

# Multi Functionality of Sawah systems: Why sawah based rice farming is critical for Africa's green revolution

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SMART IV kickoff workshop from 16-17<sup>th</sup> August 2010, Africa Rice, Cotonou



**No Sawah, No Green Revolution**

Inland valley, Sierra Leone, Jan.89

Guinea, Aug.03

Water control through Sawah system is prerequisite for Green Revolution in SSA



Fish & Rice

Nupe's indigenous rudimentary Sawah system, Nigeria, Sep.05

CRI/JICA Sawah project, Ghana, Aug.01

# What is the core technology for African Rice Green Revolution?

## (Three Essential Technologies)

1, High Yielding Varieties (HYV)

2, Soil, fertilizer and pest management (Fertilizer)

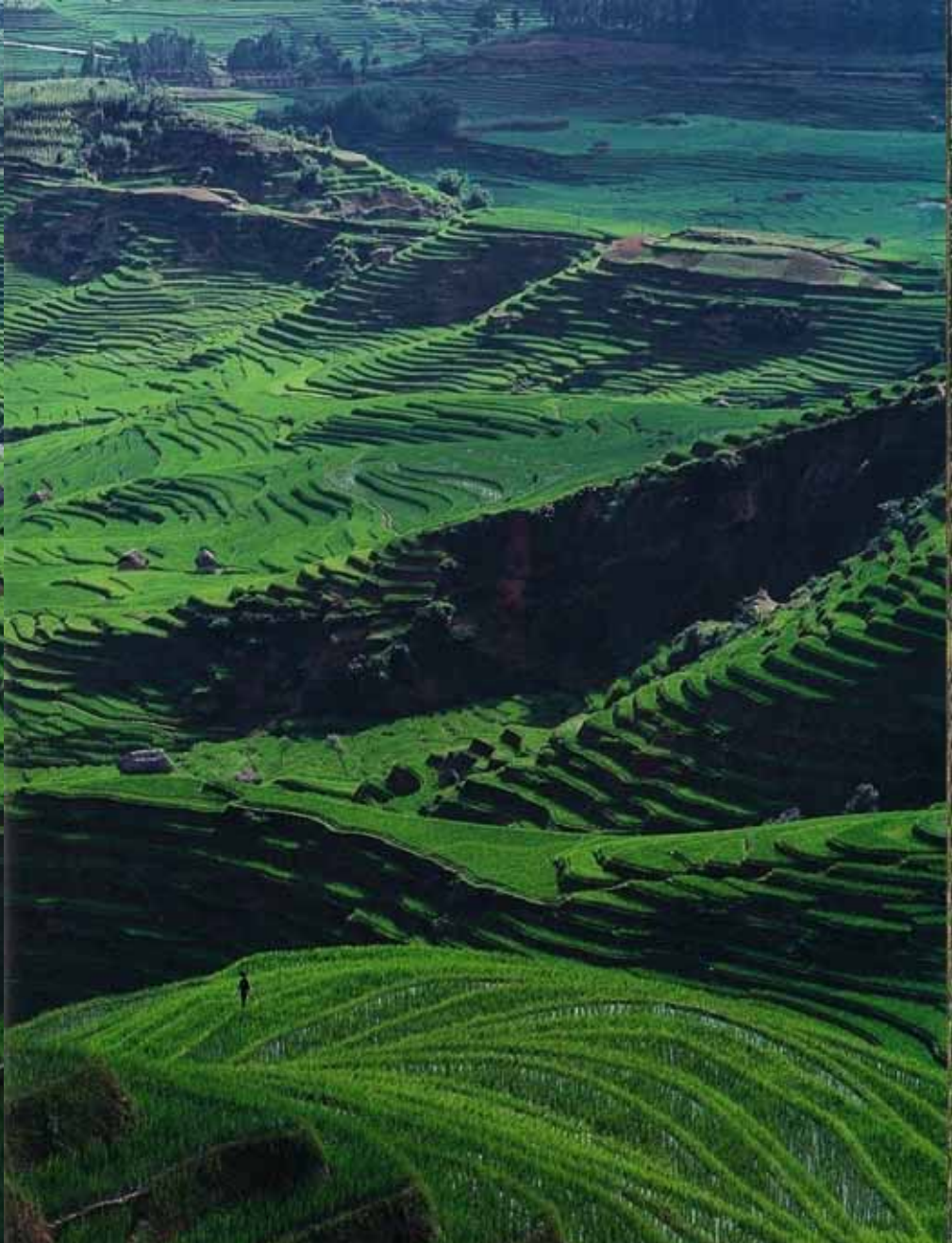
3, Water management (Irrigation)

After the dramatic success by CYMMET and IRRI in 1970s in Latin America and Asia, various HYVs were available in Sub Sahara Africa during last 40 years, 1970-2010.

