



Who Needs Migrant Workers? Labour Shortages, Immigration and Public Policy

Martin Ruhs and Bridget Anderson (Eds) | 2010 | Oxford University Press | ISBN 978-0-19-958059-0

Examining the demand for migrant labour across a range of sectors within the UK economy, this valuable book draws out common themes – such as the ambiguity of the term ‘skills’ in discussions of so-called ‘skills shortages’ – as well as highlighting factors distinctive to particular sectors. The chapter on food production raises several challenging and policy-relevant considerations, including the fundamental observation that the sector’s historical dependence upon migrant workers is the result of specific policy decisions and employment practices – not some kind of structural necessity. SR

Food Sovereignty: Reconnecting Food, Nature and Community

Annette Aurélie Desmarais, Nettie Wiebe, Hannah Wittman (Eds) | 2010 | Pambazuka | ISBN 978-1-5526-6374-5

A much-needed book that brings together leading thinkers in an alternative vision for food sovereignty, including Raj Patel, Eric Holt-Giménez and Annie Shattuck. The essays paint a picture of how food sovereignty should be the means to achieving a system that provides for the food needs of people around the globe. Its practical case studies and theoretical essays show how agricultural practices that respect environmental sustainability and local farming practices can deliver food that is safe, abundant and respectful of the earth. EB

The Economics of Managing Crop Diversity On-Farm

Edilegnaw Wale, Adam G. Drucker and Kerstin K. Zander (Eds) | 2010 | Earthscan | ISBN 978-1-8497-1221-7

Essential reading for policy makers, scientists, and environmental and development NGOs, this book assesses a variety of economic issues as they relate to agro-biodiversity. Taking an in-depth look at Ethiopia, Nepal and Zambia, the authors show how genetic resources issues can be integrated into rural development interventions, and assist in agro-biodiversity policy-making in developing countries. EB

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity in National and International Policy Making

Patrick ten Brink (Ed) | 2011 | Earthscan | ISBN 978-1-84971-2507

This book, the major output of the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) study, tells a compelling tale of the true costs of squandering the earth’s precious resources. Drawing on a team of over one hundred authors and reviewers, it reveals the local, national and global economic benefits of biodiversity, the importance of investing in natural capital, and underlines the urgency of strategic policy making and action at national and international levels. Ultimately it makes an inarguable link between protecting our environment, a sustainable economy and the wellbeing of societies. EB

The Global Forest: 40 Ways Trees Can Save Us

Diana Beresford-Kroeger | 2011 | Penguin | ISBN 978-1846-1-44097

Achieving a difficult balance between scientific understanding and a real passion for trees, the author takes us on a journey through her ‘global forest’. Drawing on ecology, myth, horticulture, spirituality and medicine this book is both a poem to and a practical treatise on trees’ role in human development. EB

The No-Nonsense Guide to Climate Change The Science, The Solutions, The Way Forward

Danny Chivers | 2011 | New Internationalist Books | ISBN 978-1859-8-43352

For anyone who want to get to grips with the science behind climate change. A little book packed full of facts and figures, written in an accessible tone, and tackling the politics, history and potential solutions. Danny Chivers is obviously dedicated to persuading people of the imminent dangers of climate change, but I fear he will only be preaching to the converted in this book. EB