

Impacts of Renewable Energy Policies on German Agriculture

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The amendment of the Renewable Energy Sources Act – (EEG) in 2004 has established an attractive support of using renewable resources for energy production, which since then has fuelled investments into biogas production on the basis of agricultural biomass in particular energy maize. Due a world wide increasing demand for agricultural raw material for bio-fuel production agricultural prices are expected to rise substantially. Impacts of these conflicting developments on agricultural land use, production and income as well as on the environment are analysed with the Regionalised Agricultural and Environmental Information System RAUMIS that is applied within a comprehensive socio-economic and environmental model network.