**However, the green revolution is yet realized in Sub Sahara Africa.**

**Why ? Are there any missing factors?**





**Sawah systems developed & managed by Chinese Farmers (Otsuka 2004)**



Forest Destruction by Shifting Upland Paddy Cultivation in Guinea Highland: **Upland rice can not be sustainable without sawah or soil conservation measures**

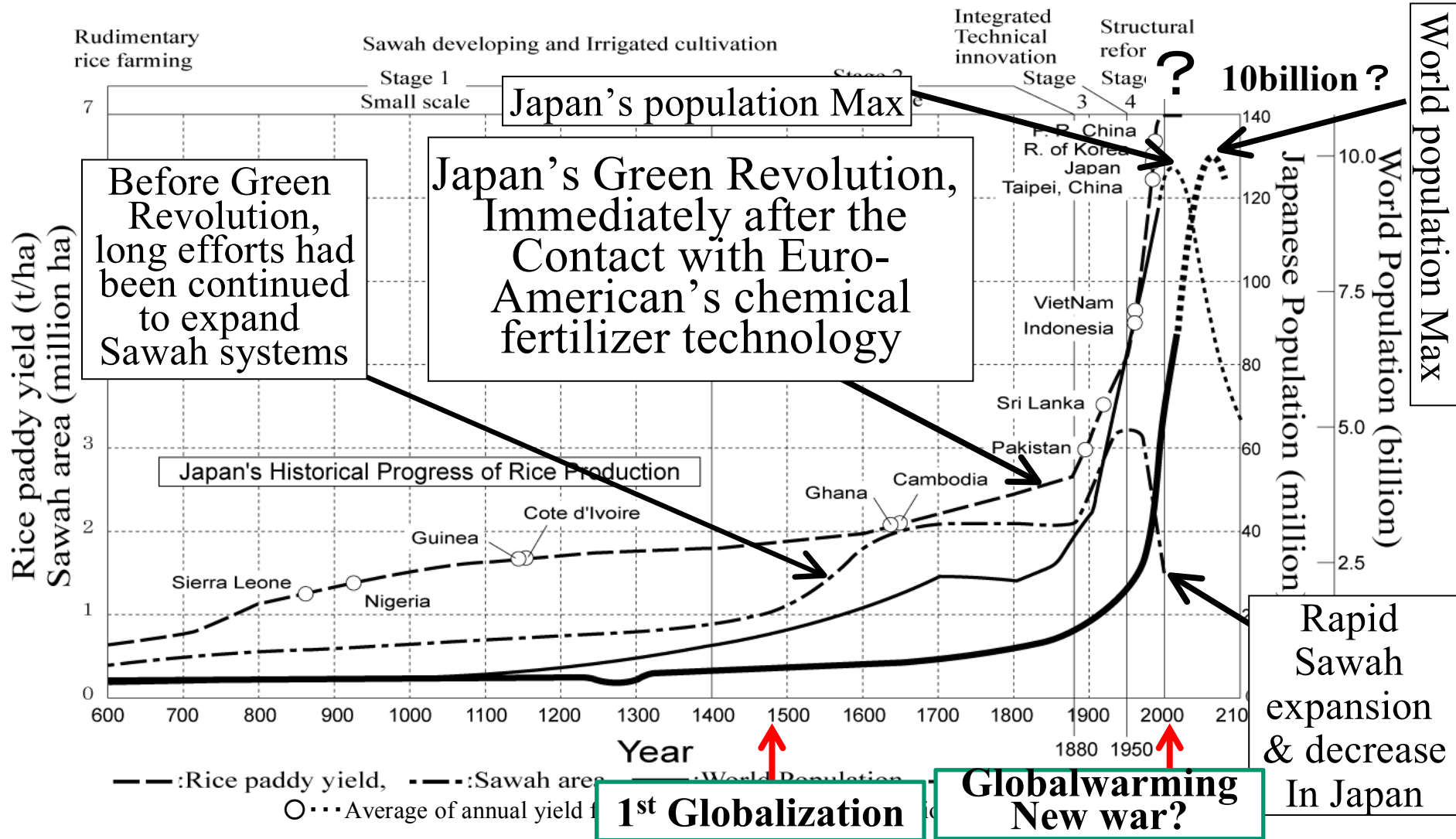




Terraced sawah systems at Inland Valley, Asuka, Nara, one of the oldest in Japan, established 1500 years ago through the efforts by Korean emigrants



# Farmers' sawah fields are the most important infrastructure :Farmers' Fields come the first: Japanese Experiences



Population, Rice yields & Sawah area of historical path in Japan in comparison with Asia & Africa Takase & Kano,1969, modified





**Lowland paddy field at Sokawe, Kumasi, Ghana  
Three Green Revolution technologies can't apply**





