In this issue of food security - February 2021

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This February 2021 Issue of Food Security includes 15 very different articles coming from very different places in the world.

This issue starts with the Global North.

- **Article 1** deals with the USA. In an important piece of work, **Kevin M. Fitzpatrick** and **Don E. Willis** ask the terrible question of why one may be hungry where food is everywhere and yet inaccessible. *Homeless and hungry: food insecurity in the land of plenty*. Sadly, but unsurprisingly, answers involve poverty, homelessness, solitude, and police arrests.
- **Articles 2 and 3** deal with Western Europe, where malnutrition, hunger, and food waste co-exist. Both articles come from Italy. **Article 2**, “*Prevalence, socio-economic predictors and health correlates of food insecurity among Italian children- findings from a cross-sectional study*” looks at food insecurity in children, and **Article 3** “*Food waste in Italian households during the Covid-19 pandemic: a self-reporting approach*” addresses the issue of food waste.
- **Article 4**, “*Beyond subsistence: the aggregate contribution of campesinos to the supply and conservation of native maize across Mexico*” addresses the food security contribution of Mexican campesinos, which goes far beyond ensuring food security within their households.
- Food Security is interested in methods. **Article 5**, “*A non-parametric analysis of household-level food insecurity and its determinant factors: exploratory study in Ethiopia and Nigeria*” offers an interesting way to assessing food insecurity.

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- Food insecurity in the elderly is often overlooked. “*Is food insecurity a problem among the elderly in Sharpeville, South Africa?*” in **Article 6** offers a case study on this topic.
- **Article 7**, “*Trends in crop production and land productivity in northern Ghana: A case study of Tolon-Kumbung*” provides a detailed analysis of changes in agricultural productivity in Ghana, and so does **Article 8**, “*Evolution of Fertiliser Use and its Impact on Maize Productivity in Kenya: Evidence from Multiple Surveys*” in Kenya.
- The vulnerability of the global food system is addressed in **Article 9** “*Analysis and vulnerability of the international wheat trade network*”, where an analysis is made on wheat trade, the consequences of shocks, and, for instance the possible implications of the covid-19 pandemic.
- **Articles 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14**, address food (insecurity) in a diverse range of social, environmental, and economic settings, across Africa to Northern Canada.
- The last article, **15**, of the February issue is titled “*The interaction of household agricultural landholding and*

Caste on food security in rural Uttar Pradesh, India”. Access to agricultural land is a widespread and global issue. Lack of, or uncertainty around, access to agricultural land is a massive blockage to improving agricultural methods, long-term investment and education, which are prerequisites to, e.g., agroecological methods and/or climate-smart strategies. The study by **Srinivas Goli, Anu Rammohan, and Sri Priya Reddy** provides an insight on such questions in a country where social structures, as in many countries in the world, are very strong. *Food Security should consider in due course a special issue on this critical and essential issue of **access to land**: it has plagued the history of so many countries in the world, has been and still is, a root cause for social upheaval and revolutions, and is still today a main cause for food insecurity. Yet the problem seems little addressed and poorly managed in so many cases. It would be important to better understand why, and so, what should be done.*