

Save the Date for

The Economics of Bioenergy Policies A Hands-on Modeling Course



June 20-22, 2015, Ravello, Italy

Workshop Aim

Have you been puzzled by the biofuels phenomenon? Do you have hard time understanding the various theories explaining the workings of biofuel policies? Are you getting lost in the maze of explanations for the recent food commodity price increases? Then we can help you understand how this complex system works.

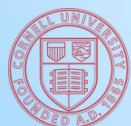
We offer a three-day hands-on course in which you will learn the workings of the most misunderstood and controversial set of government actions that have ever impacted contemporary food commodity price and policy analysis. In assessing the broad spectrum of proclaimed policy goals, this course will identify many perverse and contradictory effects of biofuel mandates, subsidies, import barriers, binary sustainability standards and indirect land use measures. Most importantly, we will show how biofuel policies established the crop-energy price link and hence the food-fuel trade-off. We will also discuss the contradictory effects of combining mandates with different subsidies; the various surprising welfare effects; and the various inconsistencies associated with binary sustainability standards and carbon leakages. We will provide and discuss examples from the United States, Europe, and Brazil.

The blend of short lectures and in-depth empirical exercises will ensure that the participants will have full knowledge of the underlying theory and will be able to calibrate various models depending on combinations of biofuels, feedstocks, and policies. The participants will be able to simulate the effects of various policy (and market) scenarios on food commodity prices, the environment, and energy markets. The importance of price linkages—established by biofuel policies—will be stressed.



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CEIS
RESEARCH WEEK

Instructors

Harry de Gorter – Professor, Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University, USA

Dusan Drabik – Assistant Professor, Agricultural Economics and Rural Policy Group, Wageningen University, The Netherlands

David Zilberman – Professor and Robinson Chair, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley, USA

Venue

Hotel Bonadies

Piazza Fontana Moresca, 5
84010 Ravello Salerno

Important Dates

January 2015

Detailed information on registration, accommodation, and course outline

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Registration

Through a registration form available in January 2015.

Registration Fee

€250 - up to March 1, 2015

€350 - March 1 – May 1, 2015

Further Information

Dusan Drabik

Agricultural Economics and Rural Policy Group, Wageningen University
De Leeuwenborch 2105, Hollandseweg 1
NL-6706 KN Wageningen, The Netherlands
Ph.: +31 (0)317 484365
Fax: +31 (0)317 484736
E-mail: Dusan.Drabik@wur.nl