The Influence of Location on Rural Industrial Development in Beijing Suburbs : A GIS Analysis

Xiaoping Shen

Department of Geography ,Central Connecticut State University 165 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT 06050-4010

Abstract

Rural industrial development in Beijing suburban area has experienced a rapid growth since economic reforms. The spatial pattern of rural industrial development has been influenced by location factors that reflect market forces and government policies. Using GIS, this paper reveals an unbalanced spatial pattern of rural industrial development, and analyzes relationship between rural industrial development and location factors at township level in Beijing suburbs. The optimum location areas that are identified by major factors of industrial location theory have a high correlation with those towns and townships that have highly developed rural industry. This result shows a significant influence of market forces on the spatial pattern of rural industrialization in national capital region.