



What's up on work in agriculture?

2020/03-04

Realized by Priscila Malanski at 31/07/2020

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Enhancement of Employment and Income Opportunities for Rural Youth in Ethiopia: A Review of Four Large Youth Employment Initiatives



The youth in Ethiopia are estimated to constitute 30% of the population. Around 81% of them lived in rural areas, and 98% of the rural youth depended on the agriculture sector in 2016. Through generations, most of the youth in rural Ethiopia have been sharing the same land with their parents and other adults. As a result, the land size available to youth is becoming increasingly insufficient. Moreover, the youth are the hardest hit by poverty, the highest unemployed groups of the society, and the number of youth job seekers is increasing overtime. For instance, 1.52 million job seekers were registered in rural areas in eight regions in late 2018. Employment opportunities have been very limited in rural Ethiopia because of lack of complementary investments and poor access to finance and land. These unfavorable conditions have been contributing to the unabating rural-urban migration and migration abroad. In a bid to ameliorate rural unemployment and underemployment problems, the Ethiopian government recently started developing youth employment initiatives, packages and policies. This paper aims to document four of the major interventions, particularly for rural youth. Below are summaries of the main interventions since 2000.

Links : <https://agrinatura-eu.eu/2020/04/new-release-enhancement-of-employment-and-income-opportunities-for-rural-youth-in-ethiopia-a-review-of-four-large-youth-employment-initiatives/>

Tags : Rural Employment, Youth

Hard work and hazard: Young people and agricultural commercialisation in Africa

It is widely accepted that rural areas will provide employment for Africa's young people for decades to come.

- There is little evidence about how young people actually engage with the rural economy in hotspots of agricultural commercialisation.
- Data from Ghana, Tanzania and Zimbabwe challenge some key elements of public and policy discourse around rural youth in SSA.

Links : https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0743016719309672?dgcid=rss_sd_all

Tags : Youth, Health and decent work

Coronavirus and agriculture: COVID-19 to test America's food supply

The short answer is that U.S. agriculture is strong enough to handle it, with farmers still farming and no major shortages in sight, experts say. But because consumers recently have changed the way they buy and consume food, various snags in the food supply chain have led to disruptions, including truckloads of raspberries getting turned back from market and dairy businesses dumping thousands of gallons of milk.

Links : <https://eu.usatoday.com/story/money/business/2020/04/04/coronavirus-tests-americas-food-supply-agriculture/5096382002/>

‘Pesticides are our children now’: cultural change and the technological treadmill in the Burkina Faso cotton sector

Amidst broad debates about the “New Green Revolution” in Africa, input-intensive agriculture is on the rise in some parts of Africa. This paper examines the underlying drivers of the recent and rapid adoption of herbicides and genetically modified seeds in the Burkina Faso cotton sector. Drawing on 8 months of ethnographic fieldwork in the Houndé region, this article contends that economic and cultural dynamics—often considered separately in analyses of technology adoption—have co-produced a self-reinforcing technological treadmill. On the one hand, male farmers seek to increase cotton production in response to an economic squeeze. At the same time, broader cultural shifts toward individualism have created labor shortages as a result of families splitting apart, parents putting their children in school, and some women and young men refusing to provide free labor. Male cotton farmers thus increase production by turning to labor-saving inputs like herbicides, but these inputs create more debt, further locking farmers into intensive production. This article thus expands on the classic concept of the technological treadmill, demonstrating how economic and cultural processes intersect within a process of agrarian change to drive labor-saving agricultural technology adoption in the Burkinabè cotton sector. This expanded treadmill concept illuminates the complex dynamics compelling farmers’ choices to opt into input-intensive agriculture, and also helps explain rising farmer differentiation, as poorer farmers struggle to stay afloat and wealthier farmers expand.

Links : <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs10460-019-09999-y>

Tags : Work organisation

[Covid-19] Témoignages d'éleveurs Bovins viande du Limousin



Voilà maintenant plus d’un mois que le confinement lié au Covid-19 a commencé. En tant que conseillers dans des structures agricoles, notre organisation et notre façon de travailler ont été complètement bouleversées : télétravail et visio-conférences sont désormais notre quotidien. Mais comment est-ce que cela se passe concrètement pour tous ces agriculteurs encore récemment tant décriés et dont la société, par crainte de pénurie alimentaire, semble redécouvrir le rôle essentiel : nous nourrir? Après une dizaine d’appels téléphoniques, voici comment des éleveurs bovins viande du Limousin vivent cette situation inédite.

