Field trip around Poyang Lake (2014)

Wetland



The influence of the government over rural land use visible everywhere with different programs in different areas.



Revisit the village in a big polder where I stayed six years ago. It looked quiet. An old man recognized me and told me that not much had changed in his village.



The village leader's daughter got married six years ago in this place.



Crossing the river



Got trapped



Rural-Urban Mix and Rising of Farm Lords

During this trip, I sensed the line between rural and urban is becoming fuzzy, accompanied by a rising new class of farm lords in the countryside. The household registration system in China that differentiates rural and urban households, called Hukou, has been a contentious matter. It may no more be an issue in the near future. As rural households can and are encouraged to purchase housing properties in cities (at least in small and some medium sized cities), rural people can live and work just like urban populations while still having farmland, a valuable property. Some rural people refuse to give up their rural hukou even after they have acquired secure ways of making a living in cities. A taxi driver from a village near Nanchang told me he would never like to live in Nanchang, the capital of Jiangxi province - he thinks his "suburban" life is much better than in the big city.

This photo published on a news website shows a farmer in Jiangxi province giving bonus to his employees. He manages 15,000mu of rice field and hires over 100 employees.



Talking to a future farm lord



A village near Nanchang, the capital city of Jiangxi province



A village in my hometown of a northern style



Happy on the road

