

Shepherds of the Mountains

Sheep Farming in a North Norwegian Alpine Landscape as a Community of Practice

ABSTRACT We investigated the interface between scientific knowledge of commercial sheep farming and local communities of practice. Through combining socio-cultural and cognitive theories of learning, we applied a concept of community of practice to analysing the importance of the local Goat and Sheep Society for family-based sheep farming in Lyngen after the Second World War. A point of departure for this investigation was the extraordinary results in national rankings and competitions by some of these Lyngen sheep farmers. This paper empirically documents the dynamic, multi-faceted interaction between “barn floor” breeding practices and national-level breeding science. We thoroughly analysed this domain of knowledge as a practice-driven process that involves a particular configuration of practitioners, including newcomers and old-timers, households, local sheep breeding societies and national scientific knowledge institutions. Based on this notion of a community of practice, the relations between masters and apprentices are given particular attention. One particular characteristic of this community of practice is the institutional enmeshment between the local Goat and Sheep Breeding Society and the local Læstadian congregations. We argue that certain focal normative notions of the family and of the order of creation (Norwegian *skaperordning*) to care for the creation and to survive (Norwegian *å berges*) provide the motivational force to these knowledge innovations.

KEYWORDS sheep farming, Norway, alpine landscape, Lyngen, entrepreneur-ship, breeding, inter-generational learning, Læstadianism

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Private Landowners' Relation to Land and Forest in Two Estonian Counties

ABSTRACT This comparative study is based on two large surveys of private land and forest owners in two Estonian counties. While more than half of Põlvamaa is covered with forests, Läänemaa has a potential for summer tourism and second homes. We explore different rationales for obtaining landed property and analyse the individual property holders' relations to—and use of—land and forests. Based on the two interlinked restitution and privatisation processes from 1991 onwards, our surveys reveal two main rationales among the owners: emotional and economic. The owners' relations to the property are connected with legacies from both the interwar independence and the Soviet period. In addition, different rationalities, ambitions and attitudes are also related to how the property was obtained. In spite of the demand for land, many resituated landowners have chosen to maintain or recreate family property, even if the property was not actively used. In both Põlvamaa and Läänemaa the emotional bonds to land are strong among the owners of restituted or inherited property, while this is a weaker factor among those who have obtained land or forest through privatisation.

KEYWORDS Estonia, restitution, privatisation, land ownership, forest, emotional bonds, economic rationality

Household Firewood Consumption in Sweden during the Nineteenth Century

ABSTRACT Household firewood consumption underwent significant changes during the industrial breakthrough. Recent literature on Sweden makes the case that greater energy efficiency drastically reduced rural household fuel consumption, while coal substituted for firewood in cities. This article shows that although coal substituted for wood in some urban areas, rural firewood consumption was not reduced. Higher standards of living indicate contrary to previous results that fuel consumption increased during the industrialisation process. The study shows that households with higher standard of living consumed more fuel and that rural households, due to lower fuel prices, consumed relatively more fuel than urban households. The result shows contrary to previous research that the total energy intensity decreased more rapidly after and not before the industrial breakthrough.

KEYWORDS energy, firewood, economic history, Sweden, biofuels, household consumption, energy intensity

NICOLÁS J. I. RODRÍGUEZ

Bilateral Approach to Ecosystem-Based Marine Management in the Barents Sea

ABSTRACT In 2006 the Government of Norway presented a marine management plan for the Norwegian part of the Barents Sea, and a Northern strategy was introduced as a supportive regional instrument. For the first time the method of ecosystem approach is applied in a Norwegian context as a principle in the Barents Sea plan. The main elements of the plan consist of ecosystem indicators, management goals and planning maps indicating biologically vulnerable areas where petroleum activity cannot be performed. An important question is the relation between the plan and existing management regimes in laws and through bilateral cooperation in the Barents Sea, in respect of both biological resources and non-renewable resource extraction. A general, political plan such as the Barents Sea plan must have some sort of consistency among already existing legal regimes, sector management and bilateral cooperation in order to succeed. If underlying regimes are not sustainable in their practice, neither can a general plan be. The article examines the basis for an implementation of an ecosystem approach comparing the bilateral management of Norway and Russia in the Barents Sea using the question of fishery resources in the region as a case.

KEYWORDS ecosystem approach, regional marine management, Barents Sea, bilateral collaboration Norway and the Russian Federation