Links : http://idele.fr/no_cache/recherche/publication/idelesolr/recommends/covid-19-temoignages-deleveurs-bovins-viande-du-limousin.html

Tags : Work organisation

[Covid-19] Témoignages d'éleveurs Bovins Lait de l'est

Jean-Marc ZSITKO, conseiller d'entreprise à la Chambre d'agriculture de Meurthe-et-Moselle, a interrogé 19 éleveurs du dispositif Inosys-Réseaux d'Élevage Bovin Lait pour savoir comment ils s'adaptaient face à la crise du covid-19.

Links : http://idele.fr/no_cache/recherche/publication/idelesolr/recommends/covid-19-temoignages-deleveurs-du-dispositif-inosys-reseaux-delevage-bovin-lait.html

Tags : Work organisation

[Covid-19] Témoignages d'éleveurs herbivores de Bretagne

La Chambre d'Agriculture de Bretagne a lancé une enquête auprès des éleveurs de la Région pour recueillir leur vision de la crise et leurs besoins. Afin de savoir comment les éleveurs herbivores vivent cette situation et pour mieux connaître leurs besoins actuels, les conseillers de l'équipe herbivores de la Chambre d'agriculture de Bretagne ont appelé deux à trois de leurs clients pour faire "une écoute client à 360°": Il s'agit d'une discussion ouverte, avec comme clé d'entrée « Comment vivez-vous cette situation ? ». Cette écoute s'est déroulée les 2 et 3 avril auprès de 68 éleveurs de la région Bretagne.

Links : http://idele.fr/no_cache/recherche/publication/idelesolr/recommends/covid-19-regard-sur-la-bretagne.html

Tags : Work organisation

Comment les éleveurs gèrent-ils la crise du Covid19 ?

Aujourd'hui les agriculteurs font partie des acteurs essentiels qui continuent de travailler pendant cette période de confinement. Ils s'assurent de la bonne santé de leurs troupeaux et de leurs cultures, et de vous fournir de quoi manger sainement tous les jours !

Avec la fermeture des cantines et des restaurants, les chaînes de distribution sont complètement bousculées, ce qui peut poser des problèmes de débouchés dans certaines filières.

La crise actuelle impose de nombreux bouleversements en termes d'organisation du travail. Vous pouvez trouver de nombreux conseils sur le site de l'Institut de l'Élevage : dossier « Organisation du travail, emploi et préservation de la santé des intervenants »

Links : <http://devenir-eleveur.com/>

[Covid 19] Gérer la conduite de finition des femelles allaitantes pour en programmer les sorties

En cette période inédite de crise sanitaire, les producteurs de viande bovine peuvent être amenés à devoir retarder la vente de leurs vaches de réformes ou de leurs génisses finies. Ce report doit être géré en maîtrisant les coûts, sans dégrader la qualité des carcasses (poids de vente dans les objectifs et état d'engraissement optimal). Il est bien évidemment nécessaire de se rapprocher de ses interlocuteurs habituels (commerciaux de Coop ou d'OP, acheteurs,...) pour anticiper le plus possible les sorties prévisionnelles et ainsi adapter la stratégie de finition des animaux. Le pré-requis est de bien piloter la note d'état corporel (NEC) des animaux.

Links

http://idele.fr/index.php?id=313&no_cache=1&tx_atolidelesolr_atolidelesolr%5Bcontroller%5D=IdeleSolr&tx_atolidelesolr_atolidelesolr%5Baction%5D=recommends&tx_atolidelesolr_atolidelesolr%5Bcontent%5D=38962&cHash=6e0a727c64d45dbe7569a9e291fa3296

La migration rurale en Afrique subsaharienne : Modèles, facteurs, et relation avec la transformation structurelle

Les mouvements migratoires nationaux et internationaux font partie intégrante de l'histoire de l'Afrique subsaharienne. Ces mouvements varient d'une région à l'autre et ont évolué considérablement au fil du temps. Le document Rural migration in sub-Saharan Africa constitue une étude de la dynamique et des facteurs de la migration au sud du Sahara et accompagne l'atlas "Une Afrique rurale en mouvement ». Issu d'un partenariat entre le Cirad et l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture (FAO), il a été préparé par le Cirad en collaboration avec le Centre de l'innovation en gouvernance (GovInn) et avec le soutien financier de la FAO et du Cirad.

