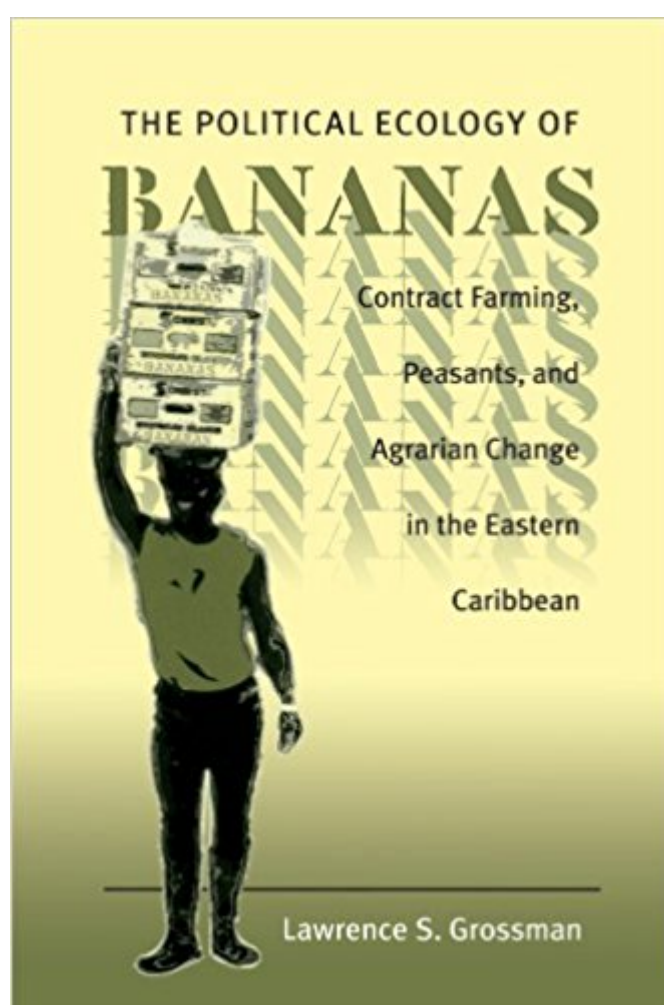


The book was found

# The Political Ecology Of Bananas: Contract Farming, Peasants, And Agrarian Change In The Eastern Caribbean



## Synopsis

This study of banana contract farming in the Eastern Caribbean explores the forces that shape contract-farming enterprises everywhere--capital, the state, and the environment. Employing the increasingly popular framework of political ecology, which highlights the dynamic linkages between political-economic forces and human-environment relationships, Lawrence Grossman provides a new perspective on the history and contemporary trajectory of the Windward Islands banana industry. He reveals in rich detail the myriad impacts of banana production on the peasant laborers of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Grossman challenges the conventional wisdom on three interrelated issues central to contract farming and political ecology. First, he analyzes the process of deskilling and the associated significance of control by capital and the state over peasant labor. Second, he investigates the impacts of contract farming for export on domestic food production and food import dependency. And third, he examines the often misunderstood problem of pesticide misuse. Grossman's findings lead to a reconsideration of broader debates concerning the relevance of research on industrial restructuring and globalization for the analysis of agrarian change. Most important, his work emphasizes that we must pay greater attention to the fundamental significance of the "environmental rootedness" of agriculture in studies of political ecology and contract farming.

## Book Information

Paperback: 296 pages

Publisher: The University of North Carolina Press; 1st Printing edition (July 27, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0807847186

ISBN-13: 978-0807847183

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.7 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #2,722,414 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in [Books > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies > Saint Vincent](#) #2686 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > Caribbean & Latin American](#) #4869 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Elections & Political Process > General](#)

## Customer Reviews

[A] relatively rare outcome in which a highly theoretical work has clear human

applications."Geographical Review""A detailed, scholarly contribution combining judicious use of data and penetrating analysis. Highly recommended."Choice""[A] tour de force in demonstrating the virtue of detailed local knowledge and of bringing ""ecology"" back into political ecology."Economic Geography""[A] major contribution to the research on the application of regulation theory and Fordist and post-Fordist practices in agriculture. Janet Momsen, University of California, Davis""This careful, insightful, frequently brilliant analysis of contract farming reveals the constraints and opportunities of the contemporary global system."Journal of Political Ecology""ÃfÂ•AÃ Â" relatively rare outcome in which a highly theoretical work has clear human applications."Geographical Review"A detailed, scholarly contribution combining judicious use of data and penetrating analysis. Highly recommended."Choice"ÃfÂ•AÃ Â" tour de force in demonstrating the virtue of detailed local knowledge and of bringing "ecology" back into political ecology."Economic Geography"ÃfÂ•AÃ Â" major contribution to the research on the application of regulation theory and Fordist and post-Fordist practices in agriculture. Janet Momsen, University of California, DavisThis careful, insightful, frequently brilliant analysis of contract farming reveals the constraints and opportunities of the contemporary global system."Journal of Political Ecology"[A] tour de force in demonstrating the virtue of detailed local knowledge and of bringing "ecology" back into political ecology."Economic Geography"[A] major contribution to the research on the application of regulation theory and Fordist and post-Fordist practices in agriculture. Janet Momsen, University of California, Davis