**Once Sawah system was developed, yield can reach at least 4t/ha. If improved rice agronomy can practice, such as System Rice Intensification, yield reach to 10t/ha (CRI sawah team, Ghana)**





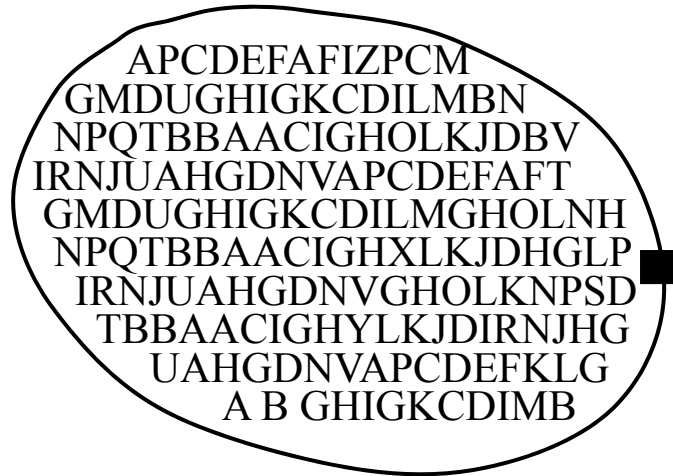
SRI practice needs good leveling and water control based on Sawah, Sumatra, Aug, 10



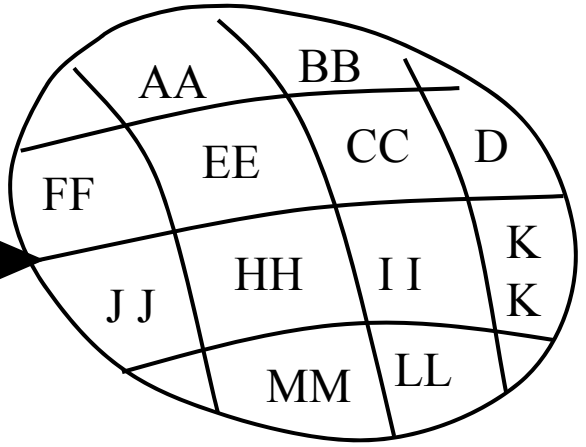




**Farmers' Paddy Fields:**  
**Diverse and mixed up**  
**environment. No clear**  
**field demarcations**



**Sawah demarcates land based on**  
**topography, hydrology and soils,**  
**which make possible water control.**  
**Then green revolution technology of**  
**fertilizer, irrigation and HYV are**  
**useful.**



**Fertilizer, Irrigation, and HYV**  
**are not effective No Green**  
**Revolution possible**

**Sawah based**  
**Farming system**

**Fig. Sawah hypothesis (I): Farmers Sawah should comes**  
**the first to realize green revolution. Scientific technologies**  
**needs classified demarcated land eco-technologically**