Links : <https://www.cirad.fr/actualites/toutes-les-actualites/articles/2020/ca-vient-de-sortir/la-migration-rurale-en-afrique-subsaaharienne>

Tags : Migration

[Covid-19] Gestion des salariés pendant la crise



La crise du Covid-19 a des impacts à la fois sur la santé des éleveurs, la production des exploitations et la commercialisation des produits. Pour ces raisons, la gestion des salariés sur la ferme est largement impactée et de façon différente selon les situations. Le gouvernement a mis en place plusieurs solutions pour soutenir les entreprises et la production agricole pendant la crise.

Links : http://idele.fr/no_cache/recherche/publication/idelesolr/recommends/covid-19-gestion-des-salaries-pendant-la-crise.html

Tags : HRM

[Covid-19] Des leviers pour réorganiser le travail



En période de coronavirus, les éleveurs sont confrontés à des défis d'écoulement de la production lorsque les entreprises d'aval souhaitent lisser ou réduire la production et en circuit court, lorsqu'il s'agit de trouver de nouveaux débouchés pour remplacer la fermeture des marchés ou de la restauration collective. Eux-mêmes, leurs associés ou leurs salariés peuvent être victimes du coronavirus et faire face à des arrêts de travail plus ou moins longs. La garde des enfants en âge scolaire et leur suivi éducatif, l'attention renforcée à porter aux membres de la famille malades ou fragiles, demandent de reconquérir des marges de manœuvre.

Links : http://idele.fr/no_cache/recherche/publication/idelesolr/recommends/covid-19-des-leviers-pour-reorganiser-son-travail.html

Tags : Work organisation

Covid-19 & Sécurité alimentaire | L'Inde face à la crise de l'emploi



L'Inde est le pays dont la croissance économique est la plus élevée au monde, mais au prix d'un chômage, sous-emploi ou précarisation du travail grandissants. Avec l'arrivée du coronavirus SARS-Cov2, le pays doit faire face à une crise sanitaire mais aussi sociale révélée par la précarité des emplois informels en ville. Analyse de Bruno Dorin, économiste au Cirad, de New Delhi.

Cet article est le 1er d'une série consacrée aux impacts du Covid-19 sur la sécurité alimentaire de plusieurs pays tropicaux.

Links : <https://www.cirad.fr/actualites/toutes-les-actualites/articles/2020/science/covid-19-securite-alimentaire-l-inde-face-a-la-crise-de-l-emploi>

Tags : Rural Employment

Regional Farm Labour Database being set up

This initiative by Teagasc, FRS and the farm organisations will support farmers and their families during the current COVID-19 outbreak. With their consent, their details would be shared with farm families via the Farm Relief Services (FRS), in the event of farmer becoming ill with COVID-19. "With your permission, your details will be passed to FRS and they will contact you in the event of a farmer needing assistance."

Links : <https://www.teagasc.ie/news--events/news/2020/regionalfarmlabourdata.php>

Brasil, agricultura familiar representa 77% dos empregos agrícolas

Relatório lançado na quinta-feira (26) afirmou que a agricultura familiar é uma das principais atividades geradoras de novas fontes de trabalho na América Latina e Caribe. Na América do Sul, a participação da atividade nos empregos agrícolas é significativa, oscilando nos países analisados entre 53% (Argentina) e 77% (Brasil).



Os dados são do resumo executivo do relatório "Perspectivas da Agricultura e do Desenvolvimento Rural nas Américas 2014: uma visão para a América Latina e Caribe [2]". O documento foi lançado durante o Encontro de Ministros da Agricultura das Américas em Buenos Aires, Argentina, e produzido pela Comissão Econômica para a América Latina e o Caribe (CEPAL), pela Organização das Nações Unidas para Alimentação e Agricultura (FAO) e pelo Instituto Interamericano de

Cooperação para a Agricultura (IICA).

