



Management Science Research

Management Science
Research

Nov. 2019

Volume 1 Issue 2



International Science and Technology Publishing Ltd.

Study on the Problem and Countermeasures of Rural Land Idle under Rural Revitalization Strategy

Dafang Shi

China University of Geosciences (Beijing)

ABSTRACT

The rural revitalization strategy is an important strategy for solving the "three rural issues" in China and an important direction for the current work of the Chinese government. Rural land provides a space carrier for the implementation of the rural revitalization strategy, but the phenomenon of land vacancy is common in rural areas. To implement the rural revitalization strategy, we must adhere to the priority development of agriculture and rural areas. Rural land, as the foundation and core of rural development, is not only the prerequisite for effectively solving the "three rural issues", but also the key to implementing the rural revitalization strategy. Starting from the definition and harm of rural idle land, this paper mainly analyzes the causes of rural idle land, and elaborates the countermeasures for scientifically handling rural idle land from the perspectives of the government and the farmers themselves, trying to solve the rural idle land under the rural revitalization strategy. The research used provides ideas.

Keywords:

rural revitalization
land idle
countermeasure research

1. Introduction

On January 2, 2018, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council issued Document No. 1 of 2018, namely, "Opinions of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the State Council on Implementing the Strategy for Rural Revitalization." The "Opinions" clearly stated that it is

necessary to "deepen the reform of the rural land system." Land is not only one of the key elements for implementing the rural revitalization strategy, but also the foundation of the people's livelihood and the foundation for development. As a big agricultural country, China's valuable land resources play an important role in the

ARTICLE INFO

Received: 6 May, 2019; Revised: 8 Sep, 2019; Accepted 22 Oct, 2019

* Corresponding author : Dafang Shi ,Building No.19 of China University of Geosciences(Beijing).

E-mail address: 296265930@qq.com.

development of China's social economy. However, in the case of extremely rare land resources in our country, many rural areas have a large amount of idle land. The idleness of the land has intensified the chaotic and disorderly land market and the non-agriculturalization trend of cultivated land, which will seriously hinder the development of the rural economy, the settlement of the "three rural issues" and the implementation of the rural revitalization strategy. Solving the problem of rural land idleness will provide more opportunities and a broader space for the implementation of the rural revitalization strategy.

2. Overview of idle land

2.1 Definition of idle land

Regarding what is idle land, the Ministry of Land and Resources clearly states in Article 2 of the Measures for the Disposal of Idle Land (Order No. 53 of the Ministry of Land and Resources of the People's Republic of China, which will take effect on July 1, 2012): idle land refers to state-owned The land use right of the construction land exceeds the state-owned construction land that has not been started for development after the contract for the use of the state-owned construction land has been used in a paid use contract or a transfer decision. The construction area has been started but the development and construction land area accounts for less than one-third of the total area of construction and construction land, or the investment amount accounts for less than 25 percent of the total investment. The state-owned construction land that has been developed and constructed for one year may also be suspended. It is considered as idle land ^[1].

Regarding the idleness of rural land, it is a state of land abandonment, abandoned farming or underutilization caused by a combination of various reasons. Rural idle land is also known as abandonment. It refers to land that is idle and not used in rural areas, or that users of land have exceeded the certain period without the consent of the government after obtaining land use rights according to law. There is no land for development and construction. Idle land can be divided into nonagricultural construction idle and agricultural idle land. It is usually judged whether the agricultural land is idle, mainly based on the

cycle of crop growth ^[2]. When the farmland is in abandonment for more than half a year, the farmland can be called idle land.

2.2 Hazards of rural idle land

2.2.1 Land idleness reduces farmers' living standards

The large amount of idle rural land resources has gradually reduced per capita arable land, resulting in a decline in agricultural products, especially grain production, a decrease in peasant income, and a slower development of the entire rural economy, further exacerbating the contradiction between people and land. The reduction of farmers' economic income not only reduces the living standards of the peasants, but also seriously affects the rural collective public welfare undertakings, so that the production conditions cannot be improved, and the burden on the peasants is indirectly increased ^[3].

2.2.2 Land idleness seriously affects the rural economy

As a state-owned asset, rural land has caused the loss of state-owned assets in the process of idleness. At the same time, farmers' enthusiasm for growing grain is not high. Long-term implementation of extensive agricultural production has seriously affected the normal development of rural social economy, and the decline in the total value of agricultural production has seriously affected the basic position of agriculture in China's national economy.

