canada Research Chair in Human Rights, Social Justice and Food Sovereignty at the University of Manitoba. She is the author of La Vía Campesina: Globalization and the Power of Peasants. Prior to obtaining her doctorate in geography, Annette was a small-scale grain farmer in Saskatchewan. She then also worked with the National Farmers Union in the Global Agriculture Project and provided technical support to La Via Campesina for over a decade.

KEY CONTENT HIGHLIGHTS
Recounting the Past, Counting on the Future: Stories of the NFU • Krafting a Boycott: NFU Takes on a Corporate Giant • Stopping Monsanto: Coalition Building Against rBGH and GM Wheat • Protecting Seeds • Organizing the Market: The Canadian Wheat Board • Farming Ecologically: The NFU in Ontario • Saving the Prison Farms: Cows, Community and Civil Disobedience • Owning the Island: The Question of Land in Prince Edward Island • Embracing Agrarian Feminism: “The Farm Is Mary’s and Mine” • Inspiring Re-Generation of Farming: NFU Youth • Globalization Solidarity: La Via Campesina and Food Sovereignty • Building Relationships: Indigenous-Settler Solidarity and the NFU
Agroecology is a solution to the increasingly urgent problems faced by our global food system.

Our global food system is largely based on unsustainable industrial agricultural practices, is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, is controlled by a handful of large corporations and produces unhealthy food. Agroecology is a solution to these increasingly urgent problems. After decades of being dismissed by mainstream institutions and defended in obscurity by grassroots movements and farmers, agroecology is suddenly in fashion. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization, government ministries and even corporations are jumping on the bandwagon. But, are they pushing the same agroecology as developed by pioneering farmers and scientists and pushed for by peasant social movements, or are they seeking to co-opt the concept and give it different content? Rosset and Altieri, two of the world’s leading agroecologists, outline the principles, history and currents of agroecological thought, the scientific evidence for agroecology, the social aspects of bringing agroecology to scale and the contemporary politics of agroecology.

Peter M. Rosset is a professor of agroecology at El Colegio de la Frontera Sur (ECOSUR Advanced Studies Institute) in Chiapas, Mexico, and CAPES visiting professor in the Geography Department of the Universidade Federal de Ceará (UFC) in Brazil. He is also co-coordinator of the Land Research Action Network (LRAN).

Miguel A. Altieri is emeritus professor of agroecology at the University of California at Berkeley. He is the founder and past president of the Latin American Scientific Society for Agroecology (SOCLA).
Belongings
The Fight for Land and Food
by Sally Miller

Land used to produce food is at the core of disputes, violent conflicts and despair across the world. As farmers increasingly can no longer afford to grow food and as one in ten Canadians faces food insecurity each year, it is clear that our culture-specific land systems lie at the heart of the current food and farm crises. Solutions must be implemented to ensure food security and food sovereignty in Canada and the world.

In Belongings, Sally Miller illustrates how food and farm crises result from adherence to the rules of private property. Miller looks at the state of farmland and farmers in Canada and across the world as a way of understanding ownership, land regulation and the dire situation of our ability to produce food. Hundreds of acres of prime farmland are lost each day to residential development, further restricting the ability of farmers to supply our food needs. Farmers face ever-increasing financial risks and often have to sell farmable land for commercial development to make ends meet. Finally, Miller highlights several alternative structures of land use that are proving to be successful in Canada and across the globe and argues that the way in which we understand and manage foodlands needs to be reconsidered to achieve sustainable food systems with healthy food access for all.

In Pursuit of Justice
Just Us! Coffee Roasters Co-op and the Fair Trade Movement
by Stacey Byrne and Errol Sharpe

Wonderfully written, engaging, thoughtful and persuasive. It is one of a very few detailed assessments of a Northern fair trade organization that I can think of and should be widely read by specialists.”