Na América Central, a agricultura familiar representa mais de 50% dos empregos no setor agrícola em todos os países, com exceção da Costa Rica (36%). No Panamá representa 71% e em Honduras 77%.

Links : <https://ciorganicos.com.br/biblioteca/brasil-agricultura-familiar-representa-77-dos-empregos-agricolas/>

Tags : Rural Employment

Medidas de prevenção ao coronavírus no campo: MAPA

As regras higiênico-sanitárias da produção agropecuária já são amplamente conhecidas e aplicadas regularmente pelos produtores rurais, refletindo a excelência da produção brasileira. Há uma série de recomendações que devem ser tomadas principalmente na circulação de mercadorias e cuidados pessoais na logística.

Links : <https://ciorganicos.com.br/noticia/medidas-de-prevencao-ao-coronavirus-no-campo-mapa/>

Tags : Health and decent work

How COVID-19 is throttling vital global migration flows

According to one estimate, migrants contribute nearly 10% of global GDP. Now, everyone from a migrant agricultural worker relying on a paycheck in Portugal to a foreign healthcare worker living in Sweden is potentially impacted by a dramatic tightening of borders. Some countries, like Australia, have barred entry to anyone who isn't a citizen or resident. Others, like the US, have suspended the entry of people from certain places. Some countries have made exemptions for "essential" workers - for Canada, that includes caregivers and seafood processors.

Links : <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/04/covid-19-is-throttling-vital-migration-flows/>

Tags : Migration, Health and decent work

BASF: todos juntos pelo legado do agricultor no campo

O alimento é uma necessidade básica de todo cidadão e ele vem dos milhares de agricultores que trabalham dia e noite para assegurar que a comida chegue na mesa de cada um. No entanto, para que a produção possa continuar, todo cuidado é necessário e cada um deve fazer a sua parte na luta contra o coronavírus, seja na cidade ou nas propriedades rurais. Também com o objetivo de auxiliar o agricultor no campo, o Ministério da Agricultura criou um número para atender demandas em meio ao surto do coronavírus.

Links : <https://revistadeagronegocios.com.br/basf-todos-juntos-pelo-legado-do-agricultor-no-campo/>

Tags : Health and decent work

Cafeicultores estão com medo de faltar mão de obra para a colheita

Os primeiros grãos de café da safra mineira deste ano devem começar a ser colhidos em aproximadamente um mês. Os trabalhos têm início em abril na Zona da Mata, que antecipa a colheita devido às condições climáticas favoráveis ao cultivo, e no fim de maio se estendem às demais regiões, como Sul e Cerrado.

Mesmo em situações adversas com a queda mundial nos preços, devido aos efeitos na economia do novo coronavírus, houve certa recuperação e "o preço encontra-se em condições suportáveis e o ano passado correu bem em termos de clima", admite Newton Castro Moraes, assessor especial da cafeicultura da Secretaria de Estado de Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento.

Links : <https://revistadeagronegocios.com.br/cafeicultores-estao-com-medo-de-faltar-mao-de-obra-para-a-colheita-que-comeca-em-breve/>

Tags : Rural Employment

Youth employment trends analysed in new ILO global report

A new report on youth employment will be published by the International Labour Organization (ILO) on Monday 9 March 2020.

The study looks at a wide range of issues faced by young people who are both in, or seeking to enter, the labour market. These include education trends, the situation of those who are not in employment, education or training (so-called NEETs), and the impact of automation.

The Global Employment Trends for Youth 2020: Technology and the future of jobs (GET Youth 2020) will be launched on Monday 9 March at 21.00

Links : http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_736979/lang--en/index.htm

Tags : Youth

German farms need nearly 300,000 seasonal workers



There is no shortage of food during the coronavirus pandemic, but farmers are urgently looking for seasonal workers for the harvest. The German government wants to help by relaxing employment rules and providing online placement. EURACTIV Germany reports.

Under time pressure, the German Government is looking for ways to mobilise sufficient seasonal workers for the harvest. On Monday (23 March), Chancellor Angela Merkel's cabinet agreed to significantly loosen labour laws for harvest workers.

