

**International Association for Mission Studies
15th General Assembly**

**Powers, Inequalities, and Vulnerabilities:
Mission in a Wounded World
Sydney, Australia
July 9-14, 2020**

Our Agricultural Crisis: An Earthy Missional Theology

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Abstract

In Australia and across the world one can witness the effects of a broken food system, such that we find ourselves looking at the possibility of a major agricultural crisis. Current hopes for a resolution to this impending crisis are generally pinned to technology, despite the various problems associated with the use of agricultural technologies over recent decades. This paper argues that farming and food production constitutes an aspect of Christian mission and, utilising the NT notion of *krisis* (judgement) as opportunity for repentance, suggests that our agricultural crisis is a missional opportunity for the church since the church has spiritual, practical, and traditional resources that are necessary for a new agricultural paradigm. In light of these resources, the paper makes some provisional suggestions related to three missiological categories: relationship, contextualisation, and participation, each contributing to what a movement towards a way of thinking that Ellen Davis calls "agrarianism."