

Some comments on "Research and innovation in agriculture: beyond productivity?"

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4th AIEAA Conference, Ancona, 11-12 June 2015



Initial reflections

- Davide's presentation critically assesses the way linkages between research investment/performance and productivity growth are assessed
- Need to better embrace complexity of agricultural innovation, and multiple sources and goals of agricultural innovation
- I tend to agree with this view, and will provide mainly some reflections on directions for future research

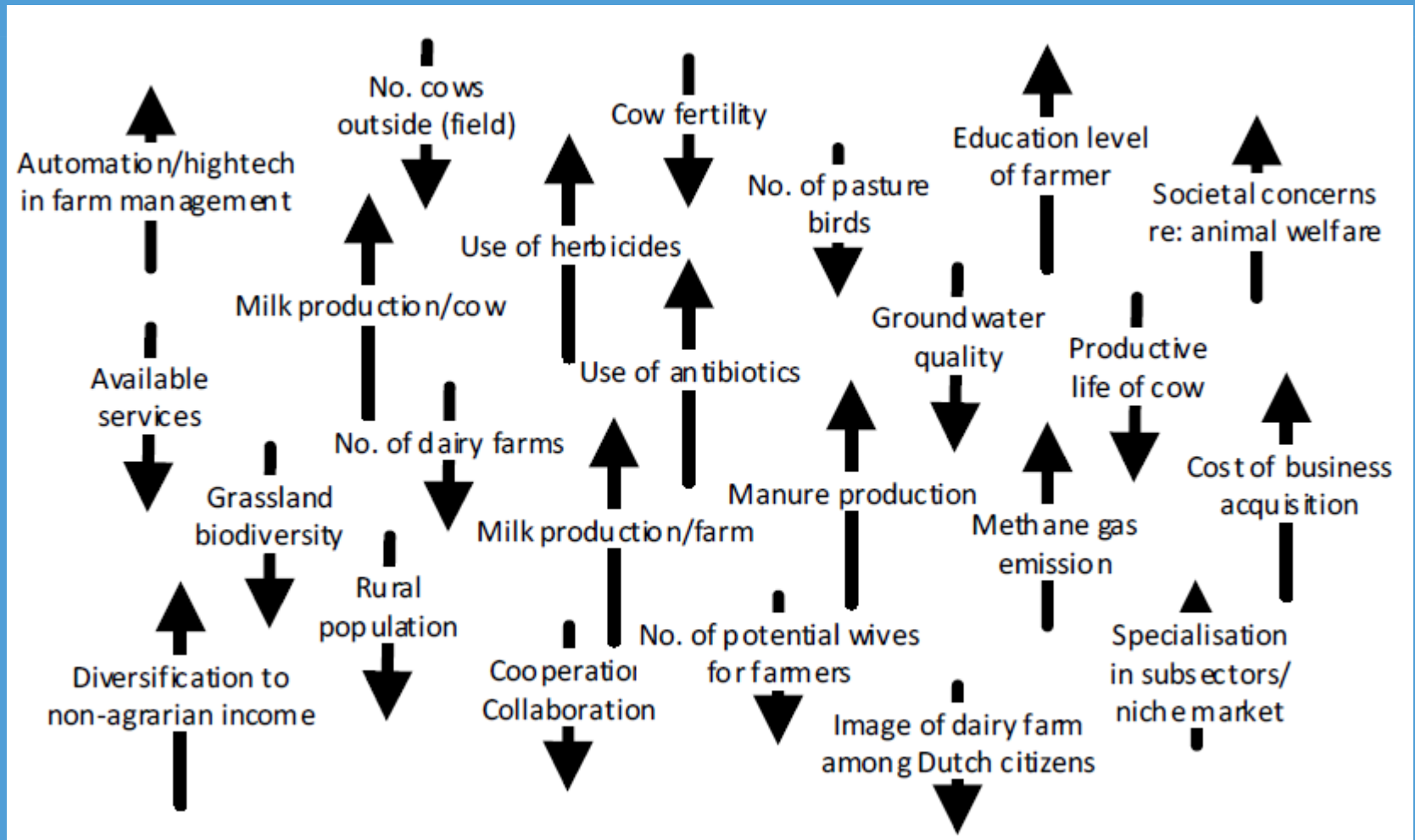


Recommendation set 1

- *Better representations of goods and technologies:*
 - *Input and output as bundles of attributes (compounds)*
 - *potential from combination*
- 1) Scope for analysis of combined effect of research and non-research related indicators to measure innovation (e.g. emergence new network configurations, new value propositions, social innovations)
- 2) Scope for balanced analysis of negative spillovers of scaling new technologies



Scaling has different types of benefits and costs



Recommendation set 2

- *Better understanding the role of (changing) actors and institutions:*
 - *entrepreneurship in research, knowledge exploitation and social construction of successful technologies*
 - *new business models*
 - *new connections with consumers*
 - *new role and design of policies*

- Interactive innovation models imply different roles for research beyond technology creation and hence different contributions – do measurements capture these different inputs and outputs?



New roles for research(ers)

Traditional roles

- Literature analysis
- Knowledge & technology production
- Test hypotheses
- Experimentation
- Process tracing
- Knowledge translation and packaging
- Redefine research agenda's

New roles

- Facilitate interactions between stakeholders
- Stimulate capacity development and learning
- Create enabling environment (lobby/ politics)
- Address structural constraints/ power dynamics

Science and Public Policy 41 (2014) pp. 207–218
Advance Access published on 11 August 2013

doi:10.1093/scipol/sct048

Towards dynamic research configurations: A framework for reflection on the contribution of research to policy and innovation processes

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Recommendation set 3

- *investigation of new potential tools:*
 - *effects and mechanisms*
 - *contamination among existing tools could be a pathway, e.g. see LCA*
 - *but may be, it is time for some more radical innovation*
- Scope for 'innovation lifecycle analysis', drawing on insights from e.g. causal process tracing.
- Session 3.3, presentation Bartolini et al.



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Technology in Society 31 (2009) 399–405

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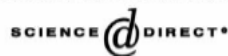
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Why impact analysis should not be used for
research evaluation and what the alternatives are

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Impact pathway evaluation: an approach for
achieving and attributing impact in complex
systems

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Thank you for
your attention!



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