2.2.3 Land idle leads to deterioration of agricultural ecological environment

The long-term idleness of agricultural land will lead to a gradual decline in the quality of cultivated land. After the agricultural production stops, the bare soil erosion resistance will be weakened, the soil physical properties will be deteriorated, and long-term development will lead to the loss of soil organic matter, soil desertification or alkali acidification trend. Development will reduce the production capacity of the land and affect the cultivation of crops ^[4]. Once a natural disaster occurs, it not only causes the production function of idle land to decline or even lose, but also has a serious impact on the surrounding non-idling land resources.

Destruction of the ecological environment, causing the decline in the quality of cultivated land, accelerating the deterioration of land quality, and bringing great harm

to agricultural production.

3. Reasons for the emergence of rural land idleness

3.1 Economic factors

Due to the rapid development of urbanization, the number of farmers who have moved to cities to work, do business or move their families to urban areas has increased dramatically in recent years, but they still retain the original real estate and land, causing the homestead and land to be idle. In some areas, during the renovation of the old village, the villagers moved into new homes, and the old homesteads still existed, forming a homestead with "one home and multiple houses".

With the development of technology and planting technology, the output of agricultural products has increased greatly, resulting in a relative surplus of agricultural products and a fall in the prices of agricultural products [5]. Along with the fall in the price of agricultural products, the prices of production materials have risen. Under the small-scale peasant economy model, the production costs of agricultural and sideline products are high, the agricultural income is not ideal, the peasant burden is still too heavy, and the enthusiasm for engaging in agricultural production is seriously frustrated. Finally, the management of township and village enterprises is not in good condition, the management system is not perfect, the treatment of farmers who are close to the factory is not high, and the attraction is weakened. The desire of farmers to work closely while taking care of agriculture is broken [6].

3.2 Technical and facility factors

Agricultural infrastructure is weak and its ability to resist disasters is poor. With the promotion and deepening of science and technology in rural areas, the level of farmers' farming has been continuously improved, but there are irrational phenomena in science and technology investment. Farmers pay more attention to the materialized hard technology investment and despise the knowledge-based soft technology investment [7]. The investment in new agricultural technology and new technology is weak, and the investment in a number of technical combinations is not strong. How to maximize land use? The rate of three-dimensional development of

planting technology is not enough [8].

Agriculture is an industry with a high natural risk and is highly restricted by nature. Especially in rural areas, those with poor water conservancy conditions and high irrigation costs, low-lying fields, flooded fields, and saline-alkali land. Because of the high input cost, the risk is high, the income is not guaranteed, and in the face of risk, the farmers will simply not plant it, let it be ridiculous [9]. In order to obtain more direct, simpler and more lucrative benefits, farmers have to give up their land and be forced to seek a way out of agriculture, taking the initiative or even blindly abandoning farming or doing business. Infrastructure affects the happiness of farmers' lives [10]. Rural or even township infrastructure is relatively backward, and education resources are relatively scarce. Many farmers abandon their land and go to cities to seek better employment opportunities, better services and more convenient life.

3.3 Institutional factors

Although the household contract responsibility system has achieved great results at the beginning, there are still problems in which the main body of property rights is unknown. In the new era, the rural production methods are still in the state of small farmers, decentralized operations, low production efficiency, and the income of farmers is not high. Rapid agricultural production is in a state of slow development [11]. Poor land circulation leads to low input and output benefits, and no investment. The original contractors are reluctant to cultivate and can not find the recipients who are willing to cultivate. Take the opportunity to escape taxes and fees. Coupled with the inherent defects of the small-scale peasant economy, the shortcomings of the mechanism of rural land idle. Land laws and regulations are not perfect, law enforcement is not strict, and management is out of control [12]. The regulations on collective land management are not specific, the land use planning and land use plans are not implemented well, and the land for development zones or large-scale construction projects is given a green light. Even without investors or investment projects, land use is approved at one time, resulting in a large amount of land. There are also some land that have not been cultivated due to long-term disputes over ownership.

3.4 Cultural psychological factors

Under the influence of small farmers' awareness, the awareness of scientific planting is weak. Many farmers are comfortable with the status quo, do not think ahead, think conservatively, explore the poor sense of innovation, small wealth is safe, small is full. With the gradual establishment of the socialist market economic system, the awareness of small farmers is undergoing unprecedented shocks and changes, but it has not been fundamentally transformed, and has become a further ideological obstacle to the further improvement of the socialist market economic system.

The continuous expansion of the urban-rural gap has made farmers psychologically yearning for cities. Urban work has many opportunities to make money, relatively light physical strength, high wage income, and abundant amateur life, which attracts farmers to abandon the land and work in cities. The long-standing contempt for the peasants' consciousness makes the farmers more willing to support children who have received higher education or skills to enter the city. This also caused the rural land to be idle to some extent.

