

IRSA - CONGRESSO MUNDIAL DE SOCIOLOGIA RURAL (01/10/2025 A
20/01/2026) - IRSA 15 - BEYOND URBAN AND RURAL SOCIOLOGY:
TOWARDS A SPATIALISED AND CIRCULATORY ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL
STRUCTURE

**RURAL-URBAN MOBILITY AND MULTIPLE RESIDENCES OF
TRANSHUMANT FARMING FAMILIES IN NORTHEASTERN NEUQUÉN
(ARGENTINA)**

Sofía Ailen Lammel (sofialammel@gmail.com)

Transhumance is a practice that persists in rural areas of northern Neuquén (Argentina), associated with a mobile way of life and production. It consists of the transfer of shepherds and their animals to different ecological zones depending on the seasons, with the aim of providing water and natural pastures. It is carried out by families who mainly raise goats, with a family-based organization of work and under precarious conditions of occupation on public lands.

This work aims to understand the strategies of rural-urban mobility developed by farming families in Coyuco and Cochico, two rural areas located in northeastern Neuquén. It is based on an ethnographic study that used interviews, participant observation, and cartographic techniques, integrating geography as a fundamental discipline in the analysis. It is part of doctoral research carried out

in these areas between 2019 and 2023, which analyzed the life stories and strategies developed by families to persist with their peasant mode of production and way of life in a global context dominated by capitalist relations of production.

Coyuco and Cochico are characterized by their geographical isolation and by continuing to rely on temporary mobility between different rural areas, the cyclical rhythm linked to nature, and the movement of animals in transhumance. However, in recent decades, various strategies of rural-urban mobility have also been observed among farming families, especially in Coyuco, which are reconfiguring the organization of work within their families according to their life cycle and dual or triple residence. These strategies are associated with access to goods and services offered by nearby towns (such as education, health care, and commercialization), as well as informal jobs that supplement their farm income.

Palabras-chave: transhumance; rural-urban mobility; family livestock farming; life cycles; neuquén.