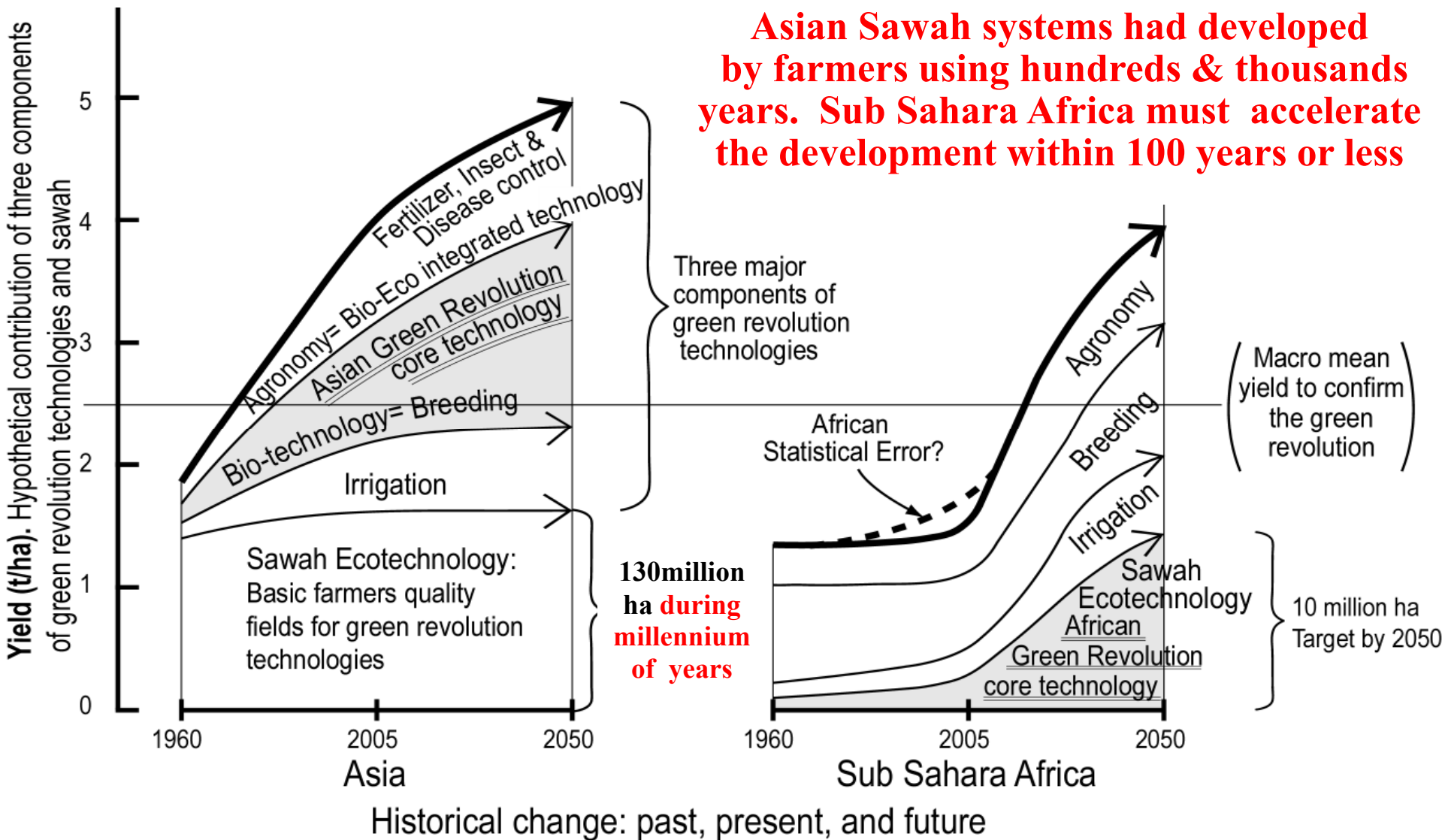
No proper English/French & local language in West Africa to describe eco-technological concept and term to improve farmers' rice fields,  
**Sawah or SUIDEN (in Japanese)**

**Suiden**(Japanese) = **SAWAH**(Malay-Indonesian)

	English	Indonesian	Chinese (漢字)
<b>Plant</b>	<b>Rice</b>	<b>Nasi</b>	米, 飯, 稻
<b>Biotechnology</b>	<b>Paddy</b>	<b>Padi</b>	稻, 粳
<b>Environment</b>			
<b>Ecotechnology</b>	<b>(Paddy) ?</b>	<b>Sawah</b>	<b>水田</b>



