Socioeconomics in Agriculture

Stefan Mann: Lecture 10 "Agricultural cooperatives"

The Lecture in one sentence:

Since their emergence in the 19th century, agricultural cooperatives have taken many different institutional forms, but one constant factor is the desire of farmers to join forces.

You should, at the end of the lecture

- know the history of British cooperatives as the worldwide frontrunner of the cooperative movement.
- roughly know the course of agricultural cooperatives in Switzerland over the last 150 years.
- know the range of institutional forms that cooperatives can take
- understand the history that kibbutzim in Israel have taken and be able to define their place in the international development of cooperative ideas.
- understand the concept of community-supported agriculture and their advantages and shortcomings.
- be able to summarize the most important functions in cooperatives, particularly of members, the board and the CEO.

Further reading:

Fieldhouse, P. (1996): Community shared agriculture. Agriculture and Human Values 13 (3) 43-47

Garnevska, E., G. Liu, N.M. Shadbolt (2011): Factors for Successful Development of Farmer cooperatives in Northwest China. International Food and Agribusiness Management Review 14 (4) 69-84

Russel, R., R. Hannemann, S. Getz (2011): The transformation of the kibbutzim. Israel Studies 16 (2) 109-126