BRAI2207 Agricultural market analysis

[30h] 2.5 credits

This two-yearly course is taught in 2005-2006, 2007-2008,...

Teacher(s): Georges Honhon, Philippe Polomé
Language: French
Level: Second cycle

Aims

On the basis of economic theory, be able to understand and distinguish the main physical, institutional and economic characteristics of the principal markets of agricultural raw products as well as higher value-added food products.Be able to understand how some of these markets work, such as the futures markets, as well as the role of the main operators on these markets.Be capable of applying with relevance and rigor quantitative methods to analyze the behavior of agricultural and food markets both in developing and industrialized countries.Be capable of exploring solutions to agricultural market failures.

Main themes

This course must allow the student to analyze the working and behavior of the main world agricultural and food markets. Markets in developing, transition, and industrialized countries are also included.In a first part, the course relies on contemporary economic theory to highlight and study the main physical, institutional and economic characteristics of the principal agricultural markets (cereals, oilseeds, sugar, milk products, meats, tropical products, wood) and food markets (fruits and vegetables, wines and liquors, other processed products). In particular, those markets illustrate themes such as the effects of asymmetric information on quality, of imperfect competition on commerce (oligopoly, monopolistic competition, reciprocal international dumping#) and of price discrimination. The course goes on to explain the functioning of some of these markets, notably futures markets, as well as the role of the main operators on these markets.In a second part, the course teaches the different quantitative methods for the analysis of the behavior of those markets. Time series, spatial and structural econometric methods are studied and illustrated using examples and exercises. To this end, special attention is given to the choice of the econometric model given the characteristics of the studied market and the addressed question.Finally, problems of prices and incomes instability and their solutions are discussed (futures markets, contracts, crop insurance, income insurance).

Content and teaching methods

The second part of the course (econometric methods) mainly consists in an applied work in which the student will acquire data on agricultural markets and analyze them by means of econometric techniques. A short report will be requested.Recommended readings: Sadoulet E. et A. de Janvry, 1995, Quantitative Development Policy Analysis, John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore; chapters 2, 3 & 4.

Other information (prerequisite, evaluation (assessment methods), course materials recommended readings, ...)

Prerequisites: Economie politique, Economie rurale, Economie des resources naturelles ou Micro-économieAdditional classes: Stratégie des firmes dans les filières agro-alimentaires, Séminaire d'économie ruraleEvaluation: Exam Support: Textbook

Programmes in which this activity is taught

ECOS3DS	Diplôme interuniversitaire d'études spécialisées en économie et sociologie rurales
ECRU3DS	Diplôme d'études spécialisées en économie rurale

Other credits in programs

BIR22/8A	Deuxième année du programme conduisant au grade de bio-ingénieur : Sciences agronomiques (Intégrée, productions animales, végétales & économie)	(2.5 credits)
BIR23/8A	Troisième année du programme conduisant au grade de bio-ingénieur : sciences agronomiques (Intégrée, productions animales, végétales & économie)	(2.5 credits)