NARSC 2023
Special Session
The Food and Beverage Industry

Call for Papers

Neil Reid, University of Toledo, USA
Rafael Garduño Rivera, Universidad Panamericana, Mexico
Haoying Wang, New Mexico Tech, USA

The food and beverage industry plays a critical role in any country. This complex industry includes the production, processing, packaging, storage, transportation, retailing, and purchasing of food. The industry plays a fundamental role in providing sustenance to people across the globe while also contributing significantly to local, regional, and national economies. In the United States, for example, the food and beverage industry employs over 1.8 million people and is the third largest contributor to manufacturing gross domestic product (National Institute of Standards and Technology 2021). On the darker side, the food and beverage industry is a significant user of resources such as land, water, and energy (Sovacool et al. 2021), while it is estimated that food systems account for over one-third of global greenhouse gas emissions (United Nations 2021). The industry was also affected by the COVID-19 pandemic that highlighted the fragility of the industry's supply chain (Felix et al. 2020), and created unique challenges for the hospitality (see for example, Neise et al. 2022), and food and beverage manufacturing sectors (Chowdhury et al. 2022).

The purpose of this special session is to examine the food and beverage industry from a variety of perspectives. We welcome contributions from scholars working in various disciplines and socio-economic contexts. Possible topics that may be included as part of these special sessions include:

- Changing Geographies and Systems of Production
- International Trade
- Transportation and Supply Chain Logistics
- Culinary Tourism
- Gender, Race, and Ethnicity
- Public Policy and the Regulatory Environment
- Environmental and Sustainability Issues
- Innovation and Creativity
- Consumer Preferences and Behavior

- Labor and Workforce Development
- Economic Impacts
- Impacts of Automation and AI
- Impacts of COVID-19
- Access, Affordability, and Equity

Please note that the above list represents examples of topics that may be appropriate for this special session. Submissions on relevant topics not included in the above list are encouraged.

Submission Instructions

If you want to present your research in this special session, please submit an abstract through the conference portal. Information on how to do that can be found here. You will receive an abstract ID number (e.g., P54321) upon submitting your abstract. Please send your abstract ID number and a copy of your abstract (with name, email, and affiliation for all authors) to Neil Reid at neil.reid@utoledo.edu no later than **June 30, 2023**.

If you have submitted an abstract to NARSC already and think your paper potentially fits in, please send your abstract ID and related paper information to Neil Reid at neil.reid@utoledo.edu.

Special Issue of Applied Geography

Participants in these special sessions will be invited to submit full manuscripts to a special issue of Applied Geography, which will focus on the food and beverage industry. Applied Geography (Impact Factor 4.732) is a journal devoted to the publication of research that utilizes geographic approaches (human, physical, nature-society, and GIScience) to resolve human problems that have a spatial dimension.

References:

Chowdhury, Md. Tarek, Aditi Sarkar, Sanjoy Kumar Paul, and Md. Abdul Moktadir. 2022. A case study on strategies to deal with the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic in the food and beverage industry. Operations Management Research, 5:166–178. https://doi.org/10.1007/s12063-020-00166-9.

Felix, Ignacio, Adrian Martin, Vivek Mehta, and Curt Mueller. 2020. US food supply chain: Disruptions and implications from COVID-19.

https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/consumer-packaged-goods/our-insights/us-food-supply-chain-disruptions-and-implications-from-covid-19.

National Institute of Standards and Technology 2021. Farm to Factory to Table: The Food and Beverage Manufacturing Industry. https://www.nist.gov/mep/manufacturing-infographics/food-and-beverage-manufacturing-industry.

Neise, Thomas, Philip Verfürth, and Martin Franz. 2022. The uneven effects of Covid-19 on the German restaurant and bar industry. Erdkunde, 76(2): 127-140. https://www.erdkunde.uni-bonn.de/archive/2022/the-uneven-effects-of-covid-19-on-the-german-restaurant-and-bar-industry.

Sovacool, Benjamin K., Morgan Bazilian, Steve Griffiths, Jinsoo Kim, Aoife Foley and David Rooney. 2021. Decarbonizing the food and beverages industry: A critical and systematic review of developments, sociotechnical systems, and policy options. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews, 143: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rser.2021.110856.

United Nations. 2021. Food systems account for over one-third of global greenhouse gas emissions https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1086822.