



## *Agricultural Economics*

The Journal of the International Association of Agricultural Economists

2007 Annual Report of the (past) Editor-in-Chief to the  
Executive Committee of the IAAE

September, 2007

# **AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS: 2007 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

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***AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS:***  
**2006 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

**1. Introduction / Summary**

I am pleased to present the 2007 Annual Report of the Editor-in-Chief of *Agricultural Economics*. This report contains information on the operation of our journal over the period July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

As outlined below:

- The transition from the old to the new Editors has been smooth. New manuscripts have been handled by the new Editors since September 2006. Hence, only 22 new manuscripts were handled by the old Editorial office in the 2-month period from July to August 2006. It is not possible to draw any conclusions about trends in submissions etc. on the basis of such a short period and so few manuscripts.
- With the exception of one paper that is being revised by its authors, final decisions have been reached on all 22 new manuscripts mentioned above, as well as on all manuscripts from previous years that were still at some stage of the review / production process.
- The review process functioned smoothly in my last year as Editor. We managed to further reduce the average lag between submission and initial editorial decision to less than 90 days. The acceptance rate for submissions to *Agricultural Economics* over my term as Editor is very nearly 25%.
- Issue 38-1, appearing in early 2008, will be the last issue to contain papers selected by me. The one paper mentioned above, if it is ultimately accepted, will have to be included in 38-2, which will otherwise be completely in the hands of the new Editors.
- In 2006, *Agricultural Economics'* ISI impact factor improved somewhat, after falling considerably in 2005. Impact factors in our field remain volatile. Our impact factor is based on a considerably smaller share of self-cites (11%) than that of other leading journals (*European Review of Agricultural Economics* – 16%; *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 23%)

I enjoyed serving *Agricultural Economics* and the IAAE during my term as Editor. I thank all those in the IAAE Executive and my Editorial Teams who helped me over the years. Our journal is in very capable hands (William Masters and Gerald Shively) now, and I am pleased that I was able to hand it over to them in solid condition.

Stephan von Cramon-Taubadel

## 2. The Editorial Team

The members of the 2004-06 Editorial Team are listed in Appendix 1. As of January 1, 2007, William Masters and Gerald Shively (Purdue University) are the new Editors of *Agricultural Economics*. They have been handling all papers submitted after September 1, 2006 (the same arrangement as was followed when I assumed the editorship from Stan Johnson in 2000/2001), and they have chosen a new Editorial Team. From my perspective, the transition has been smooth and I am grateful to the new Editors for their help and flexibility. Sylvia Schmidt and Bernhard Voget in the Editorial Office in Göttingen provided me with excellent assistance in the last year of my term. The Book Review Editor, George Norton, supplied a regular flow of interesting book reviews up to the end of 2006, and has been succeeded by Harald von Witzke (Berlin).

## 3. Submitted Manuscripts / Review Process

Between July 1<sup>st</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006, 22 manuscripts were submitted to the Editorial Office in Göttingen. As of September 1<sup>st</sup> 2006, new submissions have been forwarded to the new Editorial Office in Purdue. It is too early to forecast, on the basis of two months, the rate of submissions for 2006/07 overall. In the last months of 2006, manuscripts continued to arrive in Göttingen, but in recent months this is no longer the case and apparently all authors are aware, as a result of changes to the websites etc., that the Editorial Office has moved.

Appendix 3 provides information on the status on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2007 of all 973 manuscripts that were submitted during my term as Editor between Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> 2000 and Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> 2006. The number of 'action pending' manuscripts (in revision, with referees or with the Editor-in-Chief) was 3 on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Assuming that all of these will eventually be accepted (indeed, two have been since June 30<sup>th</sup> 2007), 241 of 973 manuscripts (24.7%) will have been accepted for publication during my term as Editor.

Appendix 4 breaks down the submitted manuscripts by country of origin. Again, the two months covered here are too short to permit any meaningful analysis of changes or trends vis-à-vis earlier years; the data are provided in the interests of continuity and to help the new editors prepare future reports.