Byrne and Sharpe have done an admirable job of tracing the promise and pitfalls of Canada’s most ambitious venture in fair trade. Far from a puff piece, In Pursuit of Justice uses context and clarity to show the obstacles facing those who would build an economy based on solidarity rather than business-as-usual.
— RICHARD SWIFT, author of SOS: Alternatives to Capitalism

This is the story of Just Us! Coffee Roasters Co-op, Canada’s first fair trade coffee roaster. This book describes its successes and its failures and details how a small group of people — “just us” — worked against adversity and defied many of the norms associated with building a business. In this fascinating tale, general readers, business owners and community activists will find hope and the courage to forge new paths, build new organizations and shape a new society. This story is also about the fair trade movement, providing a snapshot of the struggle of the small coffee producers in the South to control their own production, find a fair market for their coffee and get a fair hearing for their concerns. Just Us! Coffee Roasters Co-op is an experiment in a radical business model — one rooted in cooperation, social justice and meaningful social change.
In Defense of Small Producers
The Story of CLAC

by Marco Coscione

In an international geopolitical panorama where Northern countries are increasingly in crisis and where the most interesting alternatives to sustainable development are coming from the South, the Latin American small producers, represented by the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Small Fair Trade Producers (CLAC), are assuming a more protagonistic role in the defense of the founding principles of the fair trade movement. The CLAC is also leading a process of rethinking the fair trade system and launching concrete proposals to strengthen fair trade in local, national and regional areas. Through the direct testimonies of many of its protagonists, Coscione offers a unique portrayal of the CLAC — its past experiences, its present developments and, above all, its outlook and future challenges.

Alternative Trade
Legacies for the Future

by Gavin Fridell

This is a must-read book for anyone interested in the new global food system, which is being implemented through comprehensive trade agreements... Meticulously researched and documented, this book is still accessible to the interested general reader, and that should include anyone who plans to eat food or cares about the future we are leaving to our children.

—KEN LARSEN, grain and forage produces from Benalto, Alberta, and member of the Canadian Wheat Board Alliance

Alternative Trade is a thoroughly researched book exposing the hollowness of the neoliberal promise regarding free trade... Fridell’s combination of perspicacious ideological deconstruction and attentive historical analysis makes this book invaluable—and his suggestions about paths out of the neoliberal free-trade morass are both measured and practicable.

—THOM WORKMAN, University of New Brunswick

Free trade does not make a significantly positive contribution to a society’s well being, nor does real free trade exist. In Alternative Trade, Gavin Fridell confronts these assumptions through a passionate and rigorous appraisal of alternative trade and its imperfect legacy. Examining the history of alternative trade models — the International Coffee Agreement, the Canadian Wheat Board and the European-Caribbean banana regime — Fridell exposes the unbridgeable gap between “free trade” proclamations and the lack of actually existing free trade, arguing that the alternative trade models are much more socially efficient than what followed in their wake. Additionally, Fridell places politics, history, social change, class power and violence front-and-centre in his analysis and examines alternative trade within a broader social and historical context to uncover lessons for a more cooperative, socially just world order.
Food Regimes and Agrarian Questions

by Philip McMichael

*Food Regimes and Agrarian Questions* extends the original conception of the food regime, formulated by Harriet Friedmann and Philip McMichael, detailing new dimensions of the succession of imperial, intensive and corporate food regimes. Developing the methodological contributions of food regime analysis, McMichael re-examines the agrarian question historically and its present-day implications, introduces regional interpretations of the food regime and incorporates gender, labour, financial, ecological and nutritional dimensions into his analysis. Finally, McMichael explores the relationships between contemporary food, energy, climate and financial crises and food regime restructuring, which includes agrofuels, land grabbing, the bioeconomy, agro-security mercantilism and the food sovereignty movement.

The Political Economy of Agrarian Extractivism

Lessons From Bolivia

by Ben M. McKay

McKay’s powerful analysis challenges dominant discourses to reveal the highly extractive nature of the industrial soy complex in Bolivia. With rich empirical detail, he shows how the underlying dynamics of agrarian extractivism generate social exclusion and environmental harm.

