



Urbanistica n. 128
September-December 2005

Distribution by www.planum.net

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**The viability of the
Agricultural park and
ongoing re-interpretations***Francesco Coviello, Giorgio
Ferraresi*

This contribution is the introduction to a repertory of cases, leading to a phase of redefinition of the topic of the Agricultural Park.

The repertory of experiences emphasises the strong redesigning under way of the planning practices based on the strategic value of the Agricultural Park intended as a tool, an operating and design option aiming at defining the development of potential open spaces by promoting processes of protection and exploitation of local cultures and agricultural productions typical of the rural district involved. Thus a strategy oriented towards the protection and the exploitation of primary production on the one hand, on the other hand targeted at the cultural and playing enjoyment of environment by citizens.

Consequently the analysis of such experiences takes a founding connotation as it makes more complex the theorisation of the Agricultural Park because attention is centred on the growing structuring of social networks, institutionalised according to various degrees, capable of directing planning tools at different levels and wanting to redefine the supply of foods on the basis of the quality, the specificity and identity of the product itself.

We are dealing with a comprehensive survey of experiences testing solutions intended for relaunching the planning of open spaces. Therefore such a reading leads to a set of problems which seem to show a kind of cultural change of great importance. Finally, it can be pointed out with special reference to the process of structuring of social networks, how the

assumption of the pressing needs related to the themes of local development within the classic process of planning may be read once again in terms of social processes.