

PEASANT CV 2015

Heliodoro Santos Mejía

Peasant, born in Valencia de Don Juan on the 30th of May, 1951



Professional Targets

To keep family farming in full operation.
To develop strategies to survive the current processes of depopulation of farming.
To gain negotiating power with respect to the organizations that limit the commercialisation of their products.

Areas of expertise

Applied Agriculture and Livestock Farming
Observational Astronomy
Applied Meteorology and Climatology
Edaphology and Soil Preservation
Forestry and Woodland Conservation
Bromatology and Food Processing
Farm Equipment Mechanics
Human Resources

Education: High School diploma

Internet Use: None

Affiliations: "Los Míticos" Club

Hobbies: To do the pools, to play the lottery and to participate in an annual mus (card game) tournament.

Personal Profile

Multi-skilled agricultural professional involved in a broad spectrum of activities, Heliodoro is able to identify, distinguish and apply good agricultural practices that ensure both the stability of his work and a prosperous future for generations to come.

With a high capacity for self-organization and politically active, his resilience to change serves him as a tool of empowerment for survival.

Responsibilities and duties

- To enlarge the common intellectual capital of the peasantry and protect invaluable intangible assets, keeping them alive and avoiding their disappearance.
- To prevent erosion and desertification processes in the territory, preserving the fertility and stability of soils by applying traditional methods of groundcover vegetation enrichment.
- To keep watch over his property and equipment, since these days patrols of the civil guard seem to be more committed to the task of tax collection and of imposing fines, than to the fight against organized crime.
- To participate in collective actions, taking a stand against the new market policies that favour global players and allow them to manipulate the value chains of food products.
- To be the contact point for all Government investigations, responding to questions from regulatory authorities and keeping all relevant administrative records updated.

Skills

- To act as a cross-cutting player for the sustainability of rural areas and to be a vital element for the survival of society.
- To supply the entire production chain with raw materials of high standards.
- Community building through interactive processes, responding promptly to requests for assistance from others and forging strong and durable bonds of reciprocity.
- To facilitate generational shift by sharing his knowledge and experiences with the young, participating in the co-production of meanings.
- To ensure the efficient and responsible use of resources, securing environmental quality and preventing the degradation of natural capital.
- To challenge conventional thinking through popular wisdom.

Aurora Cisneros Gabaldón

Peasant, born in Quintana del Castillo on the 18th of February, 1952



Personal Profile

Multi-skilled agricultural professional, carries on local leadership that cultivates a spirit of research, experimentation and excellence, while acting as a catalyst for collaboration and exchange of crucial knowledge for the regeneration of the agrarian society.

Intellectually proactive, motivated and encouraging, she is always alert to unforeseen discovery of new resources, and understands serendipity as a form of dialogue with the world.

Responsibilities and Duties

- To conduct cutting-edge research to find well-founded solutions to the new economic challenges arising from the liberalisation of the markets and the commodification of cereals.
- To develop pioneering techniques for the defense of the rights of the small- and medium-sized producers, aiming to achieve a qualitative leap in terms of autonomy and local sovereignty.
- To avoid biodiversity loss and safeguard natural heritage through the conservation and use of native seeds, which do not endanger human health and guarantee animal welfare.
- To undertake collective management of woodlands, preventing fires and keep forested areas safe through the use of traditional techniques based on an efficient use of resources and in communal land management.
- To make sure that economic operators comply with legislation and guarantee fair and equitable practices in the food trade.

Professional Targets

To keep family farming in full operation.
To develop strategies to survive the current processes of depopulation of farming.
To gain negotiating power with respect to the organizations that limit the commercialisation of their products.

Areas of expertise

Applied Agriculture and Livestock Farming
Observational Astronomy
Applied Meteorology and Climatology
Edaphology and Soil Preservation
Forestry and Woodland Conservation
Bromatology and Food Processing
Human Resources
Health

Education: High School diploma

Internet Use: Medium to high level

Affiliations: Bobbin Lace-makers Association

«El Niño»
Hobbies: Hiking and Pilates

Skills

- To build and maintain food production systems that guarantee the future of the coming generations and secure their well-being and quality of life.
- To advocate for community colloquy ensuring intra- and intergenerational solidarity and reinforcing social cohesion.
- To show resolve to understand the reasons that lie behind the rural crisis and spare no effort to propose bottom up solutions, without losing heart every time her proposals are ignored.
- To maintain an ongoing dialogue with the Administration, with the required patience and self-control.
- To diversify the sources of income by working in the service sector, including rural tourism.

This project borrows the language and formalisms of academia to draft a résumé for a couple of peasants from León.

The proposal consists of a text written in the style of a résumé of an academic or a professional working for an international development agency, an NGO, the UN or some other intergovernmental body, but what is actually being detailed here are the chores and labor of peasants and small farmers.

Among the various styles and formats for résumés proper to different jobs, the most descriptive and most pompous, sometimes bordering on outlandish, comes from this particular field.

For instance, an administrative post for one of these bodies is known as “knowledge officer” and the requirement for the post is stipulated as follows: “Generate robust evidence and know-how that is informed by a practical perspective acquired through hands-on work.”

The embellishment and abstraction in these texts is in itself a kind of self-marketing and propaganda, and so I have deliberately used this format and language to re-situate the labor of peasants which has been continuously undervalued and stigmatized, written off as obsolete, archaic and out of place or indeed as romantic, ideal and folkloric.

The purpose of this project is to describe real labor through the use of hyperbole.

The work takes the format of a block of text and a photograph on a rigid support, placing it somewhere between literary and sculptural production. Similarly to the way the text utilizes exaggeration as a means, the large size of the “paper” matches the grandiloquence.