—JENNIFER CLAPP, author of *Speculative Harvests*

McKay masterfully discusses the “new open veins” of agro-extractivism arising from the new corporate-controlled industrialized food system. Its exclusionary effects on communities and damaging ecological impacts are carefully explored providing fresh insights into the new pillage facing them.

—CRISTÓBAL KAY, International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam; and School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London

Around the world, plantation economies are on the rise. Increasing concerns over food, energy and financial security, combined with a geopolitical restructuring of the global agro-food system, have resulted in a rush to secure control over resources. New actors and forms of capital penetration have entered the countryside, transforming the forms and relations of production, property and power. Soybeans, with industrial inputs upstream and storage, processing and transportation downstream, have become a quintessential agro-industrial “flex crop,” used as feed, food, fuel and industrial materials, but the very extractive character of the soy complex has severe implications for society, the economy and the environment. *The Political Economy of Agrarian Extractivism* analyzes how the Bolivian countryside is transformed by the development and expansion of the soy complex and reveals the extractive dynamics of capitalist industrial agriculture, while also challenging dominant discourses legitimating this model as a means to achieve inclusive and sustainable rural development.
Peasants and the Art of Farming
A Chayanovian Manifesto
by Jan Douwe van der Ploeg

Many impressive studies on the changing nature of the global food system have been published, and nearly all address changes at the macro level. The far less visible changes occurring at the micro level have received relatively little attention, especially in the realm of critical rural studies. This book is a reflection of the far reaching and complex transformations of food systems that have occurred as a result of liberalization and globalization. This book focuses on the structure and dynamics of peasant farms and the historically highly variable relations that govern the processes of labour and production within the peasant farms. Jan Douwe van der Ploeg argues that peasant agriculture can play an important, if not central, role in augmenting food production and creating sustainability. However, peasants today, as in the past, are materially neglected. By building on the pioneering work of Chayanov, this book seeks to address this neglect and to show how important peasants are in the ongoing struggles for food, food sustainability and food sovereignty.

Hungry for Change
Farmers, Food Justice and the Agrarian Question
by A. Haroon Akram-Lodhi

This readable, inspiring book is a wonderful introduction to what will surely be one of the defining social struggles of our times: the struggle over food.

—JIM STANFORD, economist and director, Centre for Future Work

If you want to understand how the contemporary global food crisis came about or how an alternative, more just, egalitarian and ecological agrarian system can be developed, this book reveals a profound understanding of the workings of the global food system and makes you hungry for change. Read it!

—CRISTÓBAL KAY, International Institute of Social Studies, The Hague; SOAS, University of London and FLACSO, Quito, Ecuador.

Hunger and obesity sit side by side in the world today because a food system dominated by money, markets and profits allows those with money to obtain above and beyond their needs while those without cannot get the fundamentals of life. The result is a growing polarization of global agriculture, between a small number of haves and an ever-increasing number of have-nots. In Hungry for Change, Haroon Akram-Lodhi explains how capitalism was introduced into farming and how it transformed the terms and conditions by which farmers produce food. Written in accessible language and incorporating accounts from farmers and agricultural workers, this book explains how the creation, structure and operation of the capitalist world food system is marginalizing family farmers, small-scale peasant farmers and landless rural workers as it entrenches us all in a global subsistence crisis. Building upon the idea of food sovereignty, Akram-Lodhi develops a set of additional solutions to resolve the current crisis of the world food system.
Food Sovereignty in Canada
Creating Just and Sustainable Food Systems

**edited by Annette Aurélie Desmarais, Nettie Wiebe and Hannah Wittman**

Contemporary Canadian agricultural and food policies are contributing to the current global food crisis: the industrialized, high-input, export-driven agricultural production sector, coupled with concentrated corporate processing and retailing, are ecologically unsustainable, increasingly unaffordable, unhealthy and socially unjust. Employing an interdisciplinary and multi-sectoral approach, *Food Sovereignty in Canada* explores how communities all over the country are actively engaged in implementing alternative agricultural and food models within the framework of food sovereignty — taking control over food-producing resources, markets and agricultural policy.

