



Call for Articles - Farming Matters Magazine - Global edition (2020)

Deadline: articles should be submitted to revista@aspta.org.br by March 31st

Context

Recognized worldwide as a path towards sustainable and just food systems and a response to the economic and ecological crises, agroecology is now a phenomenon that stretches beyond the limits of the farm and across different socio-environmental contexts. This rapid evolution of agroecology has created a demand for new perspectives that are coherent with the worldviews and livelihoods of family farmers, peasants and indigenous people across the globe to avoid cooptation and draw out key lessons. Conventional agriculture based on logics of mainstream economics has hidden and delegitimized the many unique social, and technical-economic rationales of peasant agriculture. For example, in agroecology women often make farming decisions that benefit the health and wellbeing of their family and community instead of prioritizing profit.

There is a need to further learn from these perspectives and practices to strengthen alternative economic perspectives that also give visibility to the changes in gender relations that are occurring in agroecological food systems today. Growing analysis of inspiring examples of new ways of farming sheds light on how women and other marginalized people are in fact decisive actors in agroecology and sustainable food systems. But to what degree do they run the risk of repeating patterns of inequality?

Call for articles

In the new issue of Farming Matters - which is piloted by the [Agricultures Network](#) and [CIDSE](#) -, we invite articles and stories based on concrete experiences that are exemplary of how agroecology and a feminist logic are mutually reinforcing. A feminist approach to agroecology offers a greater potential for women 's various roles to be valued, including their care tasks, which in turn can generate a different division of work between men and women, and even new economic relations and power shifts in society. The main question we want to address in this issue is the reciprocal relation between women and agroecology: how feminist logic is generating alternative economies coherent with the agroecological perspective and to what degree agroecology is an approach that contributes to the social, political and economic emancipation of women.

Questions in which we are particularly interested:

- How has agroecology generated new economic relations and new political narratives based on a feminist perspective?
- How have strategies of agroecological innovation led by women brought practical short-term solutions while reshaping structural inequality in processes of production, distribution, and consumption of food?
- What can we learn from examples where the labor and knowledge of men and women in both production and care work are equally valued by society?

- How have women's movements contributed to these changes?
- How perspectives based on solidarity economy, public health, food sovereignty, etc. have been used to build knowledge in the territories of agroecology?
- How has agroecology contributed to new forms of managing the 'commons'?
- What are the lessons from these experiences for the practice, science and/ or movement of agroecology?
- How can an enabling policy environment support the cause of women and agroecology?

Guide for authors

Farming Matters presents lessons learned about the technical, ecological, social, political and economic aspects of agroecology. Each issue offers front-line, field-based cases and perspectives from all corners of the world. As we seek to learn from these experiences, the articles go beyond describing results, and instead dive deep into factors of success or failure, providing key insights for the agroecological transition. In addition, Farming Matters offers a platform for advancing the political debate about agroecology.

Authors are recommended to describe:

- the initial context, and what were the difficulties faced by the key actors;
- the reasons for the approach taken to improve the situation;
- the ways the different actors went about it, and who took the initiative and when;
- what happened as a result, including things that did not work out, as these often provide important insights;
- *the reasons why* things worked out as they did;
- relevant opinions / analysis / conclusions and recommendations for the future or for others.

Please ensure that you

- thoroughly read the call for articles;
- explain any terms or ideas that may not be understood in every part of the world or by all kinds of readers (e.g. avoid academic jargon);
- avoid writing a one-dimensional promotional piece about a project of your organisation;
- acknowledge all sources and references used; and
- explain any abbreviations used.



Contributions should be grounded in concrete experiences but also provide a broader reflection and analysis of the relevance of the experience. We will give priority to authors that have been involved in the experience themselves.

As the articles go through a rigorous editorial process, authors are usually requested to provide additional information or clarifications. We would therefore rather have too much information than too little in the first draft! Full editorial support will be provided by [Cultivate!](#)

Format

In general terms, authors are requested to

- send about 500 words summary in English (preferred), Spanish, French or Portuguese **before March 31 to revista@aspta.org.br.**
- include no more than five references (any references should include at least year of publication, name of author, and publisher);
- provide a current email address. This will also be published in the magazine. We would also appreciate a contact phone number for our own use;
- include 2-6 photos, illustrations, drawings, or maps. Please provide the name of the photographer / artist. JPEG files of at least 1 MB are preferred.
- include a brief description of yourself.

Everyone who sends a proposal for an article will be contacted. The editorial team will select 6-7 summaries to be elaborated into a full article. Authors will be invited to develop an article between 1500 and 2000 words. The edition of the magazine should be finalized in September 2020. The launch of the magazine will be done in October 2020 (tbc).