4. Solutions to the problem of rural land idling under the rural revitalization strategy

At present, the most important production factor in rural areas is land. Under the guidance of the rural revitalization strategy, the main line of deepening rural land system reform is still to deal with the relationship between farmers and land.

4.1 Government encourages the development of idle land

For idle agricultural land, the government should first encourage the priority development of idle land and strive to improve the efficiency of construction land use. Farmers who insist on farming will be given certain preferential policies, such as raising farmers' direct food subsidies, comprehensive subsidies for agricultural materials, subsidies for improved varieties, and subsidies for the purchase of agricultural machinery, to effectively increase farmers' income and effectively increase farmers' enthusiasm for farming. Publicize the lectures on the theme of "modern agriculture, scientific planting", such as: excellent seed promotion, free delivery of advanced

planting techniques. Persuading the peasants who have abandoned the land, they can transfer the abandoned land to others, or contract to others for large-scale planting and idle land as an investment, and obtain a certain economic reward ^[13].

For idle homesteads, the government must adopt the necessary means of economic administration to adopt compulsory administrative means for illegally occupying the homestead and causing the homestead to be idle. If it is illegal to obtain a homestead, it will use economic means to the homestead. The over-subscribed part implements a paid use policy.

At the same time, the government will take the lead in making scientific plans and rationally formulate the development plans and specific plans for existing idle land. The government should organize relevant departments to further investigate and study, comprehensively find out the situation of rural idle land in the city, do a good job in planning new rural construction, strengthen guidance and cooperation, and integrate land for village construction. Improve the land transfer procedures, and make clear provisions for the transfer of land use rights and land revenues, so that land transfer can proceed smoothly ^[14]. It is necessary to increase the standardized management of township and village enterprises, maximize the protection of the interests of local farmers, and increase the attraction of nearby employment, so that farmers can balance agricultural cultivation to reduce idle agricultural land.

4.2 Measures to improve the management of idle land in rural areas

First, improve and improve the construction of agricultural production service system, improve the investment environment of rural enterprises, and enhance farmers' confidence in planting land. Establish a relatively sound agricultural production service system, improve farmers' labor productivity, thereby improve the economic benefits of farmers' investment, and increase farmers' enthusiasm for investing in land, thereby attracting farmers to plant cultivated land and reducing the area of land idle.

Second, optimize the structure of agricultural land and improve the comprehensive benefits of land use. In order to improve the comprehensive benefits of land use, the structure of agricultural land should be adjusted

according to regional characteristics, the leading products should be selected, the crops and forestry structure should be adjusted, and agricultural production bases with regional characteristics should be formed to promote agricultural industrialization ^[15].

4.3 Strengthening agricultural and rural infrastructure

First of all, we must do a good job in the construction of farmland water conservancy infrastructure, give financial and technical support to improve the scientific and technological content of farmland water conservancy facilities, improve dike flood control standards, increase the reinforcement of small and medium-sized reservoirs, and enhance agricultural disaster prevention and mitigation. The ability to resist disasters has completely changed the phenomenon of farmers relying on the heavens to eat and enhance their ability to withstand natural disasters. Secondly, it is necessary to combine the new rural construction, comprehensive agricultural development and rural revitalization strategies to completely eliminate the "bottleneck" of transportation, strengthen the links between rural and rural areas, rural areas and cities, and improve rural and agricultural living conditions.

4.4 Enhance agricultural services and reduce production costs

First, strengthen the construction of the science and technology service system and improve the guidance methods for agricultural science and technology. To achieve high food production and increase farmers' enthusiasm for growing grain, the government must increase investment in agriculture, especially grain production ^[16]. The agricultural technology promotion department should strengthen the training of grassroots technology extension personnel and improve the overall quality of technology extension personnel to meet the needs of developing efficient modern agriculture.

Second, use market means to adjust the price of economic crops and reduce the price of agricultural materials. According to farmers' preference for cash crops, they adjust their prices through market means, and based on the characteristics of the region, they will take advantage of the land itself and actively guide and adjust the farmers' planting structure for inappropriate cash

crops. By formulating corresponding measures, the government will strengthen supervision over agricultural production enterprises and agricultural resources markets such as fertilizers and pesticides, reduce the prices of agricultural production materials, and reduce agricultural production costs.

Third, accelerate the adjustment of rural industrial structure and increase the scale of farmland benefits. It is necessary to actively adjust and optimize the agricultural structure, and change the traditional planting mode and extensive production and management methods ^[17]. It is market-oriented, relying on science and technology, combining resource advantages with market demand, developing characteristic agriculture, and vigorously promoting the process of agricultural industrialization.