This framework offers Canadian citizens, researchers and policymakers the opportunity to build alternative agricultural and food models that are less environmentally damaging and that keep farmers on the land while ensuring that those living in cities have access to healthy and safe food. Achieving food sovereignty requires conceptual and practical changes, reshaping menus, farming, communities, relationships, values and policy, but, as the authors clearly demonstrate, the urgent work of building food sovereignty in Canada is well under way.

In case studies of practical action, *Food Sovereignty in Canada* provides an analysis of indigenous food sovereignty, orderly marketing, community gardens, the political engagement of nutritionists, experiences with urban agriculture and the strengthening of links between rural and urban communities. It also highlights policy-related challenges to building community-based agriculture and food systems that are ecologically sustainable and socially just. This book is essential reading for anyone interested in holistic, healthy and sustainable food production and consumption.

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Food Sovereignty
Reconnecting Food, Nature and Community

**edited by Annette Aurélie Desmarais, Nettie Wiebe and Hannah Wittman**

Advocating a practical, radical change to the way much of our food system currently operates, this book argues that food sovereignty is the means to achieving a system that will provide for the food needs of all people while respecting the principles of environmental sustainability, local empowerment and agrarian citizenship. The current high input, industrialized, market-driven food system fails on all these counts. The UN-endorsed goal of food security is becoming increasingly distant as indicated by the growing levels of hunger in the world, especially among marginalized populations in both the North and South. The authors of this book describe the recent emergence and the parameters of an alternative system, food sovereignty, that puts the levers of food control in the hands of those who are both hungry and produce the world’s food — peasants and family farmers, not corporate executives. As the authors show in both conceptual and case study terms, food sovereignty promises not only increased production of food, but also food that is safe, food that reaches those who are in the most need and agricultural practices that respect the earth.
Class Dynamics of Agrarian Change

by Henry Bernstein

The most sweeping, original, and discerning class analysis of agrarian history in many decades… Essential reading for any and all agraristas both inside and outside the academy.
— JAMES C. SCOTT, Sterling Professor of Political Science and Anthropology, and director of Agrarian Studies, Yale University

Bernstein shows that a “little book” can be a tour de force. Decades of scholarship are lightly worn and compellingly revealed in this treasure chest of a book. It should be essential reading for all development students and activists. With the bar set this high we can all look forward to this series.
— BARBARA HARRISS-WHITE, director, Oxford University’s Contemporary South Asian Studies Programme

Agrarian political economy investigates the social relations of production and reproduction, property and power in agrarian formations, and how they change. Using Marx’s theory of capitalism the book argues that class dynamics should be the starting point of any analysis of agrarian change. As an introduction to agrarian political economy, this book includes explanations and applications of its key concepts, a glossary of analytical terms, and a historical approach and framework for examining agrarian change in capitalism. The author assumes no prior knowledge of political economy on the part of readers but aims, through this stimulating introduction, to encourage them to study it further.

Class Dynamics of Agrarian Change is the first volume in a new series called Agrarian Change and Peasant Studies, developed by Initiatives in Critical Agrarian Studies.

Edible Action

Food Activism and Alternative Economics

by Sally Miller

Hunger is up, obesity is up, food-borne illness is up, farms are lost to debt and despair; the food system fails growing numbers of people across the world every day. Yet if we adjust our lens, we see ubiquitous commitments to change: food movements and enterprises dedicated to making the world a better place to eat and to live. Food initiatives — from farmers’ markets to fair trade coffee — offer a pattern of powerful alternatives to conventional food economics, which benefit only a handful of people and corporations. Edible Action argues that food is peculiarly situated to address the ills of an unjust economic system and to mobilize people against it.
The Global Food Economy
The Battle for the Future of Farming

by Tony Weis

The modern food industry is a paradox: surplus “food mountains” sit alongside global malnutrition; the developed world subsidized its own agriculture while pressurizing the developing to liberalize at any cost; and an increasingly aggressive export competition is accompanied by a growing reliance on imports in many countries. The WTO’s uneven application of neoliberal economics to food production is relatively new, and the consequences of mounting deficits, rising “food miles” and social upheaval are untested but ominous. In response to this, Weis sets out some answers to the central question: how can we build a sustainable and humane system of food production and distribution?

