

Amy L. Damon
University of Minnesota
Department of Applied Economics
1994 Buford Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55114
Email: damo0021@umn.edu
612-625-0226 (office)

EDUCATION

University of Minnesota, Department of Applied Economics, St. Paul, Minnesota

PhD Candidate Agriculture and Applied Economics, Expected Graduation, May 2008

Minor: Development Studies and Social Change

Dissertation: "The Impact of International Migration and Remittances on Agricultural Development in Central America."

Michigan State University, Department of Agricultural Economics, E. Lansing, Michigan

M.S. Agricultural Economics, Graduated, May 2001

Thesis: "Attachment Value and Farmland Prices"

University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont

B.A. Environmental Studies, Minor: Economics. Graduated, May 1997

Semester Abroad: Studies in Social Justice and Environmental Racism. Capetown, South Africa, Spring 1996

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

§ Heug-Harrison Dissertation Year Fellowship, Full Academic Year, 2007-2008

§ Center for International Food and Agricultural Policy travel grant, 2005.

§ Macarthur Pre-dissertation travel grant, 2005.

§ Macarthur Interdisciplinary Program on Global Change, Sustainability and Justice Graduate Fellowship, Full Academic Year, 2003-2004.

§ Mickey Leland International Congressional Hunger Fellowship, 2001-2003.

§ Michigan State University Agricultural Economics Fellowship, 1999 – 2001.

§ University of Vermont Dean's List, 1994 – 1997.

§ Ulster County Community College Integrated Humanities Honors Program and Full Tuition Scholarship, 1993 – 1994

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Future Visiting Instructor – The Economics of World Food Problems, St. Olaf College, Department of Economics, Northfield, MN, Spring 2008.

Teaching Assistant – Intermediate Microeconomics, University of Minnesota, Department of Applied Economics, St. Paul, MN, Fall 2006.

Teaching Assistant – Introduction to Farm Management, Michigan State University, Department of Agricultural Economics, East Lansing, MI, Fall 2000.

Teaching Assistant - International Environmental Studies, University of Vermont,
Environmental Program, Burlington, VT, Spring 1997.

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant – University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN, 2005 – present.

Social Benefits of Higher Education in Minnesota Project with Professor Paul Glewwe

- Quantified public benefits of higher education to the state of Minnesota.
- Advised University of Minnesota strategic positioning team.

Research Assistant – University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN, 2004 – 2005.

USDA Household Food Expenditures Project with Professor Robert King

- Used HomeScan data to evaluate low income households' food expenditure patterns.
- Conducted a policy workshop to disseminate results at U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Consultant – The World Bank, Washington D.C., 2006.

Development Economics Research Group with Klaus Deininger

- Assessed the outcomes, history, and effectiveness of land administration projects in Central America.

Consultant – Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Minneapolis, MN, 2006.

- Evaluated the local economic impacts of sourcing food aid from local communities in Kenya and Nigeria.
- Used different feeding ration recommendations to conduct a sensitivity analysis on agricultural production requirements.

Consultant – Opportunity International, a global microfinance organization, 2005.

- Developed country specific poverty assessment tools for the Philippines and Albania using microfinance data and Living Standards Measurement Survey.

Mickey Leland International Congressional Hunger Fellow – International Food

Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington, DC, 2002 – 2003.

Environmental Production and Technology Division with Hans Jansen and John Pender

- Used a large household data set to evaluate land management practices on the hillsides of Honduras.
- Facilitated regional policy workshops with mayors, NGOs, and community members to refine policy recommendations.
- Presented at a national policy workshop for Ministry of Agriculture officials.

Mickey Leland International Congressional Hunger Fellow - Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo (FUNDE), San Salvador, El Salvador, 2001 – 2002.

Rural Development Strategy Prioritization Project

- Organized regional farmer groups and conducted meetings to define agricultural policy recommendations.
- Managed the administration and outreach of the Rural Development Strategy Prioritization Project.
- Developed a report on the productive potential of remittances in El Salvador.

Research Assistant – Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, 1999 – 2001.
Social Capital Initiative with Professor Lindon Robison.

- Conducted willingness to sell study on farmland in Michigan.

Applied Research Study Abroad Program Coordinator – Community Development and Applied Economics, University of Vermont, Belize, 1998 – 1999.

- Facilitated student research projects.

Research Intern - Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), Belize, 1997 – 1998. Rotational Grazing and Dairy Development Project.

- Advised local dairy farmers on rotational grazing methods.

Dairy Farm Manager – Damon Farms, Stone Ridge, NY, 1998.

- Managed all aspects of dairy production.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Damon, Amy and Rob King. “Household Food Expenditures across Income Groups: Do Poor Households Spend Differently than Rich Ones?” in review.

Glewwe, Paul and Amy Damon. “Children and Development.” Forthcoming in *International Handbook of Development Economics*.

