



# Comparative Agricultural Economics for Inter-disciplinary Researchers



by Visiting Professor **RIR Prasanna**  
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hosted at the Lab. of Philosophy of Agricultural Science  
Division of Natural Resource Economics  
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 **Thursdays, November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2023 – January 25<sup>th</sup> 2024**  
 **E-220, Agriculture Main Bldg.**

**Course Summary:** This course aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of Comparative Agriculture Economics, focusing on a diverse range of pertinent issues from the technological evolution of agriculture to sustainable agriculture development. Through a combination of lectures, interactive discussions, case studies, and expert insights, students will inquire into the complexities of modern agriculture, evaluating both its opportunities and challenges. Topics will cover the nuances of agricultural financing for smallholder farmers, risk management, agribusiness trends, agricultural marketing, government policies, and the pivotal theme of food security in the global context.

*\*This course will be given in English.*

## Course Schedule:

Date & Period	Contents	Date & Period	Contents
Nov. 2, 4 <sup>th</sup>	Introduction to Comparative Agriculture Economics	Dec. 7, 5 <sup>th</sup>	Sharing insights on potential agribusiness models: the case of Sri Lanka
Nov. 9, 4 <sup>th</sup>	Technological changes in agriculture – evaluation, latest trends and implications	Dec. 14, 4 <sup>th</sup>	Agriculture marketing – basics, challenges, tools, and strategies
Nov. 9, 5 <sup>th</sup>	Interactive discussion: barriers to adopting new agricultural technologies in developing regions and virtual tours (case studies – lesson learnt from success and failure stories)	Dec. 21, 4 <sup>th</sup>	Agricultural policies and government interventions – impact of policies on sustainable food system
Nov. 16, 4 <sup>th</sup>	Financing agriculture for smallholder farmers – needs, constraints and recommendations	Dec. 21, 5 <sup>th</sup>	Interactive discussion on pros and cons of specific agriculture policy decisions of selected South Asian countries
Nov. 16, 5 <sup>th</sup>	Case studies exploring the impact of financial development on agricultural productivity	Jan. 11 <sup>th</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup>	Food security and the global food crisis – determinants of food security and exploring what led the world to a food crisis
Nov. 30, 4 <sup>th</sup>	Risk Management in Agriculture – risk assessments to identify frequency and severity of risks and strategies for risk mitigation	Jan. 11 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup>	Probing deeper into food security: expert opinions on impending challenges and potential remedies
Nov. 30, 5 <sup>th</sup>	Student-led group discussions - Sharing global research outcomes on effective risk management practices	Jan. 18 <sup>th</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sustainable agricultural development – Why is sustainability a concern in agriculture? Sharing research outcomes of sustainable agricultural models
Dec. 7, 4 <sup>th</sup>	Farm agribusiness – components, emerging trends, sustainability and environmental concerns, issues and challenges	Jan. 25, 4 <sup>th</sup>	Optional Feedback Period