A wide-ranging, intellectually challenging, and substantive work. . . . A detailed, scholarly contribution combining judicious use of data and penetrating analysis. Highly recommended.--ChoiceGrossman's book is a richly textured and very detailed field-based study that answers many of the key questions on contract farming, globalization, agrarian change and the environment. It is one of few geographic and social science publications that synthetically, critically, and clearly maps this complex terrain.--Abdi Ismail Samatar, University of MinnesotaA rich, geographically contextualized volume. . . . Grossman's application of the political ecology framework to an analysis of the impact of globalization on peasant agriculture constitutes a ground-breaking accomplishment. . . . The result is a relatively rare outcome in which a highly theoretical work has clear human applications presented in a manner that, with adaptations to account for local differences, can be extrapolated to the realities of millions of others in similar situations in marginalized agrarian communities around the world. . . . Will interest anyone who is concerned with the Caribbean or with agricultural issues more generally.--Geographical ReviewThis book is a

welcome addition to a growing and increasingly charged literature on transnational firms and contract farming in the 'South.' By drawing on concepts from geography, ecology, and anthropology, and by skillfully presenting a wealth of local data, Grossman makes his book accessible to a range of disciplines and scholars. If there is a single lesson that can be drawn from the work, it is that even under the most constraining of circumstances (i.e., contract farming) Caribbean peasants maintain a range of creative strategies of resistance and survival.--Peter D. Little, University of Kentucky

A rich portrait of the history and current state of banana farming in St. Vincent . . . a tour de force in demonstrating the virtue of detailed local knowledge and of bringing 'ecology' back into political ecology.--Economic Geography

This book makes a major contribution to the research on the application of regulation theory and Fordist and post-Fordist practices in agriculture. As a study of the grassroots impact of global trade policies, it will be valuable to Caribbeanists, anthropologists, economists, and agriculturalists, as well as geographers.--Janet Momsen, University of California, Davis

Lawrence Grossman demonstrates that peasant persistence in export production is related less to the resilience of household economies than to the interests of the multinational firms that market peasant produce in the developed world. . . . This careful, insightful, frequently brilliant analysis of contract farming reveals the constraints and opportunities of the contemporary global system, and restores some measure of agency to the peasant communities that are involved in it.--Journal of Political Ecology

Should be required reading for anyone interested in contemporary labor transformation, the globalization of Third World agriculture, the interplay between local-level environmental and international political-economic forces, rural economic development, and peasant adaptation. Skillfully blending detailed micro-level actor-oriented description, thorough historical analysis, and sophisticated theoretical disputation, Grossman debunks several prevailing myths about the internationalization of agriculture. Broad in scope, rich in description, and sophisticated in analysis, this important new work is bound to stimulate additional studies of contemporary peasant adaptation.--Hymie Rubenstein, University of Manitoba

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Political Ecology of Bananas: Contract Farming, Peasants, and Agrarian Change in the Eastern Caribbean  
 HOMESTEADING: Farming For Beginners (Animal Books, Food, Farming, Beekeeping, Animal Farm) (Breeding Animals, Backyard, Farming Books, Farming for Dummies, ... Agriculture Business, Mini Farming Book 1)  
 Peasants of Costa Rica and the Development of Agrarian Capitalism  
 Construction Contract Dispute and Claim Handbook, Introduction, and Division 01: A Primer on the Nature of Construction Contract Disputes for Attorneys, ... (Construction Contract Dispute Handbook)  
 MINI FARMING MADE EASY FOR BEGINNERS (bonus with Home-Mushroom

Guide): DIY Guide To Grow Your Own Organic Foods and Plants (Mini farming, Homesteading, ... Gardening, Mini Farming For Beginners) backyard farming: The beginner's guide to create your own self sufficient backyard (Backyard Farming Essentials - Mini Farming - Urban Gardening - Self Sustainability - Backyard Homestead) Backyard Farming: Your Guide to Building the Ultimate Self Sustainable Backyard Mini Farm (Backyard Farming Essentials - Mini Farming - Urban Gardening - Self Sustainability - Backyard Homestead) The Complete Guide to Organic Livestock Farming: Everything You Need to Know about Natural Farming on a Small Scale (Back-To-Basics Farming) Most Popular Caribbean Recipes Quick & Easy!: Essential West Indian Food Recipes from the Caribbean Islands (Caribbean recipes, Caribbean recipes old ... recipes cookbook, West Indian cooking) The Contract Series: The Contract; Hit & Miss; Change Up (Jeter Publishing) Classic Maya Political Ecology: Resource Management, Class Histories, and Political Change in Northwestern Belize (Ideas, Debates and Perspectives) The Cross & the Prodigal: Luke 15 Through the Eyes of Middle Eastern Peasants Agrarian Dreams: The Paradox of Organic Farming in California (California Studies in Critical Human Geography) Rousseau: The Basic Political Writings: Discourse on the Sciences and the Arts, Discourse on the Origin of Inequality, Discourse on Political Economy, ... Contract, The State of War (Hackett Classics) Rousseau's Political Writings: Discourse on Inequality, Discourse on Political Economy, On Social Contract (Norton Critical Editions) The Magic Circle....and More: A Practical Concept for Understanding Government Contract Cost Accounting Applied in the Contract Management Process How to get every Contract Calculation question right on the PMP® Exam: 50+ PMP® Exam Prep Sample Questions and Solutions on Contract Calculations ... Simplified Series of mini-e-books) (Volume 2) How to get every Contract Calculation question right on the PMP® Exam: 50+ PMP® Exam Prep Sample Questions and Solutions on Contract Calculations (PMP® ... Simplified Series of mini-e-books Book 2) How to Plan, Contract, and Build Your Own Home, Fifth Edition: Green Edition (How to Plan, Contract & Build Your Own Home) Cruising the Southern and Western Caribbean: A Guide to the Ships & the Ports of Call (Cruising the Southern and Western Caribbean) (Cruising the Southern & Western Caribbean)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)