Damon, Amy and Paul Glewwe. (2007) “Four Proposals to Improve Education in Latin America and the Caribbean: Estimates of the Cost and Benefits of Each Strategy: A Summary.” *Estrategia y Negocios*. August.

Jansen, Hans G.P., Angel Rodriguez, Amy Damon, John Pender, Jacqueline Chenier and Rob Schipper. (2006) “Determinants of income-earning strategies and adoption of conservation practices in hillside communities in rural Honduras.” *Agricultural Systems*, Volume 88, Issue 1, April: 92-110.

Jansen, Hans G. P., John Pender, Amy Damon, Willem Wielemaker, Rob Schipper. (2006) “Policies for sustainable development in the hillside areas of Honduras: a quantitative livelihoods approach.” *Agricultural Economics*. Vol. 34, March: 141-153.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Damon, Amy and Paul Glewwe. “Economic Impacts of the University of Minnesota on the State of Minnesota.” in review for InSTePP Report.

Damon, Amy and Paul Glewwe. (2007) “Four Proposals to Improve Education in Latin America and the Caribbean: Estimates of the Cost and Benefits of Each Strategy.” *Copenhagen Consensus Strategy Paper*.

Jansen, Hans G. P., John Pender, Amy Damon, and Rob Schipper. (2006). “Rural Development Policies and Sustainable Land Use in the Hillside Areas of Honduras: A Quantitative Livelihoods Approach.” *IFPRI Research Report*, No. 147.

Jansen, Hans, Angel Rodríguez, Amy Damon, and John Pender, (2003). “Determinantes de estrategias comunitarias para ganarse la vida y el uso de prácticas de producción agrícola conservacionistas en las zonas de ladera en Honduras”. (Determinants of community livelihood strategies and the use of conservation agricultural production practices) *EPTD Discussion Paper No. 104*, Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

Damon, Amy. (2003) “Can Remittances Break the Cycle of Poverty?” *Hunger Notes*, November.

Damon, Amy. (2001) “Attachment Value and Farmland Prices”. MS Thesis, Department of Agricultural Economics, Michigan State University.

Wolf, Christopher, Steven Harsh, Shawn Bucholtz, Amy Damon, Jim Lloyd. (2000) “Michigan Dairy Farm Industry: Summary and Analysis of the 1999 Michigan State Dairy Farm Survey.” *Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station*, Report 573. December.

Mainville, Denise and Amy Damon. (1998) “Dairy Production and Marketing Commodity Systems Profile.” Belize, Central America. IICA, Misc. Publication Series.

Brady, Caitlin and Amy Damon. (1998) “Dairy Import Substitution and Beef Exports: Trade Possibilities for Belize”, Belize, Central America. IICA, Misc. Publication Series.

Damon, Amy and Caitlin Brady. (1998). “Beef Production and Marketing Commodity Systems Profile.” Belize, Central America, IICA, Misc. Publication Series.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Damon, Amy. “The Impact of Migration and Remittances on Agricultural Development in Central America.” Dissertation in progress.

Damon, Amy and Diego Nicola. “The Southeast Minnesota Food Network: A Teaching Case of the Prospect of Angel Investment.”

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

American Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting, Portland Oregon. “International Migration and Household Agricultural Production Decisions: The Case of El Salvador” Selected Paper, July 2007.

Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting. “Household Labor Allocation in Remittance-Receiving Households: The Case of El Salvador” Selected Paper Minneapolis, Minnesota 2007.

International Agricultural Economics Association Annual meeting, Gold Coast, Australia. “Land Management and Agricultural Productivity in the Hillside of Honduras.” Selected Paper, August 2006.

American Agricultural Economics Association Annual meetings, Long Beach California.
“Food Expenditure Patterns of Low Income Households: Do Poor Households Spend Differently Than Rich Ones?” Selected Paper, July 2006.

Environment and Development, Cornell University, presented with Hans Jansen:
“Sustainable Development on the Hillside of Honduras: a Livelihoods Framework Approach.” May 2003.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIPS

American Agricultural Economics Association Member
International Association of Agricultural Economists Member
Midwest Economics Association Member
Population Association of America Member
Applied Economics Graduate Club President, 2005-2006
Applied Economics Graduate Club PhD Representative, 2004-2005
Graduate Student Affairs Strategic Positioning Committee Member, 2005

LANGUAGE ABILITY

English (native speaker), Spanish (fluent), French (basic)

STATISTICAL PACKAGES

Stata, SAS, SPSS, Gauss

REFERENCES

Paul Glewwe (Advisor)
Professor, Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota
Phone: 612-625-0226
E-mail: pglewwe@umn.edu

Robert King
Professor and Dept. Head, Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota
Phone: 612-625-0231
E-mail: rking@umn.edu

Elizabeth Davis
Associate Professor, Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota
Phone: 612-625-3772
E-mail: edavis@umn.edu

Hans Jansen
Senior Research Fellow and Central America Coordinator, IFPRI
Phone: +506 216-0248/216-0246
E-mail: h.jansen@ifpri.org