Curriculum Vitae

Yating Gong

University of Wisconsin – Madison
Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics
PhD Candidate, Graduate Student Researcher

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Education

University of Wisconsin – Madison
Ph.D., Agricultural and Applied Economics — expected, May 2024
Job Market Paper: *Taxing for Health: The Enduring Benefits of In-Utero Cigarette Tax Exposure on Adult Health*
M.S., Economics — 2018

Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences
M.S., Agricultural Economics and Management — 2015

Peking University
B.S., Economics (Double Degree) — 2015

China Agricultural University
B.S., Agriculture — 2012

Fields of Concentration

Primary: Health Economics, Public Policy, Production Economics
Secondary: Industry Organization, Environmental Economics

Publications

Hutchins, Jared, **Gong, Yating**, and Du, Xiaodong. 2023. "The Role of Animal Breeding in Productivity Growth: Evidence from Wisconsin Dairy Farms." *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* 1–20. https://doi.org/10.1111/ajae.12374 (link)

Mao, Shiping and **Gong, Yating**. 2017. "The Investment System in Japan's Agricultural Infrastructure Construction: Evolution, Characteristics and Enlightenment." *China Soft Science*, 10: 1-11. (link)

Mao, Shiping **Gong, Yating**, and Liu, Fujiang. 2017. "UK Agricultural Subsidy Policies and Their Implications to China." *Research of Agricultural Modernization*, 38(01): 31-37. (link)

Working Papers

Gong, Yating 2023. *Taxing for Health: The Enduring Benefits of In-Utero Cigarette Tax Exposure on Adult Health* Working Paper. [JOB MARKET PAPER] (link)

Du, Xiaodong, **Gong,Yating**, and Wang, Yang. 2023. *The Impact of Lead Air Pollution on Infant Mortality.* Working Paper.

Averett, Susan, **Gong, Yating**, Wang, Yang. *Health Effects of Exposure to Child Care Subsidies.* Working Paper.

Selected Presentations

2021 Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting,
"The Role of Animal Breeding in Productivity Growth: Evidence from Wisconsin Dairy Farms".

Academic Working Experience

University of Wisconsin – Madison
La Follette School of Public Affairs
Research Assistant of Professor Yang Wang 2020 – present
Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science
Agricultural Information Institute
Research Assistant of Researcher Shiping Mao 2015–2016

Teaching Experience

University of Wisconsin – Madison
Math 320 – *Linear Algebra and Differential Equations* 2019-2020
Math 114 – *Algebra and Trigonometry* 2018

Languages and Computer Skills

Languages: English (fluent), Mandarin (native)
Professional skills: STATA, R, Latex, SPSS, Matlab (basic)

References

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Abstracts

Taxing for Health: The Enduring Benefits of In-Utero Cigarette Tax Exposure on Adult Health [JOB MARKET PAPER] (link)

Cigarette taxes have been shown to reduce maternal smoking and enhance birth outcomes. However, it is still uncertain whether these effects persist into adulthood. This study investigates the long-term effects of exposure to higher in-utero cigarette taxes on health outcomes in adulthood. Utilizing a generalized difference-in-differnce methodology and analyzing a rich dataset spanning births from 1968 to 1994, I find that a 10-cent increase in in-utero cigarette tax leads to a significant 1.8-percentage-points reduction in the likelihood of ever experiencing health conditions such as asthma, lung disease, heart disease, and heart attacks for persons age 25 to 35. The examination of mechanisms underscores pathways through parental smoking behavior during pregnancy, birth outcomes, childhood health, smoking behavior, cognitive ability, educational attainment, and age at first childbirth. The study contributes to the burgeoning literature on early-life determinants of health and enriches our understanding of the complex interplay between cigarette policies and long-term health, with implications for policymakers and public health interventions.

The Role of Animal Breeding in Productivity Growth: Evidence from Wisconsin Dairy Farms (2023), with Jared Hutchins and Sheldon Du. *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 1-20. (link)

We examine the relationship between investments in animal breeding and productivity growth on Wisconsin dairy farms using a control function approach. We incorporate farmlevel annual investment in breeding and genetics into the law of motion of productivity as in De Loecker (2013) to test the relationship between these investments and realized productivity. Our unique dataset also allows us to look at the effect of choosing bulls with high milk yield potential on productivity. Our results indicate that breeding investments made 3 years prior are associated with higher productivity of the current cohort. However, the farms with the highest level of productivity reap the lowest benefits from breeding investments, suggesting that there are diminishing returns to investing in genetics. When milk output is not quality adjusted, the contribution of breeding to productivity is undetectable, suggesting that breeding and investments in milk quality are related. We conclude that investments in breeding and genetics significantly contribute to dairy farm productivity, especially in terms of milk quality.

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