4.5 Farmers themselves handle the idle land reasonably

When farmers are unable to balance normal work and agricultural planting, they can transfer the right to use idle land to others through legal procedures and obtain benefits from them. Actively learn scientific planting techniques, and farmers with the ability to expand the scale of planting, achieve large-scale, modern planting, to improve farming efficiency and reduce the cost of agricultural products. Relying on the national rural revitalization strategic planning guidance, develop a new agricultural model ^[18]. Develop agricultural land in the form of idyllic complexes and beautiful villages, jointly develop the primary industry and tourism, and achieve greater economic benefits on the basis of protecting cultivated land, and promote local farmers' employment.

5. Conclusion

Scientifically and rationally handling rural idle land is the key to implementing the rural revitalization strategy. It is also an objective requirement for comprehensively implementing the scientific development concept and promoting comprehensive and coordinated economic and social development. It is to promote urban and rural development, ensure national food security, and protect farmers' interests. It is an important part of the work; it is the urgent need to implement the State Council's decision to deepen reform and strict land management, improve the government's administrative capacity according to law and the level of land and resources management; it is

scientific planning, rational use, effective protection of land and resources, and implementation of the most stringent arable land protection. The fundamental means of the system; it is also an important task for doing a good job in land surveys. Under this background, solving the problem of rural land restrictions, improving the degree of agricultural industrialization, and accelerating the process of agricultural modernization are of great significance for promoting rural economic development and realizing rural revitalization.

Acknowledgements

This research was supported in part by the National Science Foundation under Grant DRL-1222359.

References

- [1] Fang. M.F. (2018). Research on Land Transfer in Jinzhai County under the Background of Rural Revitalization Strategy[J]. *Fortune Today* 3: 151-152.
- [2] Liu. D.N., Feng. Z.J. (2001). Investigation on the Abandonment of Farmers[J]. *Jiangxi Agricultural Economy* 3:64.
- [3] Lu. C.L. (2005). Analysis of the Reasons for Rural Land Idle[J]. *Journal of Qiqihar University (Philosophy and Social Sciences Edition)* 6:35-37.
- [4] Qian. L.W. (2009). Analysis of the Causes and Countermeasures of Rural Idle Land[J]. *Coastal Enterprises and Technology* 10: 69-71.
- [5] Wang. Y.L. (2012). Discussion on the causes and solutions of rural land idleness[J]. *New Rural: Heilongjiang* 20: 32-33.
- [6] Xu. Z.H., Yang. J., Zhu. L.Y. (2012). Comparative Analysis of the Reasons for Rural Land Idle in Different Villages and Towns--Taking Tianping, Longguangqiao, Xin'an Township and Huochangping Township as Examples[J]. *Economic Research Guide* 23: 30-31.
- [7] Chang. J.W. (2017). The scientific positioning and green development path of Xiong'an New District[J]. *Party and government research* 3.
- [8] Chen. J.J. (2006). Legal Thoughts on the Free Recovery of Idle Land[J]. *Zhejiang Land Resources* 12: 37-40.
- [9] Cheng. S.Y., Xu. L.M., Wu. C.G. (2005). Let the idle land live[J]. *China Land* 10: 40-41.
- [10] Ding. B. (2005). Tightening the use of idle land, optimizing the allocation of land resources[J]. *Henan Land Resources* 1: 21.
- [11] Jiang. D.M. (2004). A road to success in revitalizing land Beihai City's experience in using idle land to build industrial parks[J]. *Land and Resources* 8: 35.
- [12] Ji. J.L. (2001). The main problems and solutions of the current rural economy in China[J]. *Economic theory and economic management* 1:70-72.
- [13] Liu. W.H. (1997). Thoughts on Deepening the Reform of Land Tax and Fee System[J]. *Chinese Land Science* 3:22-28
- [14] Meng. X.Z., Xin. B.H. (2006). Clear use of property rights: the choice of ways to solve the problem of rural homestead waste[J]. *Rural Economy* 10: 13-15.
- [15] Qu. F.T. (2000). Land property rights arrangement and sustainable land use[J]. *China Soft Science* 9: 56-60.
- [16] Shao. D.X., He. T.B. (2007) Development and Utilization of Idle Land Resources in Mountainous Areas[J]. *Journal of Mountain Agriculture and Biology* 2: 146-150.
- [17] Zhang. S.Q., Yan. ZH. (2004). Perfecting Disposal Policy, Innovative Land Retreat Mechanism Concerning Disposal of Idle Land[J]. *Zhejiang Land Resources* 11: 10-12.
- [18] Zheng. W.W. (2003). Legal Issues in the Recovery of Idle Land[J]. *Chinese and Foreign Real Estate Herald* 9: 45- 52.