The ministers decided to extend the "70-day rule." With these changes, seasonal workers may now work for up to 115 days in short-term employment until the end of October without paying social security contributions. The additional income limits for short-time work compensation and for farmers' pensions were also raised.

Links : <https://www.euractiv.com/section/agriculture-food/news/german-farms-need-nearly-300000-seasonal-workers/>

Tags : Rural Employment

COVID-19 measures could cause ‘devastating’ labour shortage in EU farming



Europe's farming sector could face a dramatic shortfall in workers as a consequence of the border restrictions put in place to stem the spread of novel coronavirus, which could lead to "devastating" impacts, according to farmers association COPA-COGECA.

Links : <https://www.euractiv.com/section/agriculture-food/news/covid-19-measures-could-cause-devastating-labour-shortage-in-eu-farming/>

Tags : Rural Employment, Migration, Policy

Coronavirus Covid 19 farm business update 12 Mar 2020

Dairy Australia aims to ensure farmers, their families, staff and communities are safe and well as the situation around COVID-19 evolves. The dairy industry has a dedicated group which is actively monitoring the situation and meeting regularly to manage the impact for dairy farmers and the wider industry.

How can I manage the impact of COVID-19 on my farm business?

Dairy farmers have a number of options to prepare their business and make contingency plans.

Farmers can consider:

- Protecting your staff from exposure - consider international visitors, people returning from overseas from at risk areas, and

consider self-isolation if staff unwell.

- Potential impacts on your business and ability to operate.
- Operating with limited labour due to staff having to self-isolate following travel or closure of schools or childcare
- What goods (e.g. chemicals) do you rely on to keep your business going in the coming three to four months.

Contact suppliers to secure goods or source alternatives.

- At this point the World Organisation for Animal Health and the Australian Veterinary Association indicated there is

no evidence that livestock can contract or spread the disease.

Links : <https://www.thepeopleindairy.org.au/announcements/coronavirus-update>

Up to 24.7 million jobs could be lost globally due to COVID-19 pandemic, says ILO

Up to 24.7 million jobs could be lost globally due to the coronavirus pandemic, according to the International Labour Organization. Guy Ryder, ILO director-general, lays out steps businesses could be taking now to protect workers.

Links : http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/ilo-in-the-media/WCMS_739036/lang--en/index.htm

Livestock route mapping for improved health of humans, animals and the environment

Pastoralism is an effective and productive livelihood system that makes the best use of variably distributed natural resources in often dry rangeland areas where it has a particularly strong comparative advantage over other land uses. In order to function well, pastoralists and their livestock need to move across the rangeland landscape to access grazing, browse, water and minerals as well as services such as markets. Any intervention that seeks to assist pastoralists needs to understand these movements and how best to support them.

The One Health Units for Humans, Environment, Animals and Livelihoods (HEAL) project applies a One Health approach to human health, animal health and the environment, because they are all connected.

Links : <https://news.ilri.org/2020/03/20/livestock-route-mapping-for-improved-health-of-humans-animals-and-the-environment/>

[Covid-19] Des leviers disponibles pour moduler la production laitière



La crise sanitaire (COVID 19) impacte la filière laitière, comme l'ensemble des filières agricoles. Les mesures d'adaptation des volumes doivent donc être prises pour permettre de passer le cap, gérer la sortie de crise sans remettre en cause la pérennité de l'exploitation et son potentiel de production ou de développement. Les leviers à activer pour gérer la crise doivent être en priorité ceux qui sont réversibles.

Links : http://idele.fr/index.php?id=313&no_cache=1&tx_atolidelesolr_atolidelesolr%5Bcontroller%5D=IdeleSolr&tx_atolidelesolr_atolidelesolr%5Baction%5D=recommends&tx_atolidelesolr_atolidelesolr%5Bcontent%5D=38522&cHash=9794c7fa54f094847a25bf383ae41d46

Crise sanitaire et suivi de la situation sur le marché du travail

Afin de suivre au plus près les évolutions du marché du travail, la Dares publiera chaque semaine, en collaboration avec la Délégation générale à l'emploi et à la formation professionnelle (DGEFP) et Pôle emploi, un tableau de bord de la situation sur le marché de travail, en mobilisant des données hebdomadaires, voire journalières, notamment sur l'activité partielle, les entrées en formation des demandeurs d'emploi, les contrats aidés, etc. Ces indicateurs seront complétés au fur et à mesure en fonction des données disponibles.

