

The Chinese Road of Building an Agricultural Powerhouse: Basic Logic, Process Judgment and Strategic Support

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Abstract: Agricultural powerhouse is a multidimensional dynamic concept based on the international comparison. By defining and classifying agricultural powerhouses worldwide, this article summarizes the basic characteristics of agricultural powerhouses as “four strong and one high”, that is, strong agricultural supply guarantee ability, strong agricultural scientific and technological innovation ability, strong agricultural sustainable development ability, strong agricultural competitiveness and high level of agricultural development. Building an agricultural powerhouse is a necessary way for China to build a socialist modern country, which embodies the unity of historical logic, theoretical logic and practical logic. Based on the economic development situation and the process of agricultural and rural modernization, China has sufficient conditions to build an agricultural powerhouse. So we must seize the opportunity and speed up the process. Through prediction and analysis of several key indicators, it is concluded that China is most likely to cross the threshold of agricultural powerhouse around 2040. In terms of timing, China will lay a solid foundation to become an agricultural powerhouse in 2035, and is likely to become an agricultural powerhouse in 2045. In order to build an agricultural powerhouse, China must base itself on its national conditions, adhere to the Chinese path, adopt a steady promotion strategy in stages and a classified promotion strategy by regions, industries and entities, and take the road of an agricultural powerhouse with Chinese characteristics. We should establish and improve the support system for a strong agricultural country, make innovations in agricultural subsidies and support means, and identify key areas of support priorities in science, technology and human resources. There is a need to focus on developing provinces, cities and counties that are strong in agriculture, greatly enhance the endogenous capacity and resilience of agricultural development, and turn China into agricultural powerhouse as soon as possible.

Keywords: Agricultural Powerhouse; The Road of China; Promotion Strategy; Support System

The County Economic Growth Effect of Government Support for Migrant Workers to Return Home for Entrepreneurship : An Examination Based on the Pilot Policy of Returning Home for Entrepreneurship

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Abstract: Guiding the transition from the “working economy” to the “entrepreneurial economy” is not only an effective means to solve the problem of farmers’ outlets, but also an important way to stimulate county economic growth. This article regards the return home entrepreneurship pilot as a quasi-natural experiment. Based on the panel data of 1864 counties in 27 provinces in China from 2011 to 2018, the study uses the DID method to examine the impact and mechanism of government support for migrant workers to return home for entrepreneurship on county economic growth. The results show that, from a national perspective, the pilot policy of returning home for entrepreneurship has a significant role in promoting county economic growth. The effect is mainly reflected in the central and western regions with more migrant workers, and the policy has not yet produced a spatial spillover effect. In addition, the pilot policy can promote county economic growth by promoting agglomeration, stimulating employment, optimizing structure and other channels. The findings of this study not only provide an important practical basis for the government to further support returning home for entrepreneurship, but also provide useful policy implications for the “backflow” urbanization construction and the balanced development of urban and rural areas.

Keywords: Government Support; Migrant Worker; Returning Home for Entrepreneurship; County Economic Growth

The Development of Digital Finance and Differences in Financial Availability Between Urban and Rural Households

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Abstract: Whether digital finance can improve the availability of financial services for rural households and break the urban-rural dual structure of traditional finance is a subject worth studying. Using a combination dataset, this article compares the effect differences of digital finance on financial service availability between urban and rural households. The empirical results show that digital finance has a greater impact on improving the availability of financial services for rural households, which is conducive to breaking the urban-rural dual structure of traditional finance. Further studies show that the “digital divide” may hinder the integrated development of urban and rural areas. Although the popularization of digital equipment and financial education can have a positive moderating effect on the financial availability of rural households, the effect is significantly smaller than that of urban households, which reflects the urgency of improving the digital literacy of rural households. Heterogeneity analysis finds that digital finance has a greater crowding-out effect on the traditional production credit and has a more obvious effect on improving the allocation scale of high-risk financial asset of rural households. This study provides empirical evidence and policy inspiration for the development of digital finance and the improvement of urban-rural dual financial structure in the future.

Keywords: Digital Finance; Financial Availability; Urban-rural Dual Structure; Digital Literacy; Moderating Effect

Does Public Private Partnership in Agriculture Promote the Development of County Agricultural Economy? Empirical Evidence Based on Multi-period DID Method

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Abstract: Public Private Partnership (PPP) in agriculture is an important innovation of agricultural investment and financing mode during the 13th Five Year Plan period. By using the panel data of the combination of micro data and macro data from 2000 to 2019, and using the multi-period DID model, this article examines the development effect and mechanism of Public Private Partnership in agriculture on county agricultural economic development. This conclusion is robust after the non-random allocation tests of experimental group, adjustment of control group, replacement of explanatory variables, adjustment of experimental group, consideration of missing variables and the continuity of economic and social environment, and the application of PSM-DID method. Public Private Partnership in agriculture has a long-term economic growth effect, which mainly promotes the development of county agricultural economy by increasing agricultural investment and optimizing regional institutional environment. Compared with developed areas, areas with low financial resources and areas with imperfect rural financial markets, the impact of Public Private Partnership in agriculture is more significant in underdeveloped areas, areas with high financial resources and areas with perfect rural financial markets. The impact of Public Private Partnership in agriculture also has heterogeneity of return mechanism.

