Identifying land management types: Transition to Multifunctionality in Mediterranean extensive farming systems

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POST-PRODUCTIVISM

>> it is expected from agriculture that it
secures other functions than production
>> the paths of agriculture, the rural space and
the community are no longer closely connected
>> the future of the rural no longer necessarily
depends on production agriculture (and vice
versa)

NEW DEMANDS

>> other goods and services is becoming
increasingly important << society should pay
for this demand

what is the role of farming from now on ?
multifunctionality demand is an opportunity,
but implies new paradigms for management
and new questions for research
Reshaped balances: new modes of rural occupance

PRODUCTION

productivist agriculture

pluri active

marginaliz. agriculture

peri-metrop

amenity

?

conservation

CONSUMPTION

PROTECTION

Adapted from Holmes 2006
Objectives:

**Types of land management**

1) What are the strategies of land owners within complex transition processes?

2) How is the spatial distribution of different strategies? – can we identify a relation with the landscape?

3) Which are the factors that more explain these strategies?
Case study area - Castelo de Vide municipality

- 15,64 hab/km²

- **extensive agriculture with environmental quality, in diversified territory**

- elderly farmers with low education level (47.81% > 65 years old)

- number of holdings decrease (61% 1979 -1999)

- farm average increase (42.75 to 68.13 ha 1989 -1999)

- small holdings (0-20 ha-> 3% of total area) medium and large (>20 ha) -> 97% of the total.
Landscape Character areas

A - Shist

B - Agro-Silvo pastoral systems

C - Olive grove mosaic

D - S. Mamede Hills
Representative random sampling

Percentage by parish

- São João Baptista
- Santiago Maior
- Santa Maria da Devesa
- Póvoa e Meadas

Percentage by area

- > 100 ha
- 20-100 ha
- 5-20 ha
- 0-5 ha

Percentage by area for the years 1979 and 1999

- > 100 ha
- 20-100 ha
- 5-20 ha
- 0-5 ha

Legend:
- Questionnaires
- Agricultural General Census 1999
- 1999
- 1979

Freguesias:
- Nª Srª da Graça de Póvoa e Meadas
- Santa Maria da Devesa
- Santiago Maior
- São João Baptista
1 - Subsidies, biophysical conditions (LCA)

2 - Lifestyle, Present and future perspective over non-productive activities.

3 - Innovation/immobilism

4 - Land use, livestock, nº of workers, organic farming, other activities.

5 - Investing on non-productive activities, impacts of farmers practices, products
Local subsistence hobby-farmer

- Small size farms (0-5 ha)
- Low education level
- Close to urban centers
Multifunctional neo-rurals

• Small and medium size farms (0-20 ha)
• High education level
• Close to Castelo de Vide town
Agro-business conservationist farmers

- Very large size farms (> 500 ha)
- High education level
- Located in the north of the municipality
Routine livestock farmers

• Medium and large size farms (20-500 ha),
• Low education level
• Livestock production
Conclusions

- Multifunctional neo-rurals
- Agro-business conservationist farmers
- Local subsistence hobby-farmer
- Routine livestock farmers

Axes:
- High education/Innovation
- Low education/immobilism
- Small & medium farms
- Medium & large farms
Conclusions

>> processes of transition are taking place

Types >> clear spatial expression

different types >> different landscapes

Innovation capacity stronger within outsiders

Associations and policies >> not supporting innovative land managers

Urgent need for typology knowledge incorporation!
Obrigado- Thank you