

Dear EAAE members,

This is the announcement of the 3rd EAAE Webinar of a series of webinars on topical issues in our profession. The maximum number of participants for the Webinar is 150.

Registration is mandatory.

[Here](#) you can register.

Alfons Oude Lansink
Secretary General of the EAAE

EAAE Webinar 3

Challenges and opportunities of machine learning in agricultural economics and policy evaluation

Date: October 14, 2020
Time: 16.00-17.30 (GMT+1)
Organiser: Nadja El Benni

Machine learning (ML) methods have demonstrated great potential in improving prediction and computational power in economic analysis (Storm et al., 2019). Agricultural economists should not miss the new developments and advantages coming along with these approaches but should co-develop applications that integrate the novel ML approaches with economic theory and prior knowledge.

The papers presented apply different ML approaches to data sets often used in agricultural economics research. The session likes to encourage discussions on the methodological advantages and disadvantages of ML and the potential contribution to agricultural policy monitoring and evaluation.

Moderation and discussion: Nadja El Benni and Mariska van der Voort

Talks (presenters in bold)

1. Machine learning in agricultural and applied economics

(**Hugo Storm**, Kathy Baylis, Thomas Heckelei)

2. Machine learning to predict deforestation

(Pablo Ordonez, Eamon Bracht, **Kathy Baylis**, Thomas Heckelei, Robert Brunner)

3. Application of machine learning for variable selection: an empirical assessment

(**Luigi Biagini**, Nadja El Benni, Robert Finger, Simone Severini)

4. Identifying farm types using machine learning

(**Nadja El Benni**, Alexander Zorn, Anke Möhring)