Links : <https://dares.travail-emploi.gouv.fr/dares-etudes-et-statistiques/la-dares/actualites-62/article/crise-sanitaire-et-suivi-de-la-situation-sur-le-marche-du-travail>

Devenir éleveur : découvrir, accéder, et s'épanouir dans le métier d'éleveur

La transmission, ça s'anticipe !

Un projet de transmission commence à se réfléchir 8 à 10 ans avant le départ effectif !

Pour préparer sereinement la transmission, respectez 5 étapes :

- J'anticipe, 8 à 10 ans avant de transmettre
- Je m'informe, 5 ans avant la transmission
- Je me prépare 1 à 4 ans avant
- Je concrétise, 1 an avant
- Je transmet !

De nombreux acteurs sont là pour vous accompagner, notamment les Points Accueil Installation Transmission : trouver le plus proche de chez vous

Vidéo réalisé dans le cadre d'un programme d'actions national financé par le Ministère de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation

Découvrez deux témoignages vidéo de transmissions réussies :

Links : <http://devenir-eleveur.com/>

Transmettre en élevage caprin

Ce document s'adresse aux éleveurs caprins qui envisagent d'arrêter leur activité (retraite, autre projet...). A travers celui-ci, la filière souhaite encourager la transmission pour des installations en élevage caprin. Cette plaquette a été réalisée dans le cadre du programme "installation transmission" de l'ANICAP.

Links : http://idele.fr/index.php?id=313&no_cache=1&tx_atolidelesolr_atolidelesolr%5Bcontroller%5D=IdeleSolr&tx_atolidelesolr_atolidelesolr%5Baction%5D=recommends&tx_atolidelesolr_atolidelesolr%5Bcontent%5D=38579&cHash=5264afa8aa3a67a981b7bcd4e416cfe5

[Covid19] Les gestes à respecter pour les interventions

L'élevage est bien une activité essentielle à la nation. Ceci doit cependant se faire sans pour autant vous faire prendre de risque et en s'attachant à la maîtrise de la diffusion du coronavirus responsable du Covid-19. GDS France propose une fiche Biosécurité qui décrit les gestes à respecter lors des interventions en élevage, notamment pour les interventions des vétérinaires.

Links : http://idele.fr/index.php?id=313&no_cache=1&tx_atolidelesolr_atolidelesolr%5Bcontroller%5D=IdeleSolr&tx_atolidelesolr_atolidelesolr%5Baction%5D=recommends&tx_atolidelesolr_atolidelesolr%5Bcontent%5D=38603&cHash=d9a6d26fd75172b423e57461e069c34c

Tags : Health and decent work

Disability Inclusion in COVID-19 responses in the World of Work

Facilitated by the ILO Global Business and Disability Network, all interested stakeholders, including governments, workers' and employers' organisations as well as organisations of persons with disabilities

participated in a webinar to share good practices on the inclusion of people with disabilities in the COVID-19 responses related to the World of Work.

Links : http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/disability-and-work/WCMS_739022/lang--en/index.htm

New Release: Enhancing Youth Employment Opportunities in Rural Economies in Ethiopia

This report aims to examine the youth employment conditions in rural Ethiopia and to assess the performance of the rural youth employment creation initiatives. The reports also address untapped youth employment opportunities and the reasons as to why they remain untapped in rural areas. We conducted key informant interviews and collected primary data from 626 respondents living in rural areas of the two most populous regions in Ethiopia. Two-third of the respondents were beneficiaries of government youth employment initiatives while the rest of them were the youth registered as unemployed. The beneficiaries were primarily selected from the Youth Revolving Fund program, a government youth employment creation initiative that provides fund and capacity building training's for the youth to create self-employed jobs.

