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Making a financial market: the economization and topology of Farmland REITs

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sociotechnical assemblages of economic theories mobilized by investors and their representatives. Building on topologic ideas, the article highlights how financial mechanisms, such as REITs, shift networks of access to land. These mechanisms can profoundly shape landscapes and livelihoods by creating a market for farmland that transforms the connections of different actors with land, distancing workers and consumers from decision making processes while producing fluid and smooth access for investors. By studying REITs from the perspectives of economization and topology this article identifies key actors and mechanisms through which financialization is reconfiguring access to farmland and identifies limitations and opportunities for increased access to decisions about land for farmers, workers and consumers.

Keywords: financialization of agriculture, political ecology, performativity, topology, science and technology studies, REITs, farmland

How to Cite:

Serrano, A., (2019) "Making a financial market: the economization and topology of Farmland REITs", *Journal of Political Ecology* 26(1), 599-613. doi: <https://doi.org/10.2458/v26i1.22982> (<https://doi.org/10.2458/v26i1.22982>).

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[Volume 26 · Issue 1 · 2019](#)

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IDENTIFIERS

DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.2458/v26i1.22982>

(<https://doi.org/10.2458/v26i1.22982>).

PUBLICATION DETAILS

Pages: 599–613

FILE CHECKSUMS (MD5)

PDF: 967ad5c8a7a6792f15934e9c29f8fc35



(<http://journals.librarypublishing.arizona.edu>).

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