



Tropentag, September 17-19, 2013, Stuttgart-Hohenheim
“Agricultural development within the rural-urban continuum”

Analysis of the Brazilian Governmental Regulatory Agencies of Sugar Cane Production – Food or Energy?

ALEXANDRE WALMOTT BORGES¹, DANILA CARVALHO², MÁRIO ANGELO JR.¹

¹*Federal University of Uberlândia (FAPEMIG), Law School, Brazil*

²*Federal University of Uberlândia (FAPEMIG), Languages and Linguistics Institute, Brazil*

Abstract

The research analyses the evolution of the Brazilian government agencies behaviour on issues related to the sugar cane culture and production in Brazil in the XX and XXI centuries, especially the change model of food regulation production to urban centres to energy production for urban mobility. The survey has found a temporal cut line in the functioning forms of the government sugar cane culture regulatory agencies in the seventies of the twentieth century. (1) From 1930 until the 1970s, the sugar cane culture involved the creation and operation of government agencies focused on: (1.1) the primacy of the domestic food supply of Brazilian urban centres, (1.2) secondarily, the export of surplus sugar production. (2) Starting in the 1990s, the sugar cane culture involves the creation and operation of government agencies focused on: (2.1) domestic supplies of the fuel market for urban vehicles – ethanol - and the attempts to export ethanol surplus (especially with the political transformation of ethanol into tradable goods – commodity - in the world market), (2.2) secondarily, the export of sugar cane production and the domestic food supply of Brazilian urban centres. The perceived variations in the period of analysis of the government agencies behaviour – 1930-2012 – coincides with the spatial displacement of the Brazilian population, and with the displacements of the dynamic sugar cane economic centres: first, the urbanisation and population migration from the countryside to the cities, and second, the displacement of dynamic centres of sugar cane culture, from Brazil northeastern coast to South-central and Midwest Brazil.

Keywords: Brazilian agencies, energy, food, sugar cane