Regarding production and publication: Since the last report, the last 3 issues of 2006 (35-1, -2 and -3) and the first 4 issues of 2007 (36-1, -2 and -3, and 37-1) were published on time as normal issues of *Agricultural Economics*. 37-2 and -3 will appear as the traditional post-conference double issue containing a selection of the best papers from the 2006 Gold Coast meetings. We are ready to deliver a set of papers for 38-1 to Blackwell. 38-1, which will appear in early 2008, will be the last issue entirely made up of papers selected by the Editorial Office in Göttingen. We (Göttingen) have one final outstanding paper that is currently being revised by the authors; should this paper be accepted, it will be added to 38-2 which will otherwise be entirely composed of papers selected by the new Editors.

Appendix 5 provides information on the length of the review process. The average delay between submission of a manuscript and initial editorial decision

was 87 days in 2006/07, the shortest delay over my years as Editor. In 2006/07, manuscripts spent a few more days on my desk between submission and forwarding to referees than in the previous year. However, we were able to get referees to provide reviews more rapidly, so the overall delay was reduced. Overall, the length of the review process with *Agricultural Economics* is competitive in our discipline, and we succeeded in further shortening it in 2006/07. On average, authors receive an editorial decision within 3 months of submission, down from 4 months in 2004/05 and 5.3 months in 2003/04.

Appendix 6 contains a list of the reviewers who assisted the Editorial Office with manuscripts received between July 1<sup>st</sup> 2006 and Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 2006. I wish to express my gratitude to these colleagues for their invaluable assistance.

#### **4. Special Issues**

Aside from the special conference proceedings double issue that will appear at the end of 2007 (37-2 and -3), guest-edited by Ruerd Ruben and Kees Burger, no special issues were published or planned in my last year as Editor. The 2006 supplementary issue of *Agricultural Economics* was used as a forum for a selection of Gold Coast papers edited by Kei Otsuka, and the 2007 supplementary issue will take the traditional 'Blue Book' form as a record of the Gold Coast IAAE conference.

#### **5. Financial Report**

Revenues and expenditures through the end of 2006 were as forecast in the 2006 Annual Report. Institution support has covered a small accumulated deficit at the end of 2006, and some expenses (primarily secretarial support) incurred in processing the last open files / review processes in the first months of 2007.

#### **6. Relations with our Publisher / Subscriptions**

Our new six-year publishing arrangement with Blackwell came into force on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2005. No problems in our relations with Blackwell arose during my last year as Editor. Members' access to *Agricultural Economics* on-line appears to be functioning smoothly. I have not received any information on the current state of subscriptions from Blackwell, but I assume that the new Editors and the IAAE Executive are informed.

#### **7. Ranking**

In 2006, *Agricultural Economics'* ISI impact factor increased to 0.584 after falling to 0.382 in 2005. As a result, *Agricultural Economics* was ranked 6<sup>th</sup> of 9 journals in the field (marginally behind the 5<sup>th</sup> ranked *Journal of Agricultural Economics* with an impact factor of 0.587), up from 7<sup>th</sup> in 2005 (see Appendix 8). Keeping the limitations of the impact factor in mind, I am pleased that our ranking has improved somewhat. However, I believe that we clearly aspire to a higher ranking in the field. A glance at the information in Appendix 8 highlights

how volatile impact factors can be (see, for example, the drop in the *European Review's* ranking from 2005 to 2006). The following information may be of interest:

- 1) The impact factor measures the relative size of the so-called citation curve in years 2 and 3. For example, the 2006 impact factor measures the number of citations in 2006 of articles published in 2004 and 2005, divided by the total number of articles published in these years. Hence, it measures the average number of citations per published article in the two years that follow its publication. In 2006 there were 66 citations of 113 articles published in *Agricultural Economics* in 2004 and 2005, for an impact factor of 0.584. This compares with 34 citations in 2005 of 89 articles published in *Agricultural Economics* in 2003 and 2004, for an impact factor of 0.382 in 2005.
- 2) The *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* is the first journal in our field to record an impact factor of over 1. The increase over previous years is largely due to the fact that the editors of the *AJAE* succeeded in having the annual conference proceedings issue, which tends to include many articles that are cited less often than average, taken out of their impact factor calculations.
- 3) Of the 66 citations in 2006 of articles published in 2004 and 2005, only 7 (11%) were citations in *Agricultural Economics* of articles published in *Agricultural Economics* (self-cites). In comparison, the *European Review of Agricultural Economics'* impact factor was based on 16% self-cites, and that of the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* on 23% self-cites.
- 4) Given the definition of the impact factor, and the fact that all issues up to and including 38-1 were produced by the Editorial Office in Göttingen, the 2007 and 2008 impact factors for our journal will continue to reflect on my performance (or lack thereof) and not that of the new Editors. It is not until 2009, when the impact factor will measure citations in 2009 of articles published in 2007 and 2008, that the new Editors (via the papers that they select for issues 38-2 and -3 and 39-1, -2 and -3 in 2008) will begin to directly influence our journal's impact factor.

## APPENDIX 1: 2004-2006 EDITORIAL TEAM

**Editor-in-Chief** S. von Cramon-Taubadel, GERMANY

**Editorial Assistants** S. Schmidt  
I. Valdez-Soell (to June 30, 2006)  
B. Voget (as of July 1, 2006)

**Book Review Editor** G. Norton, USA

**Associate Editors** A. Abdulai, GERMANY  
M. Honma, JAPAN  
L. Salvatici, ITALY  
J. C. Beghin, USA

### Editorial Advisory Board

***Africa (1)***

D. Phillip, NIGERIA

***Asia (3)***

C.-C. Chang, TAIWAN

A. Kimhi, ISRAEL

F. Zhong, CHINA

***Central/S. America (1)***

J.A. Berdegué, CHILE

***Europe (12)***

A. Alvarez, SPAIN

A. Czyzewski, POLAND

S. Davidova, UK

I. Fertö, HUNGARY

J.M. Gil, SPAIN

H. Guyomard, FRANCE

D. Harvey, UK

E.C. van Ierland, Netherlands (as of January 1, 2006)

G. Nagarajan, AUSTRIA

C. Noell, DENMARK

E.-A. Nuppenau, GERMANY

K. Sahlofer, GERMANY

***North America (10)***

B.L. Barham, USA

N.H. Chau, USA

R. Gray, USA

H. Jensen, USA

H. Kinnucan, USA

D. Lee, USA

F. Nankhuni, USA

T.J. Richards, USA

D. Schimmelpfennig (as of January 1, 2006)

A. Yunez-Naude, USA

***Oceania (1)***

T. Coelli, AUSTRALIA

## APPENDIX 2: SUBMISSIONS & MANUSCRIPT DISPOSITION AT THE END OF PERIOD

Status	09/2000 - 06/2001	07/2001 - 06/2002	07/2002 - 06/2003	07/2003 - 06/2004	07/2004 - 06/2005	07/2005 - 06/2006	07/2006 - 09/2007
Submissions <sup>1</sup>	109	154	162	211	169	146	22
Accepted	0	4	1	1	3	4	2
Rejected	35	52	83	120	95	69	19
In revision	18	18	7	14	17	15	1
Withdrawn	0	1	2	0	0	1	0
Action pending <sup>2</sup>	56	79	69	76	54	57	0

<sup>1</sup> Submissions in the calendar years 1997, 1998 and 1999 totalled 136, 127 and 124, respectively. We have since moved to a July-June reporting year as this is easier to prepare for August IAAE Executive Committee Meetings

<sup>2</sup> Manuscript is either with referees or the Editor-in-Chief.

