

2026-01-14

Vertical Disintegration & Farm Productivity

- Research Overview: Past, Present, and Future
- Past and Present
- Research Background

Research Background

Agricultural contracting and vertical coordination

- Contract design: 20 years of empirical testing, measurement in agricultural markets
- AJAE (1996, 2002, 2005, 2007), European Review of Ag. Econ. (2002)

Cooperative organization and governance

- Empirical studies of various co-ops, associations, technology, capital structure
- AJAE (2000), J. Econ. & Behav. & Org. (2002), AEFP (2002)

Cooperative business, supply chains, productivity measurement

- Cooperative business studies
- AJAE (2000), J. Econ. & Behav. & Org. (2002), AEFP (2002)

Productivity measurement

- Quality adjustment for service inputs in TFP accounting
- Market power and regulations for ag productivity

Today's paper connects all these threads: examining how organizational change affects agricultural productivity using novel administrative data

- I need to add notes here describing my way through the various works
- And need to decide how much time I want to spend discussing. Probably just 5 min.

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- Research Overview: Past, Present, and Future
- Future
- Future Research: Economics of Cooperatives

Future Research: Economics of Cooperatives

1. Coops and sector restructuring

- Longitudinal integration of cooperative business studies
- Historical context and trends as foundation for education and outreach

2. Governance and financial management

- Managing member heterogeneity, unique capital structure challenges

3. Market level integration

- Role of cooperatives and entry facilitation issues in US context

4. Cooperation and agricultural productivity

- Role in technology diffusion, input provision, and sector growth

5. Startup and development

- Evidence and growth of new cooperative organizations
- Economic rationale, public policy implications

- This the main focus of my research program for THIS position
- The next slide summarizes complementary work drawing on my experience at ERS and connected with supply chain issues

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- Future
- Future Research: Complementary Themes

Future Research: Complementary Themes

Agricultural supply chains and upstream industries

- Farm consolidation effects on service markets

Productivity measurement

- Quality adjustment for service inputs in TFP accounting
- Market power and regulations for ag productivity

- This section focuses on research with supply chain connection
- Based on work initiated while at ERS