

Contents

Preface	xi
Introduction: Three Eras of Rural Sociological Research on Agriculture	xv
1. Rural Sociological Research on the Structure of Agriculture, 1900 to the Early 1950s	1
Introduction	1
Research Prior to the 1930s	2
Studies with the Type of Agricultural System as the Organizing Theme	22
Specialized Studies: Tenure, Part-Time Farming, Low-Income Farmers, and Other Structural Components of Agriculture	33
Conclusion	42
2. Rural Sociological Research on the Structure of Agriculture, the Early 1950s to the Early 1970s: Behaviorism and the Social Psychology of Agricultural Activities	43
Introduction	43
The Diffusion and Adoption of Agricultural Innovations	46

	The Value Orientations of Farmers	63
	Educational and Occupational Aspirations and Achievements Among Farm-Reared People	67
	Conclusion	72
3.	The New Sociology of Agriculture, I: The Political Economy and Social Structure of Farms, Farm Households, and Farm Labor	73
	Introduction	73
	Political Economy and the New Sociology of Agriculture	78
	Subculture and Agricultural Structure	94
	Industrial Agriculture	95
	The Agricultural Wage Labor Force	101
	Small Farms and Part-Time Farming	106
	Gender and Agriculture	115
	Conclusion	125
4.	The New Sociology of Agriculture, II: The Environment of Agriculture	127
	The Impact of Technological Change on Agriculture	128
	The Sociology of Agricultural Science	135
	Agriculture and the Rural Community	145
	The Farm Crisis of the 1980s	151
	Impacts of Agriculture on the Environment: The Case of Soil Erosion and Conservation	155
	The "New Environmental Debates"	163
	Conclusion	169
5.	The New Political Economy of Agriculture: An Evaluation	171
	Introduction	171

Major Theoretical Trends in the Sociology of Agriculture	171
Major Gaps in the Sociology of Agriculture	181
Conclusion	186
Notes	186
6. Rural Sociological Research on Agriculture: A Backward Glance Toward the Future	187
References	197
Name Index	243
Subject Index	253