

# Yi Wang

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**Research Interests** Agricultural/Food Economics, Industrial Organization

<b>Education</b>	<b>Purdue University</b>	Ph.D. Candidate, expected May 2026
	<b>University of California, Davis</b>	June 2020
	M.S. in Agricultural and Resource Economics	
	<b>China Three Gorges University</b>	June 2019
	M.S. in Technology Economics and Management	
	<b>China Three Gorges University</b>	June 2016
	B.M.S. in Logistics Management	

<b>Job Market Paper</b>	<b>Testing Vertical Relationships in the US Infant Formula Market: Implications for Government Costs and Welfare</b> <i>Abstract:</i> The US Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides free infant formula to low-income households, serving around 39% of US infants and accounting for over half of all domestically sold formula—making it a substantial government expenditure. To reduce government costs, WIC awards exclusive contracts to manufacturers offering the lowest net price in each state and collects rebates from the winning bidders via public auction, effectively creating government-sanctioned monopolies in WIC markets. The broader implications of this policy hinge on vertical relationships between manufacturers and retailers, which remain poorly understood. I identify the vertical relationship as best characterized by two-part tariffs, where retailers pay fixed fees to manufacturers and wholesale markups are zero. Counterfactual analyses show that, when pricing control shifts to manufacturers, average retail prices increase by 3.79%, producer surplus rises by 2.17%, and consumer surplus declines by 7.44%. I also observe heterogeneous price responses for WIC auction winners and losers. Notably, winners generally raise prices when granted retail pricing power. These findings underscore the importance of firm conduct in shaping program outcomes.
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<b>Publications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Wang, Yi.</b> 2024. Do High Rebates Guarantee High-Cost Savings? Purdue Agricultural Economics Report, May 15, 2024. PAER-2024-19.</li><li>• Consoli, S., Fraysse, E.A., Slipchenko, N., <b>Wang, Y.</b>, Amirebrahimi, J., Qin, Z., Yazma, N., and Lybbert, T.J., 2022. A “Sideways” Supply Response in California Winegrapes. <i>Journal of Wine Economics</i> 17(1), 42-63</li><li>• Zhao, X., <b>Wang, Y.</b>, and Daun, Y. 2018. Study on the effect of the employment structural adjustment on land transfer of reservoir resettlement — based on immigrants in south-to-north water diversion project. <i>Chinese Journal of Agricultural Resources and Regional Planning</i> 39(10), 204-212. [In Chinese]</li></ul>
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<b>Policy &amp; Extension Outputs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• USDA Report: Processor-Retailer Relationship in the US Beef Supply Chain: Preliminary Analysis Report, <i>With Joseph V Balagtas, Meilin Ma, and Juan P. Sesmero.</i></li><li>• Regional Industry Cluster Drill-Down Series, <i>With Indraneel Kumar and Roberto Gallardo.</i></li><li>• Indiana Creative Economy 2022 Report, <i>With Indraneel Kumar and Roberto Gallardo.</i></li></ul>
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<b>Works in Progress</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Markets for Private Label and National Brand Beef, <i>With Joseph V Balagtas, Meilin Ma, and Juan P. Sesmero.</i></li> <li>• Supply shock and infant formula prices: evidence from the US</li> </ul>
<b>Conferences &amp; Invited Presentations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AAEA 2025 Annual Meeting, July 2025</li> <li>• EAAE 2025 Congress, August 2025</li> <li>• SEA 95th Annual Meeting, November 2025</li> <li>• AEA 2026 Annual Meeting, January 2026</li> </ul>
<b>Teaching Experience</b>	<p><b>Instructor, Purdue University</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AGECE 516 Mathematical Tools for Agricultural &amp; Applied Economics, Fall 2024 Average instructor rate: 4.67/5</li> <li>• PhD Math Camp, Summer 2024</li> </ul> <p><b>Teaching Assistant</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AGECE 516 Mathematical Tools For Agricultural &amp; Applied Economics, Fall 2022 &amp; 2023</li> <li>• ARE 106 Econometric Theory &amp; Applications, University of California, Davis, Spring 2020</li> </ul>
<b>Awards &amp; Honors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AAEA Teaching Academy Travel Grant, AAEA Trust, 2025</li> <li>• Nominee, College of Agriculture Graduate Student Excellence in Teaching Award, Purdue University, 2025</li> <li>• 1st place, USDA AMS-GSS Competition Local Food Economics Data Visualization Challenge (in-person), 2023</li> <li>• National Graduate Scholarship, Ministry of Education, PRC</li> <li>• National Undergraduate Scholarship, Ministry of Education, PRC</li> <li>• First-Level Scholarship , China Three Gorges University</li> <li>• Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Award, China Three Gorges University</li> <li>• Nominee, Top Ten Outstanding Youth Awards, College of Economics and Management, China Three Gorges University</li> </ul>
<b>Research Experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Research Assistant</b> for Professor Juan P. Sesmero, Purdue University, January 2025 - Present</li> <li>• <b>Research Assistant</b> for Professor Meilin Ma &amp; Professor Juan P. Sesmero, Purdue University, September 2023 - Present</li> <li>• <b>Research Assistant</b> for Professor Meilin Ma, Purdue University, May 2022 - September 2024</li> <li>• <b>Research Assistant</b> for Dr. Roberto Gallardo and Dr. Indraneel Kumar, Purdue Center for Regional Development, Purdue University, August 2021 - May 2023</li> <li>• <b>Research Assistant</b> for Professor Jianhua Zhao, China Three Gorges University, April 2015 – July 2018</li> </ul>
<b>Professional Development &amp; Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mentee</b>, AAEA Second Annual Teaching Academy Workshop, July 2025</li> <li>• <b>Panelist</b>, Graduate School Overview Session, SCARF Undergraduate Summer Research Program, Purdue University, June 2025</li> <li>• <b>Workshop Co-leader</b>, Designing Scientific Research Posters, SCARF Undergraduate Summer Research Program, Purdue University, June 2025</li> <li>• <b>Mentee</b>, AAEA First Annual Teaching Academy Workshop, July 2024</li> <li>• <b>Mentee</b>, AAEA Teaching Academy Webinars, September 2024 – May 2025</li> </ul>

- **Vice President**, Graduate Student Organization (GSO), Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University, June 2024 – May 2025
- **Academic Chair**, Graduate Student Organization (GSO), Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University, June 2023 – May 2024

## **Skills**

- Data analysis and visualization: Python, R, STATA, ArcGIS, Tableau, GeoDa, Julia
- Languages: Chinese (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Beginner)