

Program for the Workshop

Understanding Monoculture
Challenges – Mindsets – Learning Experiences

15.-16. August 2024

Institut für soziale Bewegungen (Institute for Social Movements), Clemensstr. 17-19,
Bochum, Germany

August 14

Informal Dinner (details tba)

August 15

Chair: David Drengk (RUB/ TU Dresden)

9:00-10:00 am

Frank Uekötter (Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany)
Giving Sense to the Senseless. Some Opening Remarks

10:00-11:30 am

John Garnett (George Mason University Songdo, South Korea)
The Invention of Plant Pathology. Rust Races, Rust-Resistant
Wheat, and Re-Introducing Diversity into Monoculture Farming,
1878-1955

Jessica Wang (University of British Columbia, Canada & Max-
Planck-Institut, Berlin)
Soil Exhaustion, Critiques of Single Cropping, and the
Contradictions
of Diversified Agriculture in the United States, 1900-1940"

11:30-12:00 am

Coffee Break

12:00-1:30 pm

Leida Fernández Prieto (Centre for Human and Social
Sciences, National Spanish Research Council, Spain)
Sugar Monoculture, Pest and Science in the Hispanic Caribbean,
1898-1930

Sam Hege (Yale University, USA)

Making the Beef Capital. A Study of Texas' First Commercial
Feedlot and the People who Transformed it into a Revolution

1:30-2:30 pm

Lunch

Chair: Helen Curry (Georgia Tech)

2:30-4:00 pm

Hohee Cho (University of Oxford, UK)

Ecology of Plantations. Coconuts, Animals, and Disease in the
Pacific Islands

Omri Polatsek (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science,
Berlin, Germany)

Fertilizer and Crises of Knowledge in Egypt's Cotton
Monoculture, 1890s-1930s

4:00-4:30 pm

Coffee Break

4:30-6:00 pm

Gilang Mahadika (Universitas Brawijaya, Indonesia) and

Michaela Haug (University of Freiburg, Germany)

Against the Monoculture. Agrarian Struggles and the Persistent
Paradigm of "Pembangunan" in East Kalimantan, Indonesia

Andres Suarez Agudelo (Justus Liebig University Gießen,
Germany)

Theorizing the Normalization of Hass Avocado Plantations in
Colombia

6:00 pm

Networking Dinner at the Institute of Social Movements

August 16

Chair: Michaela Haug (University of Freiburg)

9:30-11:00 am

Harm Zwarts (University of Groningen, Netherlands)

Dutch Plant Breeding and Genetic Monoculture. The Institute of
Plant Breeding, its 'List of Varieties,' and the Diffusion of Crop
Varieties among Dutch Farmers, circa 1924-1990

Helen Curry (Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, USA)
The Seed Gospel and the Software of the Green Revolution.
Understanding Monocultures through the History of Extension

11:00-11:30 am **Coffee Break**

11:30 am-1:00 pm **Nathaly Yumi da Silva** (Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands)
Pest on the Plantation. Unraveling the Coexistence of the Stink Bugs with Brazilian Soybeans

Lars Dickmann (University of Heidelberg, Germany)
Weaponising Nature. Applied Entomology, Biological Control and Environmental Thought, c. 1920-1950. A Case Study of a Gambir Plantation in Sumatra

1:00-2:00 pm **Lunch Break**

Chair: Lukas Held (RUB)

2:00-3:30 pm **Joel Mead** (University of Liverpool, UK)
Selling the Industrial Egg. The Role of the State, Producers, and Consumers in Shaping the Intensification of Eggs, 1956-1973

Clémence Gadenne-Rosfelder (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, France)
The Modernisation of Pig Farming in Brittany (1940s-1990s).
From Intensification to Industrialisation

3:30-4:00 pm **Coffee Break**

4:00-5:30 pm **Elena Kunadt** (TU Berlin, Germany)
Weed-free Monocultures. Growing Corn with Atrazine, 1950-1991

Enid Still (Passau University, Germany)
The 'Belief' in Monocultures. Tracing the Racial and Moral Anxieties of Colonial Agriculture

Julia Mariko Jacoby (Duisburg-Essen University, Germany)
From Economic Miracle to Allergy Problem. Cedar Plantations in
Postwar Japan

5:30-6:00 pm

Closing Comments