Our Board Our Business
Why Farmers Support the Canadian Wheat Board

edited by Darrell McLaughlin and Terry Pugh

Our Board Our Business is based on presentations made to a symposium on the Canadian Wheat Board organized by the National Farmers union held in Regina, Saskatchewan, February 24 and 25, 2006. The central purpose of the book is to help farmers and non-farmers better understand the essential role of the CWB in the lives of western wheat producers and their communities, and the Canadian economy. The need for such an understanding has been made all the more urgent by Prime Minister Harper’s neo-liberal open market agenda which will guarantee corporate domination of Canadian grains. This book, like the symposium from which it is drawn, does not debate the advantages and disadvantages of the CWB. Rather, it sets out the context, operational mechanism and role of the CWB, in order to make the case for its economic, social and political value.
La Vía Campesina
Globalization and the Power of Peasants
by Annette Aurélie Desmarais

In 1993, forty-six farm leaders from various countries met in Mons, Belgium, determined to develop a strategy to challenge the devastation caused to their communities by a neoliberal international economic agenda. Over the next decade they and millions of peasants and small-scale farmers around the world used La Vía Campesina to forge a powerful and radical force of opposition. Where did they find the capacity and strength to challenge multinational agribusiness corporations and international institutions whose power and influence increasingly dictate national government policy? This book accompanies La Vía Campesina in a struggle to keep people on the land, producing food and culture, and building viable communities.

Food Is Different
Why We Must Get the WTO Out of Agriculture
by Peter M. Rosset

This book explains what is happening to the world’s agricultural systems and farmers under the impact of neoliberal economics. What is at stake is the very future of our global food system and each country’s agricultural and farming systems. The livelihoods of rural people in both industrial and developing countries are under threat. The book explains what is happening to agriculture in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) negotiating context, and unravels the complex ways in which agriculture in the North is subsidized. It sets out an alternative vision for agricultural policy, which would take it completely out of the WTO’s ambit. Food is not just another commodity, but something that goes to the heart of human livelihood, culture and security.
Recipes for Success
A Celebration of Food Security Work in Canada
edited by Anna Maria Kirbyson

Recipes for Success is a review and celebration of the unfolding story of the food security movement in Canada. Food banks and the growth in food security initiatives are a community-based response to a growing food crisis in our country. This book is a place to take stock of the breadth and depth of food security activity in Canada and to recognize the role we all play in responding to social needs.

Changing Tides
Gender, Fisheries and Globalization
edited by Marian Binkley, Siri Gerrard, Christina Maneschy and Barbara Neis

Fisheries are among the most globalized economic sectors in the world. Relying largely on wild resources and employing millions of people and feeding many millions more, fisheries provide a unique vantage point from which to view contemporary globalization, which is co-occurring with a major ecological revolution triggered by resource degradation and associated with the development of intensive aquaculture. Globalization is intensifying the export orientation and use of joint ventures between rich and poor countries in fisheries. International organizations such as the IMF are pressuring many debtor countries to exchange access to their fishery resources for access to foreign exchange, constraining their ability to limit external ownership and the export of resources, and threatening local fishery employment and food self-sufficiency. Changing Tides brings together contributions from researchers and community workers from thirteen countries of the world. Juxtaposing academic case studies with accounts from activists and fisheries workers, this book points the ways in which globalization and associated resource degradation, privatization and the concentration of ownership and control in fisheries are jeopardizing the lives and livelihoods of women fish workers and their families.
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