

TEXTE DE POLITIQUE GÉNÉRALE

Comittee of environment

Theme : An eco-farming revolution

Country : People's Republic of China

Since the end of World War II, agriculture has had a lot of changes, thanks to technological advancements and scientific research. Nowadays, our main agricultural system is a system known as monoculture. It relies on highly industrialized techniques, the culture of a single type of crop or livestock and more recently, genetic modifications of live organisms

To combat this industrialized agriculture, a concept has emerged : eco-farming. Eco-farming is a concept looking to unify both economic and environmental aspects of agriculture to achieve a sustainable agriculture. This goal would be achieved by finding an alternative to industrial farming, more specifically monoculture. Ecological farming includes all methods, including organic, which regenerate ecosystem services like: prevention of soil erosion, water infiltration and retention and increased biodiversity

Two methods tend to be noticed more than the others : permaculture and agroecology, both looking to minimize pollution and waste and reach sustainability.

China must prioritize the well-being of its population, especially due to food insecurity. Our country will not reduce its food production capacities if it will increase the risk of famine even further. It will not endanger the people's well-being and must keep producing enough food to sustain itself. Complete self sufficiency, or at least the capacity to achieve it is a goal for our country. Nevertheless, China is willing to promote agricultural cooperation with other countries.

China's stance on ecology has changed a lot with the years. However, due to its economical growth, waste is an extremely important problem for our country, as it is the world's biggest waste producer, with hundreds of millions of tons thrown away in 2015. Reducing it will work in our country's interest, and therefore, China isn't against it.

Seeing an increase in scandals due to unsanitary products found in regular food, China is keen on reducing monoculture and industrial agriculture for health reasons, as long as it doesn't reduce its production capacity, as said before.

Technological and scientific advancements are welcome if they help the agricultural development and the production of food for the people. However, China is highly concerned about the impact that GMO's could have on the environment and the animals' and people's health. This is why since their emergence, our country has imposed heavy regulations with the production and foreign imports of genetically modified products, such as livestock or crops such as the ones implemented in 2001 by the State Council. Nevertheless, our country is looking to promote the transformation and upgrading of the planting, animal husbandry and fisheries industries

China is one of the biggest exporters of agricultural products, as in 2014, China's agricultural export was US\$51.67 billion, mostly obtained thanks to monoculture. Minimizing it might hurt our country's economy.