

Economic and ecological analysis of grazing systems

Centre of Economic Research and Department of Economics at Norwegian University of Science and Technology, NTNU, are pleased to announce the upcoming workshop “Economic and ecological analysis of grazing systems” to be held in Trondheim, Norway, 5-7 June 2007. The workshop will be of interest to both economists and ecologists working on human and ecological aspects of grazing systems, and with this announcement we aim to get in touch with people working with grazing systems.

The workshop is financed by the Norwegian Research Council over the project “*The economy of Sámi reindeer herding: Search for policies to reduce overgrazing and conflicts*”. The reindeer pastures in northernmost Norway suffer from overgrazing. The problem is related to the property rights structure which has caused reindeer herders to compete over pastures. Policies such as slaughtering subsidies have, however, turned out to be contra-productive, partly due to an ill founded perception about how the actual behaviour of the Sámi reindeer works. The project will in particular focus on pastoral behaviour, property rights, and asymmetric information between the regulating authorities and reindeer herders due to illegal grazing and ecological uncertainty.

The workshop intends to focus on pastoral use of different grazing systems e.g., Alpine and sub Saharan systems. Participants are invited to present theoretical as well as empirical contributions. Of special interest are papers that focus on pastoral behaviour, pastoral institutions and state-imposed regulations to reduce overgrazing. Papers should be sent to NTNU (Anders Skonhøft, anders.skonhøft@svt.ntnu.no) no later than 1st Mars 2007. Acceptance of papers will be notified by email by 31st Mars 2007.

Accommodation for all participants will be organised by the workshop. The workshop covers accommodation costs and meals (but not travel costs) for paper presenters and discussants. Workshop sessions will commence on the morning of the 6th June and conclude on the afternoon of the 7th.

Further information on the workshop and registration details will be posted on the BIOECON web site at www.bioecon.ucl.ac.uk. For questions please also contact Anders Skonhoft or Anne Borge Johannesen (anne.borge@svt.ntnu.no).

The tentative workshop schedule is as follows:

Tuesday 5th of June	Wednesday 6th of June	Thursday 7th of June
19.00: Welcome reception	09.00-10.00: Session 10.00-10.15: Coffee break 10.15-12.00: Session 12.00-13.30: Lunch 13.30-14.45: Session 14.45-15.00: Coffee break 15.00-17.00: Session 20.00: Dinner	09.00-10.00: Session 10.00-10.15: Coffee break 10.15-12.00: Session 12.00-13.30: Lunch 13.30-14.45: Session End of workshop