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The Peasantry and Environmental Management: Limits and Perspectives

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Abstract

The peasantry is a political force; perhaps the most important force which obstacles capital expansion in agriculture. Historically, the peasantry has demonstrated that the transformative and revolutionary force developed by capital advance in agriculture could not solve economic, social, political and cultural problems. The peasantry needs to recreate itself in order not to submit to the laws of capitalist accumulation, as well as not to see its original potential environmental and social effectiveness supplanted and destroyed. This work aims to broaden the understanding of the environmental management principles historically developed by the peasantry as a way to expand the alternatives through which obstacles are turned into levers that unblock paths through the strength of their autonomy, their independence, their leading role and their resistance. This paradigmatic debate is a necessary condition for the reading of the agrarian status for trying to understand how the autonomy of the peasantry production is established. The self management developed in small production is a result of accumulated knowledge transmitted from generation to generation in relation to access to land, water, seeds and local skills. This allows the peasant to perform agriculture his own way, using low external inputs, favoring the use of local resources, as well as the effective use of land, water and biodiversity. Based upon a dialectical approach, it was possible to clarify the evolutionary trends of agriculture, the development of the peasantry and its strategies and mechanisms for social, cultural and economic reproduction.

Keywords: *peasantry, environmental management, remake strategies.*