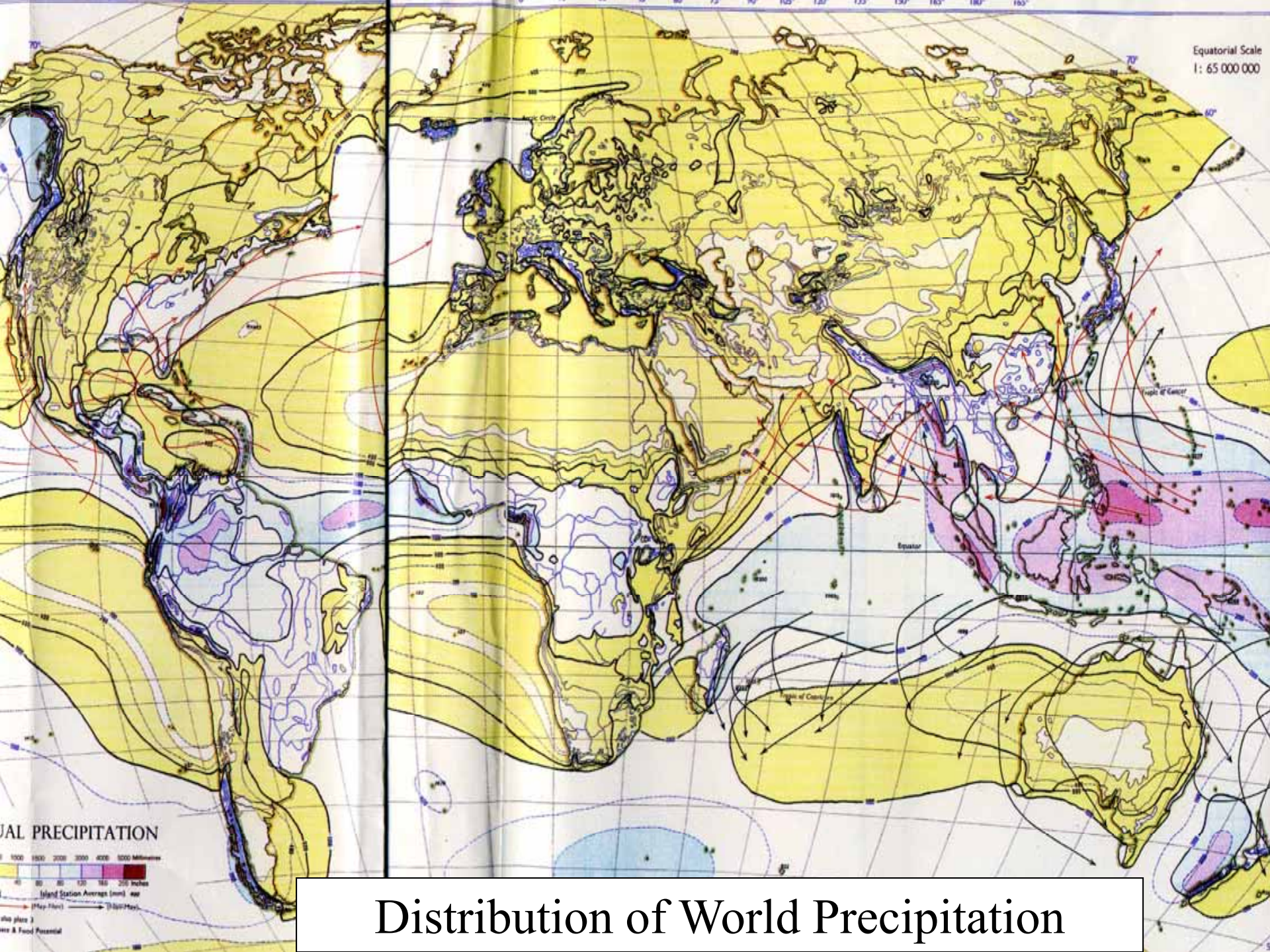
**Asian Sawah systems had developed by farmers using hundreds & thousands years. Sub Sahara Africa must accelerate the development within 100 years or less**



## **Sawah hypothesis (I) for Africa Green Revolution:**

**hypothetical contribution of three green revolution technologies & sawah system development during 1960-2050. Bold lines during 1960-2005 are mean rice yield by FAOSTAT 2006. Bold lines during 2005-2050 are the estimation by the authors.**





