

# ZEKUAN DONG

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Department of Agricultural,  
Food and Resource Economics  
Michigan State University  
My website: <https://zekuan-dong.github.io/>

Phone: +1 (517) 348-3035  
E-mail: [dongzeku@msu.edu](mailto:dongzeku@msu.edu)  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1039

## EDUCATION

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<b>Michigan State University</b> <i>Ph.D., Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics</i> <i>Dissertation Title: Essays on Farmer Well-Being, and Urbanization Effects on Farm Size and Wildlife-Livestock Disease</i> <i>Committee: Frank Lupi (Chair), David Ortega, Jason Rowntree, Songqing Jin</i>	Expected Dec 2025
<b>Zhejiang University</b> <i>M.S., Agricultural Economics Management</i> <i>Outstanding Graduates of Zhejiang Province, Overall GPA: 3.90/4.00, Ranking: 1/13</i>	June 2020
<b>Zhejiang University</b> <i>B.S., Economics and Management of Agriculture and Forestry</i>	June 2018

## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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<b>Michigan State University – East Lansing, MI</b> Graduate Research Assistant	Aug 2020 - Present
<b>Agricultural &amp; Applied Economics Association (AAEA)</b> Abstracts Reviewer for the AAEA Annual Meeting	Feb 2021, Feb 2024, Feb 2025
<b>Zhejiang University – Hangzhou, China</b> Graduate Research Assistant	Aug 2018 - Jun 2020

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

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Livestock industry, Farm management, Food trade, Food policy

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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(\* denotes corresponding author)

**Dong, Z.**, & Shaefer, K. A.\* (2025). “Urbanization and the Industrialization of Agriculture”. *European Review of Agricultural Economics*. [\(LINK\)](#)

McKendree, M. G., Tonsor, G. T. \*, & **Dong, Z.** (2024). “Price pass-through in the US beef industry: Implications of feedlot capacity utilization”. *Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics/Revue canadienne d'agroeconomie*. [\(LINK\)](#)

Lin, B., Du, R., **Dong, Z.**, Jin, S. \*, & Liu, W. (2020). “The impact of foreign direct investment on the productivity of the Chinese forest products industry.” *Forest Policy and Economics*, 111, 102035. [\(LINK\)](#)

## PAPERS IN PROGRESS

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(\* denotes corresponding author)

**Dong, Z.\***, McKendree, M.G.S., & Lupi, F., “Financial Well-Being of Rural Households: A Theoretical Framework and Application”, Under review at the *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review*, [Manuscript available here](#)

Zhang, Y., **Dong, Z.\***, & Ning, Y., “Formal Credit Accessibility and Productivity Resilience to Natural Disasters: Evidence from the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau of China”, Under review at the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, [Manuscript available here](#)

**Dong, Z.**, Shaefer, K. A., Lupi, F., & Jin, S., “Urbanization and Livestock Disease: Evidence from Bovine Tuberculosis in Great Britain”, Working paper, [Manuscript available here](#)

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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(\* denotes presenting author)

**Dong, Z.\***, & McKendree, M.G.S., “Financial Well-being of Rural Households: A Theoretical Framework and A Case Study”, Selected Presentation at Society for Range Management (SRM) Annual Meeting, Sparks, NV., Jan 2024

**Dong, Z.\***, & McKendree, M.G.S., “Financial Well-being of Rural Households: A Theoretical Framework and A Case Study”, Selected Presentation at Michigan Agricultural Credit Conference, East Lansing, MI., Oct 2023

**Dong, Z.\***, & McKendree, M.G.S., “Financial Well-being of Rural Households: A Theoretical Framework and A Case Study”, Selected Poster at Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., July 2023

McKendree, M.G.S., Tonsor, G.T., & **Dong, Z.\***, “Price Pass-Through in the U.S. Beef Industry: Implications of Feedlot Capacity Utilization”, Selected Presentation at Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA., August 2022

**Dong, Z.**, & Shaefer, K. A.\*, “Urbanization and the Industrialization of Agriculture”, Presented at 32<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of Agricultural Economists (ICAE), New Delhi, India, August 2024

**Dong, Z.**, & Shaefer, K. A.\*, “Urbanization and the Industrialization of Agriculture”, Presented at Australasian Agricultural & Resource Economics Society (AARES) Annual Conference, Christchurch, New Zealand, February 2023

**Dong, Z.**, & Shaefer, K. A.\*, “Urbanization and the Industrialization of Agriculture”, Selected Presentation at Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA., August 2022

**Dong, Z.**, & Shaefer, K. A.\*, “Urbanization and the Industrialization of Agriculture”, Presentation at Agricultural Economics Society (AES) Annual Conference, K U Leuven, Belgium, April 2022

## PROJECTS

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**Metrics, Management, and Monitoring: Linking Grazing Management, Soil Health, and Producer Wellbeing**

Research Assistant

Main Sponsors: Foundation for Food & Agriculture Research (FFAR USDA) and Noble Research Institute

Grant amount: \$20,000,000

**Values and adoption in regenerative grazing practices and associated well-being outcomes for cow-calf producers**

Research Assistant

Sponsor: Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE USDA)

Grant amount: \$250,000

**SELECTED AWARDS & HONORS**

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- 2025** Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Michigan State University
- 2022/2023/2024** Conference Travel Grant, Michigan State University
- 2020** Outstanding Graduates of Zhejiang Province  
Outstanding Master's Thesis, Zhejiang Province  
Outstanding Graduates of Zhejiang University  
Outstanding Master's Thesis, Zhejiang University
- 2019** National Scholarship, Zhejiang University  
Merit Graduate Student Awards, Zhejiang University
- 2017** Wanglaoji Scholarship, Zhejiang University  
Third-Class Scholarship for Outstanding Merits, Zhejiang University  
Outstanding Student Leader Awards, Zhejiang University
- 2016** Da Bei Nong Scholarship, Zhejiang University  
Outstanding Student Leader Awards, Zhejiang University  
Excellent Social Work Scholarship, Zhejiang University

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**Teaching Assistant** Spring 2019 & Spring 2018

Poverty Alleviation and Development for Developing Countries Workshop

The Ministry of Commerce of China & China Academy for Rural Development

**SKILLS**

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Language skills: English (fluent), Chinese (native)

Computer skills: Stata, LATEX, QGIS, SAS, SPSS(basic), R(basic), MATLAB(basic), Mathematica(basic), Python(basic)

**REFERENCES**

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**Dr. Frank Lupi**

Professor

Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, Michigan State University

Phone: +1 517-432-3883

Email: lupi@msu.edu

**Dr. K. Aleks Schaefer**

Assistant Professor

Department of Agricultural Economics, Oklahoma State University

Phone: +1 517-388-4314

Email: aleks.schaefer@okstate.edu

**Dr. Songqing Jin**

Professor

Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, Michigan State University

Phone: +1 517-353-4522

Email: jins@msu.edu

**Dr. Shaosheng Jin**

Professor

Department of Agricultural Economics and Management, Zhejiang University

Phone: +86 571-5633-7035

Email: [ssjin@zju.edu.cn](mailto:ssjin@zju.edu.cn)