## APPENDIX 3: THE STATUS OF ALL MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED BETWEEN SEPT. 1<sup>ST</sup> 2000 AND SEPT. 1<sup>ST</sup> 2006, AS OF JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup> 2007

Status	Submissions between September 2000 and September 2006
Submissions	973
Accepted	238
Rejected	700
Withdrawn	22
Closed <sup>1</sup>	10
Action pending <sup>2</sup>	3

<sup>1</sup> Authors have not responded to an invitation to revise their manuscript, so the file has been closed.

<sup>2</sup> Manuscript is either with referees or the Editor-in-Chief, or in revision.



#### APPENDIX 4: AUTHORS OF SUBMITTED MANUSCRIPTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Country	09/2000 - 06/2001	07/2001 - 06/2002	07/2002 - 06/2003	07/2003 - 06/2004	07/2004 - 06/2005	07/2005 - 06/2006
Argentina	0	6	0	0	1	0
Australia	15	9	24	11	12	5
Austria	0	0	0	0	2	0
Bangkok	0	0	2	0	0	0
Bangladesh	1	3	4	0	0	0
Belgium	9	4	11	1	1	0
Benin	0	2	0	0	1	0
Bolivia	0	0	4	0	0	0
Bosnia-Herz.	0	0	1	0	0	0
Botswana	0	0	1	1	1	0
Brazil	5	4	5	8	0	0
Bulgaria	0	1	0	0	0	0
Burkina Faso	0	2	0	0	0	0
Cameroon	1	0	3	8	0	0
Canada	11	4	4	1	9	3
Chile	1	1	2	0	1	0
China	6	31	19	25	8	5
Costa Rica	1	0	1	3	0	0
Croatia	0	0	0	5	1	0
Cyprus	0	0	3	0	0	0
Czech Rep.	0	1	1	0	0	0
Denmark	1	0	9	6	4	0
Estonia	0	0	0	0	1	0
Ethiopia	6	1	6	1	2	0
Fiji	0	0	0	1	0	0
Finland	2	0	2	6	0	0
France	1	10	5	5	11	0
Gambia	0	1	0	0	0	0
Germany	9	11	12	20	10	2
Ghana	5	5	0	0	5	0
Greece	6	13	4	10	11	0
Hondurars	0	0	0	1	0	0
Hungary	0	1	0	0	2	0
India	5	9	16	15	3	0
Indonesia	1	1	0	5	0	0
Iran	1	6	6	12	8	0
Ireland	0	4	0	2	1	0
Israel	1	6	4	0	1	0
Italy	7	2	3	7	2	1
Japan	12	17	9	11	5	1
Kenya	9	5	15	18	16	1
Korea	0	0	4	2	1	0
Kuwait	1	0	0	0	0	0
Malawi	0	0	2	1	1	0
Malaysia	4	2	2	0	5	0
Mali	2	0	0	0	0	0
Mexico	1	0	7	0	2	0
Nepal	0	0	0	0	1	0
Netherlands	19	4	9	10	17	6
New Zealand	1	0	4	12	0	4
Nigeria	8	12	23	6	13	1
Norway	3	3	6	0	4	0
Pakistan	0	0	2	0	3	0
PNG	0	0	1	0	0	0
Paraguay	0	0	1	0	0	0
Peru	0	0	1	0	0	0
Philippines	3	0	4	3	1	0

