

## Innovation schemes and organisation of the fruit and vegetable sector on Reunion Island at a time of ecological transition.

Reunion Island, due to its dual status as an Overseas Department and Region and as an Outermost Region of the European Union, is subject to the same regulatory provisions as the other European territories. The fruit and vegetable sector is therefore governed by the Common Market Organisation, which is implemented locally in the Programme d'Options Spécifiques à l'Eloignement et à l'Insularité des Départements d'Outre-Mer (POSEIDOM) (Programme of Options Specific to the Remote and Insular nature of the Overseas Departments and Territories). The aim of POSEIDOM is to organise the production and marketing of fruit and vegetables in order to ensure the best possible market stability. To this end, farmers must join producer organisations (POs), through which the incentive aid is channelled. The thesis that we defend in this article is that this functioning alone does not allow the objectives of the agro-ecological transition to be achieved and even raises questions in terms of securing island food security. In order to defend this point, we will resort to the theories of market arrangements (Callon, 2017). The contribution is organized in three parts.

In the first part we will come back to the progressive creation of POs and its impact on the organisation of the sector. The latter has the particularity of being very heterogeneous, with a predominance of small merchants, itinerant or sedentary, called bazaariers, who market more than three quarters of the island's production, coming from a majority of independent farmers. The result is a plurality of actors and circuits whose roles and functions need to be clarified.

In the second part we shift the focus to innovation processes linked to the ecological turn, in particular the emergence of more environmentally friendly production methods, such as sustainable agriculture or organic farming. The analysis of these processes shows that a regime of technoscientific innovation encouraged by the institutions in charge of the agricultural world tends to be opposed to a regime of innovation through collective experimentation, which is more endogenous and open to other types of public. These innovation dynamics participate differently in territorial dynamics, reflect unequal relationships between different environments and are the result of systems of action whose compatibility is not always guaranteed.

In the last part, we make proposals in terms of territorial food strategies in order to: bring these two innovation regimes closer together, take better account of independent traders and farmers, as well as eaters. A reorientation of agricultural aids seems inevitable.

**Reference:** Callon, M., 2017. *L'emprise des marchés*. Paris, La Découverte.

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