Keywords: Agriculture; Public Private Partnership; County; Multi-period DID

Directors' Altruistic Spirit and Cooperative Performance: Theoretical and Empirical Analyses Based on Case Studies in Rural Chongqing

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Abstract: Based on the field investigation cases of four typical farmers' professional cooperatives in Kaizhou District, Chongqing, this article conducts a theoretical and case analysis on the mechanism of the directors' altruistic spirit affecting cooperative development. The results show that the phenomena of "elite capture" and "empty-shelled cooperatives" in farmers' professional cooperatives are closely related to the directors' personal ability and self-interest behavior. When the directors are less capable and selfish, the phenomenon of so-called "empty-shelled cooperatives" is easy to appear. When the directors are capable but selfish, the problem of "elite capture" is easy to occur. When the directors have an altruistic spirit and insufficient personal ability, it is easy to lead to a so-called "inefficient cooperative" phenomenon. Only when the directors are capable, altruistic and able to balance efficiency and fairness, can an "ideal cooperative" be formed. The research findings in this study provide important theoretical support and decision-making reference for China to improve the selection, evaluation and supervision mechanism of cooperative directors, stimulate collectivism and altruism, break through the "principle-agent" dilemma, promote the stable development of cooperatives and drive the vast number of farmers to increase their incomes.

Keywords: Director; Altruistic Spirit; Fairness; Efficiency; Farmers' Professional Cooperative

The Impact of Agricultural Marketization on Livestock Waste Resource Utilization in the Context of Environmental Regulation Policy

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Abstract: Based on the micro-level of farmers' behavior, this article discusses the impact of agricultural marketization on livestock waste resource utilization in the context of restrictive environmental regulation, guiding environmental regulation and incentive environmental regulation. On this basis, the study analyzes the interaction between market mechanisms and government regulations. The micro survey data of 453 farmers in Shandong Province are used for empirical test. The results show that, firstly, the marketization of labor force has a significant negative impact on farmers' livestock and poultry waste resource treatment behavior, while the marketization of production services has a significant positive impact on farmers' livestock and poultry waste resource treatment behavior. Secondly, the restrictive environmental regulation policy can reverse the negative effect of output marketization on farmers' livestock and poultry waste resource treatment behavior. The guiding environmental regulation policy plays a positive regulatory role in the relationship between production service marketization and farmers' livestock and poultry waste resource treatment behavior. And the incentive environmental regulation policy has no regulatory role in the output marketization, labor marketization, production service marketization and farmers' livestock and poultry waste resource treatment behavior. Therefore, the study proposes to improve the circulation mode of livestock and poultry products, develop modern agriculture, provide socialized service for production, and enhance the level of agricultural marketization. At the same time, there is a need to strengthen the implementation of environmental regulation policies and form a virtuous circle of mutual promotion between market mechanism and environmental regulation, so as to promote the high-quality development of livestock and poultry breeding.

Keywords: Environmental Regulation Policy; Agricultural Marketization; Livestock Waste; Resource Utilization

Regional Imbalance of Carbon Emissions from China's Rural Energy Consumption and Dynamic Identification of Driving Factors

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Abstract: Based on the calculated data of rural energy consumption carbon emissions in 30 provinces within eight regions of China from 2000 to 2018, this article analyzes the regional differences and contribution sources of carbon emissions of rural energy consumption by using two-weight ratio coefficient of variation and Dagum Gini coefficient, and analyzes the spatial-temporal evolution characteristics of regional imbalance of carbon emissions of rural energy consumption by using the Kernel density estimation. The driving factors of carbon emissions of rural energy consumption are selected by using the Adaptive Lasso Model. It also compares the results with stepwise regression and ordinary least squares parameter estimation. It finds that the regional differences of carbon emissions from rural energy consumption in China from 2000 to 2018 show a trend of narrowing first and then widening. The spatial unbalanced development degree of carbon emissions from rural energy consumption deepens during the dynamic evolution, and there are differences in the dominant types of carbon emissions from rural energy consumption in the eight regions. From the national perspective, factors such as rural production and living factor investment, rural population development scale, rural living quality and energy consumption level have different degrees of impact on rural energy consumption carbon emissions. From the regional perspective, the driving effects and impacts of driving factors on rural energy consumption carbon emissions have time and space differences. Therefore, in the process of carbon emission governance in rural areas, the management idea of “national overall planning, regional coordination, and regional specialization” should be clearly defined, the classification management method of “by region, by time period, and by type” should be adhered to, the key management areas of emission reduction should be divided according to the regional carbon emission level, and the mechanism of driving factors should be taken as the management orientation of emission reduction, so as to realize the green coordination and high-quality development of ecological bearing, environmental protection and economic growth in rural areas.

Keywords: Rural Carbon Emission; Regional Imbalance; Energy Consumption; Driver; Adaptive Lasso Model