

CALL FOR PAPERS

Nature Strikes Back!

Thinking about the asymmetry of the Human Relationship to Planet Earth

Call for Papers for a Special Issue of *Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics*

Guest Editors

Vincent Blok (Wageningen University)

Guido Ruivenkamp (Wageningen University)

Pieter Lemmens (Radboud University)

Context and Aims

Deep geological time points at a fundamental asymmetry of the human relationship to planet earth. This asymmetry of the human relationship to planet earth challenges current conceptualizations of human stewardship in general, and in agricultural and environmental ethics in particular. This special issue of *Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics* aims to explore the question how agricultural and environmental ethics should respond to the asymmetry of the human relationship to planet earth. We look for both fundamental reflections on the nature of human agency and its *ethos* in relation to planet earth, and for contributions that discuss these issues in the context of agricultural and environmental ethics.

Possible questions to be addressed may include:

- What are the fundamental presuppositions of a symmetric conceptualization of the human relationship to planet earth, and what are the consequences for agricultural and environmental ethics?
- Does the experience of an asymmetric human relationship to planet earth enable us to criticize the dominancy of reciprocity-based ‘capitalist’ practices, for instance the double internality as double movement of how capitalism works through nature and how nature works through capitalism (Moore, 2015)?
- To what extent do concepts like ‘multiplicity of worlds’ (Nancy), ‘moral economies of commons’ (Federici) and ‘differential cosmo-poiesis of localities’ (Sloterdijk) help to conceptualize an asymmetric human relationship to planet earth, for instance as being-in-common with the different other?
- How can an asymmetric earth be conceptualized in the context of agricultural and environmental ethics, and what is the role of nature as agent?
- How can, given the asymmetric human relationship to planet earth, ethics be conceptualized in agricultural and environmental practices?
- Is asymmetric stewardship possible in practice, or dependent on a conceptualization of planet earth as stakeholder?

Contributions are invited to reflect on these and other issues from various perspectives (e.g. empirical research, critical-theoretical approach, ontology, epistemology, ethics, applied ethics) and in particular to ponder the question of what the asymmetry of the human relation to planet earth means for agricultural and environmental ethics. The full call for papers is available upon request (vincent.blok@wur.nl).

Submission Process and Deadlines

Papers will be reviewed following the JAGE double-blind review process. Papers should be submitted by the June 15th, 2017 deadline (<https://www.editorialmanager.com/jage/default.aspx>) with clear reference to the special issue 'Nature Strikes Back! Thinking the asymmetry of the Human Relationship to Planet Earth'. Papers should be prepared using the JAGE Guidelines. As soon as the papers are accepted for publication, they will be published and accessible online. The publication of the complete special volume is scheduled for March 2018. The editors welcome informal enquiries related to proposed topics. For this, please contact Vincent Blok (vincent.blok@wur.nl).

Special Issue Workshop

To help authors advance their manuscripts, a Special Issue Workshop will be held in March 2017 in Wageningen, The Netherlands. Authors of manuscripts are invited to submit their working papers. The editorial team will assign a referee among the guest editors for each paper presented, with the intention of strengthening the papers prior to official submission for peer review for potential inclusion in the special issue. The deadline to submit working papers for the workshop in Wageningen is February 15th, 2017 to Vincent Blok (vincent.blok@wur.nl). Participation in the workshop is encouraged, but not a precondition for submissions to the special issue.

Contact Email

Corresponding Guest Editor: Vincent Blok, Wageningen University, The Netherlands (vincent.blok@wur.nl)



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