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120th EAAE Seminar

eaae120.maich.gr



EXTERNAL COST OF FARMING ACTIVITIES:

ECONOMIC EVALUATION, RISK CONSIDERATIONS,

ENVIRONMENTAL REPERCUSSIONS AND

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

02 - 04 September, 2010

Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania (MAICH)

Chania, Crete, Greece

ORGANIZED BY



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL
ECONOMISTS (EAAE) [www.eaae.org]



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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The seminar will focus on the external costs of farming activities with particular emphasis placed on both on-farm and external agricultural input use like pesticides, chemicals, water, animal waste in terms of damage control to farm output, adverse long-term effects on the environment, and consumers' and operators' health, as well as the effects of any imposed regulations on the use of inputs.

The ability of pesticides to reduce crop damage due to pest infestation and diseases, along with the output of the expanding nature of chemical fertilizers and irrigation practices, is responsible for the substantial increase in land productivity and therefore farm income. Gradually, however, the adverse long-term effects of external input use on the environment and human health has become an urgent issue of significant impor-

tance and has given rise to an ongoing debate regarding their "appropriate" use. External input use may result in health impairment due to direct or indirect exposure to hazardous chemicals (e.g. use of pesticides), contamination of ground and surface water through run-off (chemical fertilizers), erosion and exhaustion of water aquifers (irrigation) and transmittance of residuals through the food chain to consumers. Since farmers' input decisions do not necessarily consider the damage to the environment or health, the private cost of input use is lower than the social cost with resulting in excessive use of external inputs. All these issues together with farmers' risk attitudes have important implications for the farm sector, consumers and policy makers.

Researchers can significantly contribute by quantifying the effects and

determining the social value of suggested reduced-input techniques. Policymakers have tried to introduce regulatory frameworks, in an attempt to optimize social costs and regulate input use.

The aim of this seminar is to bring together interdisciplinary experts and researchers to debate on methodological and empirical issues regarding the assessment of indirect costs on on-farm and external inputs used today in the farm sector. Methodological, empirical, as well as policy-oriented papers, are invited for a comprehensive analysis of the aforementioned issues surrounding the "appropriate" input use. The outcome will be the setting of an agenda with the necessary regulatory measures, ensuring the optimal use of pesticides from an individual and a social point of view.

TOPICS

- ▷ Productivity and efficiency measurement of use of external inputs
- ▷ Social and external costs of external input use
- ▷ Pricing of stochastic agricultural production technology
- ▷ Farmers' risk preferences and the use of external inputs
- ▷ Effects of external input use on social welfare and individual productivity levels
- ▷ Low-input farming systems and adoption incentives
- ▷ Private and social costs of achieving environmental targets
- ▷ Regulatory framework for external input use
- ▷ Effects of implemented regulation upon productivity and social welfare

CALL FOR PAPERS

Participants who would like to present a paper are requested to submit an abstract by **May 31st, 2010**. Notification of acceptance will be forwarded by **June 15th, 2010**.

REGISTRATION

Participants are asked to register by **June 30th, 2010**.

Cancellation policy:

If cancellation is confirmed by August 15th, 2010 (note: only written cancellation by fax or e-mail will be accepted for refund purposes), fees will be refunded, minus a cancellation fee of 50 €. In the case where the candidate has omitted to inform us of cancellation, no fees will be refunded.

PARTICIPATION FEES

The fees have been set at 280 € and include an information package, a name tag, coffee breaks, 2 lunches, one welcome reception, one festive Cretan evening, a book of abstracts and bus transfers from the hotel to the conference centre of MAICh and back to the hotel.

Non-EAAE members have to pay their EAAE membership (45 € which covers the period until August 2011).

IMPORTANT DATES

Submission deadline for abstracts: **May 31st, 2010**

Authors' notification: **June 15th, 2010**

Submission deadline for full papers: **August 31st, 2010**

Deadline for final registration: **June 30th, 2010**