Poland	0	2	1	1	2	0
Portugal	9	2	2	1	0	0
Romania	0	0	0	1	0	0
Russia	1	0	3	1	0	0
Saudi Arabia	0	1	0	1	0	0
Senegal	1	0	0	0	1	0
Slovakia	0	0	1	0	0	0
Slovenia	0	3	3	0	4	0
South Africa	10	8	3	4	2	2
Spain	11	9	13	28	15	7
Sri Lanka	1	0	2	0	0	0
Sudan	0	1	1	1	0	0
Sult. of Oman	0	0	0	0	3	0
Sweden	3	3	1	2	2	1
Switzerland	3	4	0	0	0	0
Syria	0	0	0	1	0	0
Taiwan	7	0	16	5	7	2
Tanzania	1	1	0	0	2	0
Thailand	4	0	4	2	2	0
Togo	0	6	0	0	0	0
Tunisia	0	0	3	2	2	0
Turkey	10	26	24	20	20	0
Turkmenistan	0	0	1	0	0	0
Uganda	1	0	1	0	1	0
Ukraine	1	0	0	0	2	0
Un. Arab. E.	1	0	0	0	0	0
UK	18	20	22	19	19	1
USA	99	99	96	87	89	9
Venezuela	0	1	0	0	0	0
West Indies	0	3	0	0	0	0
Zambia	0	1	0	0	2	0
Zimbabwe	1	0	4	0	3	0
<b>Total</b>	340 authors for 154 MS	371 authors for 162 MS	443 authors for 211 MS	393 authors for 168 MS	345 authors for 146 MS	51 authors for 22 MS

**APPENDIX 5: STATISTICS ON MANUSCRIPT PROCESSING BY THE EDITORIAL OFFICE (AVERAGE INTERVALS IN DAYS)**

	1998 <sup>1</sup>	1999 <sup>1</sup>	01/2000 – 06/2000 <sup>1</sup>	07/2000 – 06/2001	07/2001 – 06/2002	07/2002 – 06/2003	07/2003 – 06/2004	07/2004 – 06/2005	07/2005 – 06/2006	07/2006 – 06/2007
Submission to 1 <sup>st</sup> referee	85	33	22	38	33	57	71	49	34	39
MS held by 1 <sup>st</sup> referee	83	62	43	66	98	103	83	71	67	54
Submission to 2 <sup>nd</sup> referee	120	33	23	42	34	59	73	48	35	39
MS held by 2 <sup>nd</sup> referee	73	73	63	58	91	96	92	83	56	41
Submission to initial decision	438	206	111	125	140	167	91	91	97	87

<sup>1</sup> Information provided by the previous Editorial Office in Iowa.

**APPENDIX 6: REFEREES EMPLOYED BETWEEN JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2006 AND SEPT 1<sup>ST</sup> 2006**

Name	First Name	Organisation	Country
Abrar	Suleiman	University of Sheffield	UK
Adams	Damian	University of Florida / IFAS	USA
Ajibefun	Igbekele	Federal University of Technology	Nigeria
Amacher	Gregory S.	Virginia Polytechnic Institute	USA
Balcombe	Kelvin	Imperial College London	UK
Bateman	Ian	University of East Anglia	UK
Birthal	Pratap	National Centre for Ag. Economics and Policy Research	India
Brem	Markus		Germany
Buschena	David	Montana State University	USA
Chen	Zhuo	Centers for Disease Control & Prevention	USA
Christoplos	Ian	Swedish University of Agr. Sciences	Sweden
Curtis	Kynda R.	The University of Nevada	USA
Dalton	Timothy J.	University of Maine	USA
Dercon	Stefan	Oxford University	UK
DeVuyst	Eric A.	North Dakota State University	USA
Dong	Diansheng	Cornell University	USA
Egelkraut	Thorsten	Oregon State University	USA
Escribano	Maria Jesus	Andalusian Regional Government	Spain
Grabowski	Richard	Southern Illinois University	USA
Hu	Wuyang	University of Kentucky	USA
Hüttel	Silke	FAL	Germany
Ierland, van	Ekko C.	Wageningen University	Netherlands
Jaforullah	Mohammed	University of Otago	New Zealand
Junichi	Ito	Policy Institute of MAFF	Japan
Just	David R.	Cornell University	USA
Kaitibie	Simeon	ILRI	Kenya
Kebede	Bereket	University of East Anglia	UK
Klonner	Stefan	J. W. Goethe-University, Frankfurt	Germany
Krusemann	Gideon	LEI	Netherlands
Kuosmanen	Timo	MTT Agrifood Research Finland	Finland
Kurosaki	Takashi	Hitotsubashi University	Japan
La Rovere	Robert	CIMMYT	Mexico
Linde-Rahr	Martin	Göteborg University	Sweden

