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Nota di contenuto	Intro -- Contents -- Contributors -- I. GENERAL INTRODUCTION -- 1. Alternative Approaches to the Theory of Institutions in Economic Development -- 2. Rational Peasants, Efficient Institutions, and a Theory of Rural Organization: Methodological Remarks for Development Economics -- II. LAND AND LABOUR -- 3. Theories of Sharecropping -- 4. A Comparison of Principal-Agent and Bargaining Solutions: The Case of Tenancy Contracts -- 5. Contracts with Eviction in Infinitely Repeated Principal-Agent Relationships -- 6. Production Relations in Semi-arid African Agriculture -- III. CREDIT AND INTERLINKED TRANSACTIONS -- 7. Rural Credit Markets: The Structure of Interest Rates, Exploitation, and Efficiency -- 8. Credit and Agrarian Class Structure -- 9. Credit Rationing, Tenancy, Productivity, and the Dynamics of Inequality -- 10. On Choice among Creditors and Bonded Labour Contracts -- 11. Some Aspects of Linked Product and Credit Market Contracts among Risk-neutral Agents -- 12. A Note on Interlinked Rural Economic Arrangements -- 13. Interlinkages and the Pattern of Competition -- IV. MARKETING AND INSURANCE -- 14. Agricultural Institutions for Insurance and Stabilization -- 15. Peasants' Risk Aversion and the Choice of Marketing Intermediaries and Contracts: A Bargaining Theory of Equilibrium Marketing Contracts -- V. CO-OPERATIVES, TECHNOLOGY, AND THE STATE -- 16. Agricultural Producer Co-operatives -- 17. Institutional Analysis of Credit Co-

operatives -- 18. Agrarian Structure, Technological Innovations, and the State -- Bibliography -- Index.

Sommario/riassunto

Many economists accept that institutions are of fundamental importance, although the analysis of their formation and behaviour has remained largely undiscussed. In this collection of papers, the contributors seek to demonstrate that advanced economic theory provides tools which may usefully be applied to an understanding of the operation of institutions, in this case with particular and significant implications for the problems faced by poor agrarian economies. They show that sound theoretical analysis can enable economists to reach conclusions that will enable practitioners to avoid many pitfalls in the formation and implementation of development policies, both within individual countries and in the context of international aid. Academic and policy-oriented researchers in development economics, agricultural economics and institutional economics should all find this work of value.
