

AES Bursary Report

I am deeply grateful to the Agricultural Economic Society (AES) for awarding me a travel bursary that enabled my participation in the 10th European Association of Agricultural Economics (EAAE) PhD Workshop in Budapest, Hungary, from 5-7 June 2024.

This workshop brought together over 70 doctoral researchers from universities and research institutes across Europe. The wide range of topics and methodologies discussed provided an excellent platform for expanding knowledge beyond my research focus. Distinguished professors delivered keynote sessions, offering valuable insights on the evolving role of economics in rural development, future trends in Agricultural Economics, and tips for successful academic publishing. Networking opportunities during breaks and conference dinners fostered in-depth discussions and connections with peers sharing similar research interests.

On the second day, I presented my discussion paper titled “Does access to Internet information lead to more sustainable agricultural production? – Evidence from fertilizer and pesticide usage in rural China.” This study investigates the role of Internet agricultural information in chemical fertilizer and pesticide use. We combined quantitative data analysis with qualitative field interviews to understand farmers’ behavior and motivation for agrochemical usage. Initial results indicate that farmers using Internet agricultural information apply more chemical fertilizers and pesticides, measured by expenditure on agrochemicals and frequency of pesticide application. The comments and suggestions from fellow researchers and professors have provided fresh perspectives that will help improve the quality of my presented paper.

During the consultation session with the journal editor, I received comprehensive feedback on my paper, which was immensely valuable. The editor provided detailed comments on the structure and clarity of the manuscript, highlighting areas that required further development and refinement. Specific suggestions included strengthening the discussion of results to emphasize the implications of the findings, addressing potential reviewer concerns, and enhancing the overall narrative to make the paper more compelling. Additionally, the workshop offered numerous networking opportunities, leading to engaging discussions on potential collaborations with other fellow researchers.

Attending the EAAE PhD Workshop was an invaluable experience that greatly contributed to my academic growth. The financial support from AES was crucial in making this possible, and I am sincerely thankful for it.



Fig.1. Closing session – European Network of Early Career Agricultural Economists



Fig.2. My presentation in the session "Climate Action"

Thankfully,
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