Name	First Name	Organisation	Country
Ma	Hengyun	University of Canterbury	New Zealand
Malmkvist Grimrud	Kristine	University of New Mexico	USA
Marsh	Thomas L.	Washington State University	USA
Masten	Scott E.	The University of Michigan	USA
Molina	José A.	University of Zaragoza	Spain
Mollet	Matthias		Switzerland
Moran	Dominic	Scottish Agricultural University	UK
Murgai	Rinku	The World Bank	USA
Nehring	Richard F.	USDA/ERS	USA
Nijkamp	Peter	Free University Amsterdam	Netherlands
Okike	Iheanacho	ILRI Ibadan	Nigeria
Otte	Joachim	FAO	Italy
Paraguas	Ferdinand J	The WorldFish Center	Malaysia
Paris	Quirino	University of California at Davis	USA
Raghbendra	Jha	Australian National University	Australia
Renkow	Mitch	North Carolina State University	USA
Roe	Terry	University of Minnesota	USA
Schimmelpfennig	David	USDA	USA
Seo	Sangtaek	Texas Tech University	USA
Sherlund	Shane	Federal Reserve Board of Governors	USA
Shuhao	Tan	Nanjing Agricultural University	China
Takeya	Hiroyuki	Nagoya University	Japan
Taylor	Richard	North Dakota State University	USA
Tian	Xia	Kansas State University	USA
Torgler	Benno	Yale Center of International and Area Studies	USA
Upton	Martin	University of Reading	UK
Villano	Renato A.	University of New England	USA
Vink	Nick	University of Stellenbosch	South Africa
Vukina	Tomislav	North Carolina State University	USA
Wang	Holly	Michigan State University	USA
Yiridoe	Emmanuel K.	University of Guelph	Canada
Yoshito	Takasaki	University of Tsukuba	Japan

## APPENDIX 7: IMPACT FACTOR RANKINGS OF JOURNALS IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Journal	1999 ranking	2000 ranking	2001 ranking	2002 ranking	2003 ranking	2004 ranking	2005 ranking	2006 ranking
Agricultural Economics	0.337 (9)	0.429 (4)	0.323 (6)	0.552 (3)	0.791 (2)	0.620 (3)	0.382 (7)	0.584 (6)
European Review of Ag. Economics	0.460 (1)	0.472 (3)	0.404 (5)	0.404 (5)	0.872 (1)	0.915 (1)	0.977 (1)	0.681 (4)
Australian Journal of Ag. Economics	-	0.417 (6)	0.569 (3)	0.346 (6)	0.653 (5)	0.400 (6)	0.867 (3)	0.935 (3)
American Journal of Ag. Economics	0.516 (3)	0.674 (1)	0.684 (2)	0.607 (1)	0.684 (4)	0.622 (2)	0.967 (2)	1.196 (1)
Canadian Journal of Ag. Economics	-	0.264 (8)	0.289 (8)	0.106 (8)	0.167 (8)	0.123 (8)	0.295 (9)	0.532 (7)
Journal of Ag. Economics	0.456 (5)	0.545 (2)	0.694 (1)	0.577 (2)	0.390 (7)	0.436 (5)	0.667 (4)	0.587 (5)
Journal of Ag. and Resource Econ.	0.431 (6)	0.423 (5)	0.320 (7)	0.342 (7)	0.625 (6)	0.188 (7)	0.347 (8)	0.493 (9)
Food Policy	0.464 (4)	0.306 (7)	0.434 (4)	0.458 (4)	0.692 (3)	0.532 (4)	0.609 (5)	0.942 (2)
Review of Agricultural Economics	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.403 (6)	0.529 (8)