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Titolo	Farming transformed in Anglo-Saxon England : agriculture in the long eighth century // Mark McKarracher
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ISBN	1-911188-34-8 1-911188-32-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (165 pages) : illustrations, tables
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Nota di contenuto	; Machine generated contents note: ; 1. The lie of the land -- England in the `long eighth century' -- Rationale and scope of this study -- Beating the bounds: natural environments in the study regions -- ; 2. Farm and field -- Fields -- Meadows -- Ploughs -- Farms -- Conclusions -- ; 3. Beast and bone -- The importance of sheep -- The importance of wool -- Conclusions -- ; 4. The growth of arable -- Settlements and structures -- Arable environments -- Introducing the charred plant remains -- Charred crop deposits and arable growth -- Conclusions -- ; 5. The changing harvest -- Wheat, barley, oat and rye -- The accidental harvest -- Beyond the cereals -- Conclusions -- ; 6. Farming transformed.
Sommario/riassunto	Anglo-Saxon farming has traditionally been seen as the wellspring of English agriculture, setting the pattern for 1000 years to come - but it was more important than that. A rich harvest of archaeological data is now revealing the untold story of agricultural innovation, the beginnings of a revolution, in the age of Bede. Armed with a powerful new dataset, Farming Transformed explores fundamental questions about the minutiae of early medieval farming and its wider relevance. How old were sheep left to grow, for example, and what pathologies

did cattle sustain? What does wheat chaff have to do with lordship and the market economy? What connects ovens in Roman Germany with barley maltings in early medieval Northamptonshire? And just how interested were Saxon nuns in cultivating the opium poppy? *Farming Transformed* is the first book to draw together the variegated evidence of pollen, sediments, charred seeds, animal bones, watermills, corn-drying ovens, granaries and stockyards on an extensive, regional scale. The result is an inter-disciplinary dataset of unprecedented scope and size, which reveals how cereal cultivation boomed, and new watermills, granaries and ovens were erected to cope with - and flaunt - the fat of the land. As arable farming grew at the expense of pasture, sheep and cattle came under closer management and lived longer lives, yielding more wool, dairy goods, and traction power for ploughing. These and other innovations are found to be concentrated at royal, aristocratic and monastic centres, placing lordship at the forefront of agricultural innovation, and farming as the force behind kingdom-formation and economic resurgence in the seventh and eighth centuries.--

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