



INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON
OSTROM WORKSHOP

COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Angela Babb

Sustainable Food Systems Science, IU

Monday, November 29: 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET

Virtual via Zoom: [Click here for link to Zoom meeting](#)



Geographical Indications and Sustainable Food Systems

Geographical indications (GIs) have been used globally to denote quality of a product related to geography, raw materials, particular skills, or other processing techniques. In recent years, agencies such as FAO have been encouraging further development of GIs around food and agricultural products to support sustainable development. Considering the pressing need for more sustainable food systems, we ask: Are current GI schemes working to promote sustainability in food systems, and if so, how? We examine this question with analysis of current GIs for agricultural crops in Italy. We develop a java-based application to compile, read, index, and search the corpus of files retrieved from the eAmbrosia database, which houses GI applications and registrations for agricultural products. We find several examples of GIs mandating and protecting sustainable modes of production. We conclude with a discussion of how this geographic scheme could support sustainable food systems in the United States.

Dr. Angela Babb is an Assistant Research Scientist with the Sustainable Food Systems Science initiative and Director of the Critical Food Studies Lab in the IU Food Institute. As a critical food geographer, her work examines the political economy of hunger and contemporary food movements. Her research includes: de/reconstructing the federal calculation of basic food needs and nutrition assistance; developing equitable food policy and programming; and practicing community-based scholar-activism in pursuit of equitable food systems.

Ostrom Workshop
513 N. Park Ave
Bloomington, IN 47408

ostromworkshop.indiana.edu

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