

Concentration and power in the food system pdf

Is corporate concentration a problem in the food sector?

Howard adopts a critical approach to analyzing the problem of corporate concentration in the food sector, focusing on how firms maximize not just profits but also power in the marketplace. In the food system, corporate concentration has reached considerable levels at all stages, from farm to plate.

How do corporate concentration and power affect food systems?

Corporate concentration and power can shape markets, technology and innovation agendas, and policy and governance frameworks. Issues, implications and mitigating measures to take in food systems are discussed here using the agricultural inputs industry as an example.

Do Corporate Concentration and power undermine key goals for food systems?

This Perspective makes the case that a range of measures are needed to ensure that corporate concentration and power do not undermine key goals for food systems, such as equitable livelihoods, sustainability and broad-based participation in food system governance.

How do concentrated firms exert power in food systems?

It outlines the pathways via which concentrated firms in this sector have the potential to exert power in food systems more broadly--both directly and indirectly--in ways that matter for food system outcomes. Specifically, concentrated firms can shape markets, shape technology and innovation agendas, and shape policy and governance frameworks.

What is food concentration based on?

The concentration of food, specifically in the context of condensed food, is based on the fact that many foods contain a large percentage of free water which can be driven off by evaporation, thereby reducing the weight and usually the bulk of the food.

What is a food science concentration?

The food science concentration is approved by the Institute of Food Technologists and prepares students for careers in food industry and food safety. The nutritional science concentration emphasizes the physical and biological sciences in relation to nutrition and the development of laboratory skills in these areas.

Figures 1.1 Levels of market concentration 3 2.1 Map and timeline of Kroger's acquisitions, 1998-2014 25 3.1 Sysco: selected acquisitions and alliances, 1990-2013 41 4.1 Top US beer firms: brand ownership and distribution 58 5.1 Map of brands acquired by Dean Foods 80 6.1 Distribution of the top 20 US agricultural subsidy programs, 1995-2012 91

are needed to ensure that corporate concentration and power do not undermine key goals for food systems,

such as food access, sustainability, and broad-based participation in food system governance. These include measures to strengthen competition policies, to bolster public sector support for diverse food systems, and to curb corporate ...

significant consolidation among grocers and high concentration in local retail markets. These structural conditions are concerning because of their possible implications for market power abuses, the viability of small farms, and overall system performance. Concentration and Consolidation in the U.S. Food Supply Chain: The Latest Evidence

This book seeks to illuminate which firms have become the most dominant, and more importantly, how they shape and reshape society in their efforts to increase their control. These dynamics have received insufficient attention from academics and even critics of the current food system. The power of dominant firms extends far beyond narrow economic boundaries, for example, ...

The book covers retailing, distribution, packaged foods, commodity processing, farming, agricultural inputs such as fertilisers and seeds, and the takeover and resistance of organics. Let us examine the author's treatment of these various ...

Corporate concentration in the agri-food sector has been a feature of industrial food systems since the early 1900s. This concentration is becoming more pronounced in recent decades with a spate of mergers and acquisitions that have led to a situation where a handful of firms dominate at multiple points along agri-food supply chains (IPES-Food 2017).

Concentration and Power in the Food System, is posed, inviting readers to contemplate just who exactly is involved in supplying our food. The author, Philip H. Howard, uses this question as a platform to discuss the different stages of getting food from the farm/ranch to the dinner plate.

History also shows that concentration in the global industrial food system was a product of complex dynamics between commercial imperatives of capital accumulation, government policies, and technological changes, indicating that the transformation agenda will need to navigate these forces, and their deeply entrenched power relationships, in ...

The food system is currently embroiled in a period of unprecedented consolidation and concentration, both globally and nationally.¹ Economists agree that market abuses are likely to occur when the concentration ratio of the top four firms (CR4) exceeds 40%.² In the U.S., CR4 ratios surge far beyond this percentage -- in some cases doubling it -- in such diverse sectors ...

A special report to the Family Farm Action Alliance, November 19, 2020. Click on images above for PDF versions Report Highlights Consolidation is happening across all sectors in the food system, at the national and global levels, and has resulted in a particular set of power relationships. This has resulted in numerous

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negative impacts on...

Nearly every day brings news of another merger or acquisition involving the companies that control our food supply. Just how concentrated has this system become? At almost every key stage of the food system, four firms alone control 40% or more of the market, a level above which these companies have the power to drive up prices for consumers and ...

ABSTRACT The world has experienced three global food crises in the past 50 years. While unique triggers sparked each of these crises, they all exposed extreme concentration within the global industrial food system at multiple scales - at the field, country, and global market levels. This multi-level concentration heightens vulnerability to worldwide food crises that have ...

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Why Corporate Concentration and Power Matters in Food Systems Corporate concentration in the agri-food sector has been a feature of industrial food systems since the early 1900s. This concentration is becoming more pronounced in recent decades with a spate of mergers and acquisitions that have led

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This "perspective" is a commentary on the ways that corporate concentration impacts the food system, and proposes measures that can be taken to confront this concentration. ... It outlines the pathways via which concentrated firms in this sector have the potential to exert power in food systems more broadly--both directly and indirectly ...

Concentration is a term used to describe the composition of a given market, and especially its potential

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impacts on competition. At one end of the spectrum are markets that are described as unconcentrated or fragmented, which economists consider to be freely competitive (Figure 1.1) this type of market, sellers are "price takers" and lack the ability to raise prices.

A significant factor contributing to this situation, as well as preventing meaningful action to resolve it, has been the concentration of power and corporate control throughout the global food system (Clapp et al., 2021). Over the last few decades the food sector has witnessed record levels of consolidation (IPES-Food, 2017), as a shrinking number of large firms have ...

The first is that corporate concentration in the food system is an important dimension to consider in debates about food system sustainability. The rise of industrial agriculture has been deeply intertwined with growing corporate concentration over the past century, and critics charge that the environmental consequences of the former are in ...

Download Free PDF. Corporate Concentration in the Food Industry. ... Howard, Philip H. Concentration and Power in the Food System: Who Controls What We Eat. New York: Bloomsbury, 2016. Isett, Christopher, and Stephen Miller. The Social History of Agriculture: From the Origins to the Current Crisis. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2017 ...

[Concentration and Power in the Food System] is accessible to any reader interested in learning how political economy can help us understand who really does control what we eat. And as the food industry continues to consolidate, Howard's work will become increasingly vital to imagining an economy with open, competitive markets for farmers and ...

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