

CALL FOR PAPERS

Agrobiodiversity Change in Conflict and Post-Conflict Landscapes

Themed Issue Proposal for Geoforum

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Geographers and scholars of related disciplines have conducted insightful research on the political and socio-ecological implications of violent agrarian struggles (e.g. Peluso & Watts 2001, Cramer & Richards 2011, Thomson 2011, Ballvé 2012, McSweeney et al. 2016). For example, conflict-related death and forced displacement drastically transform political movements, demographic structures, and the livelihoods and landscapes of rural and urban communities (Steinberg & Taylor 2002, Suthakar & Bui 2008, Salisbury & Fagan 2013, Sánchez-Cuervo & Aide 2013, Álvarez-Salas & Gálvez-Abadía 2014, Rincón-Ruiz et al. 2016). While farmers may abandon food cultivation when engaging with revolts, rebellions, or revolutions (Wolf 1969, Katz 1988, Richards 2005), they also participate in the production or extraction of conflict-related resources as a strategy to diversify income and manage risk (Thoumi 2003, Steinberg 2004, Steinberg & Taylor 2007, García-Yi 2015). As a consequence, substantial changes occur in relation to resources and food (e.g. Rincón-Ruiz & Kallis 2013, McSweeney et al. 2014, Dávalos et al. 2016, Sesnie et al. 2017), as well in territory-making and the related availability and access of local populations to key environmental assets (Escobar 2008, Ballvé 2012). For example, the informal seed networks of important food plants that are globally predominant are often disrupted (Richards & Ruivenkamp 1997, van der Steeg et al. 2004, McGuire & Sperling 2013, Zimmerer 2017), although they can recover.

Yet little scholarship on violent agrarian struggles analyzes the transformation of agrobiodiversity, or the smallholder biodiversity of agriculture and food systems (exceptions include Richards & Ruivenkamp 1997, Sperling, 1997, Steinberg & Taylor 2002, McGuire & Sperling 2013, and Ingalls & Mansfield 2017). With significant violent conflict occurring in many of the worlds centers of origin and diversity of food crops (agrobiodiversity), analyzing these interactions is urgently needed. The papers in the themed issue entitled 'Agrobiodiversity Change in Conflict and Post-Conflict Landscapes' will be a pioneering discussion on the interactions of violence and agrobiodiversity. Questions to be addressed in the issue include the following: How has agrobiodiversity been impacted by physical and non-physical types of violence? How have smallholder farmer livelihoods and the spaces of food and nutritional security been redefined by the risks but also the opportunities present in (post)conflict landscapes? How does conflict influence the on-farm and regional cultivation and exchange of seed diversity? How have local agrobiodiversity knowledge and networks supported the recovery of post-conflict landscapes? How have markets and mobility (such as migration) interacted with agrarian violence and agrobiodiversity? How are the historical formation and colonial histories of agrarian structures related to violence and agrobiodiversity? What are the roles of the state in agrarian violence with differing influences on food biodiversity? Scholarship on the relationships between agrobiodiversity and violence will inform analyses of agrarian struggles, resource-related conflicts, and agrobiodiversity loss or conservation amid contemporary processes of regional and global change.

We are pleased to invite you to submit an abstract for the proposed themed issue entitled "Agrobiodiversity Change in Conflict and Post-Conflict Landscapes" in Geoforum. We ask that interested authors send a 300-word abstract of their proposed contribution to Gabriel Tamariz (gabriel_tamariz@psu.edu) and Megan Baumann (meganbaumann@psu.edu) no later than **Sunday, February 10, 2019**.

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