Links : <https://agrinatura-eu.eu/2020/03/new-release-enhancing-youth-employment-opportunities-in-rural-economies-in-ethiopia/>

Tags : Rural Employment, Youth

Dairy Industry COVID 19 Directory

This directory of services does not seek to reproduce information available from responsible state and federal government agencies or other organisations, instead links to all relevant sources of information, acting as a single point of reference for dairy industry participants.

The directory includes information for people working on farm, working with farm businesses and many other topics including national restrictions and border closes, farm bio-security and guidelines for milk collections (amongst others).

Note: COVID-19 has impacted on working holiday visas - stay up to date with the latest information at home affairs website

The information features Q&A's, fact sheets and posters you can use on your farm.

Links : <https://www.thepeopleindairy.org.au/announcements/dairy-industry-covid-19-directory>

Why International Labour Standards matter in a public health crisis

The International Labour Organization maintains a system of international labour standards aimed at promoting opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work, in conditions of freedom, equity, security and dignity. In the context of the crisis response to the COVID-19 outbreak, they provide a tried-and-trusted foundation for policy responses that focus on a recovery that is sustainable and equitable.

Links : http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/multimedia/video/institutional-videos/WCMS_740023/lang--en/index.htm

Podcast on poverty alleviation in cocoa, coffee and tea supply chains

Yuca Waarts, senior researcher, sustainable value chain development, Wageningen University talks with Ian Welsh about the challenges developing living incomes for smallholder farmers and plantation workers.

She points out that the interventions that can make a difference for coffee, tea and cocoa production aren't necessarily the same, with many factors impacting income levels, and argues that for many smallholders finding a way out of poverty is impossible with ever-smaller farm sizes. However, business can still help.

Links : <https://agrinatura-eu.eu/2020/03/podcast-on-poverty-alleviation-in-cocoa-coffee-and-tea-supply-chains/>

Food supply worries farmers in US as coronavirus disrupts their work

April and May are critical planting and harvesting times for many US farmers. They need skilled laborers to work their fields, and a reliable supply chain to deliver their goods. And they don't have any time to waste.

If farmers can't find enough workers or if their farming practices are disrupted because of the pandemic, Americans could have less or pricier food this summer. And because international farmers and their supply chains face similar problems, we could receive fewer food imports, potentially limiting supply and driving up prices.

Links : <https://edition.cnn.com/2020/03/31/business/food-supply-disruption-coronavirus-us/index.html>

The Effects of COVID-19 Will Ripple through Food Systems -

The situation is to be expected in a pandemic, Martin says, citing a 2006 World Bank report that outlines how efforts to contain such outbreaks—including restaurant closures and disruptions to public transportation and tourism—tend to take a larger toll on the global economy than the hours of work lost from people falling ill. The report estimated that a modern pandemic similar to the 1918 Spanish flu would result in a 0.9 percent loss in GDP because of sick workers, compared with a 1.9 percent loss linked to policies enforced to control infection. Farmers of high-value crops get hit especially hard by those policies, Martin says.

One example comes from apple orchards, which require large crews to plant and prune trees. Pruning helps eliminate diseased branches and gives foliage more access to sunlight. But many apple growers rely on seasonal workers from outside of the country for these tasks, and many of these workers are struggling to get visas processed because of embassy and federal office closures. Without an adequate workforce, growers may have to leave trees unplanted and branches unpruned. This neglect could lead to losses later

this season and in future years, says Diane Kurrle, senior vice president of the USApple Association, a nonprofit organization based in Falls Church, Va., that represents growers and others in the industry.

Links : <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-effects-of-covid-19-will-ripple-through-food-systems/>

Ag sector may begin seeing coronavirus pandemic effects



Coronavirus is taking a bite out of local businesses on Main Street and now the implications for agriculture are beginning to take shape, said the rural entrepreneurship specialist with University of Wyoming Extension.

Those implications include falling commodity prices affecting any farmer who had March contracts for delivering grain, said Cole Ehmke in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at UW.

“And it seems likely there will be a manpower shortage,” said Ehmke. “Custom harvesters for wheat often draw crews from countries such as Australia and South Africa who may not be able to get here. Labor will likely be an issue for producers of fresh vegetables for farmers markets and horticultural products as the spring develops.”

Links : <https://thesherdanpress.com/122733/ag-sector-may-begin-seeing-coronavirus-pandemic-effects/>