Distribution of World Precipitation



Can watersheds of SSA sustain Sawah system? High rate of soil erosion and lowland sawah soil formation can be compensated by high rate of soil formation in Asia. However soil formation, soil erosion and hence lowland soil formation are **very low (only 10-20%)** in comparison with Asian watersheds

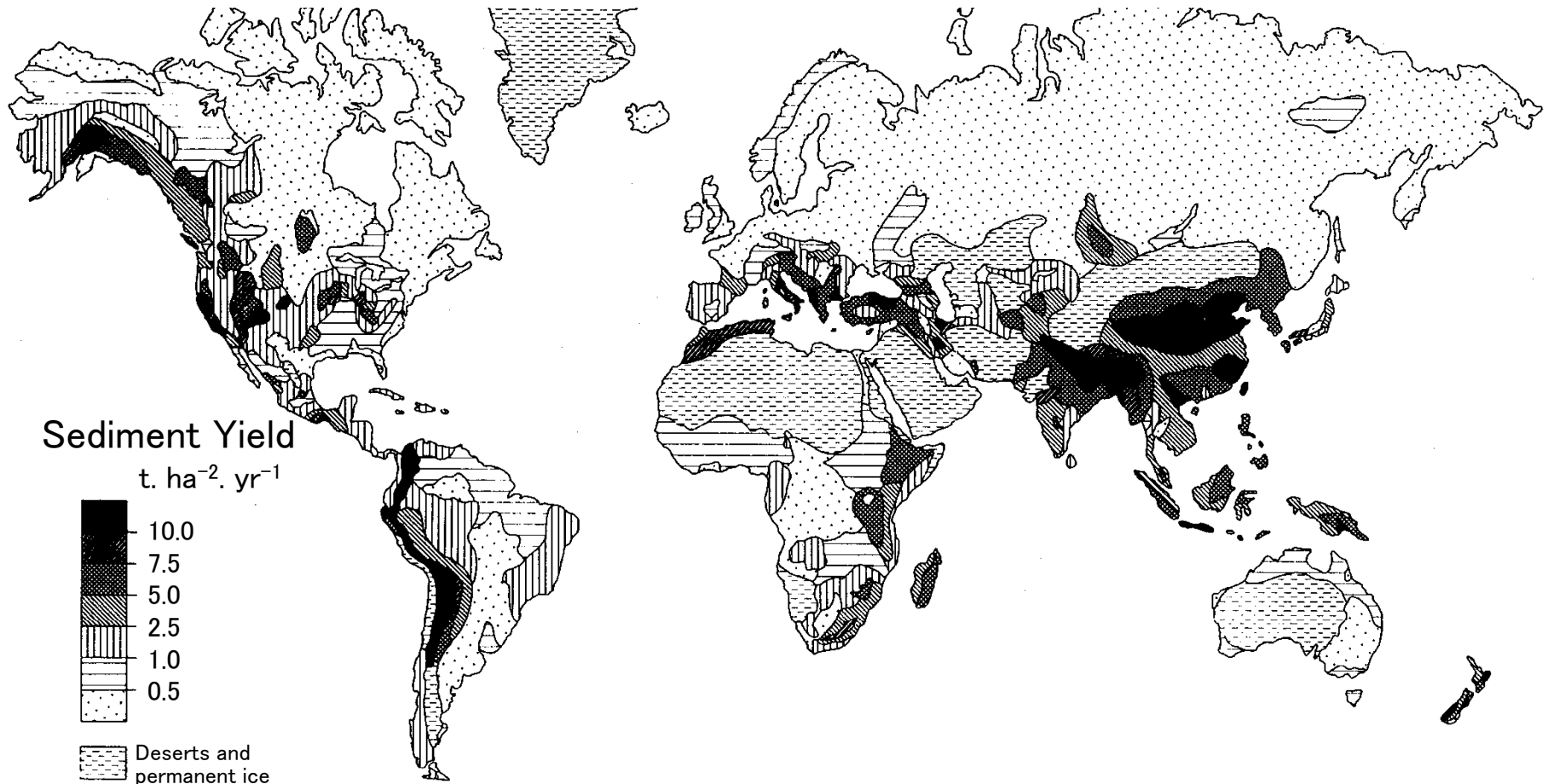


Fig.8. Rate of soils erosion in the world (Walling1983)

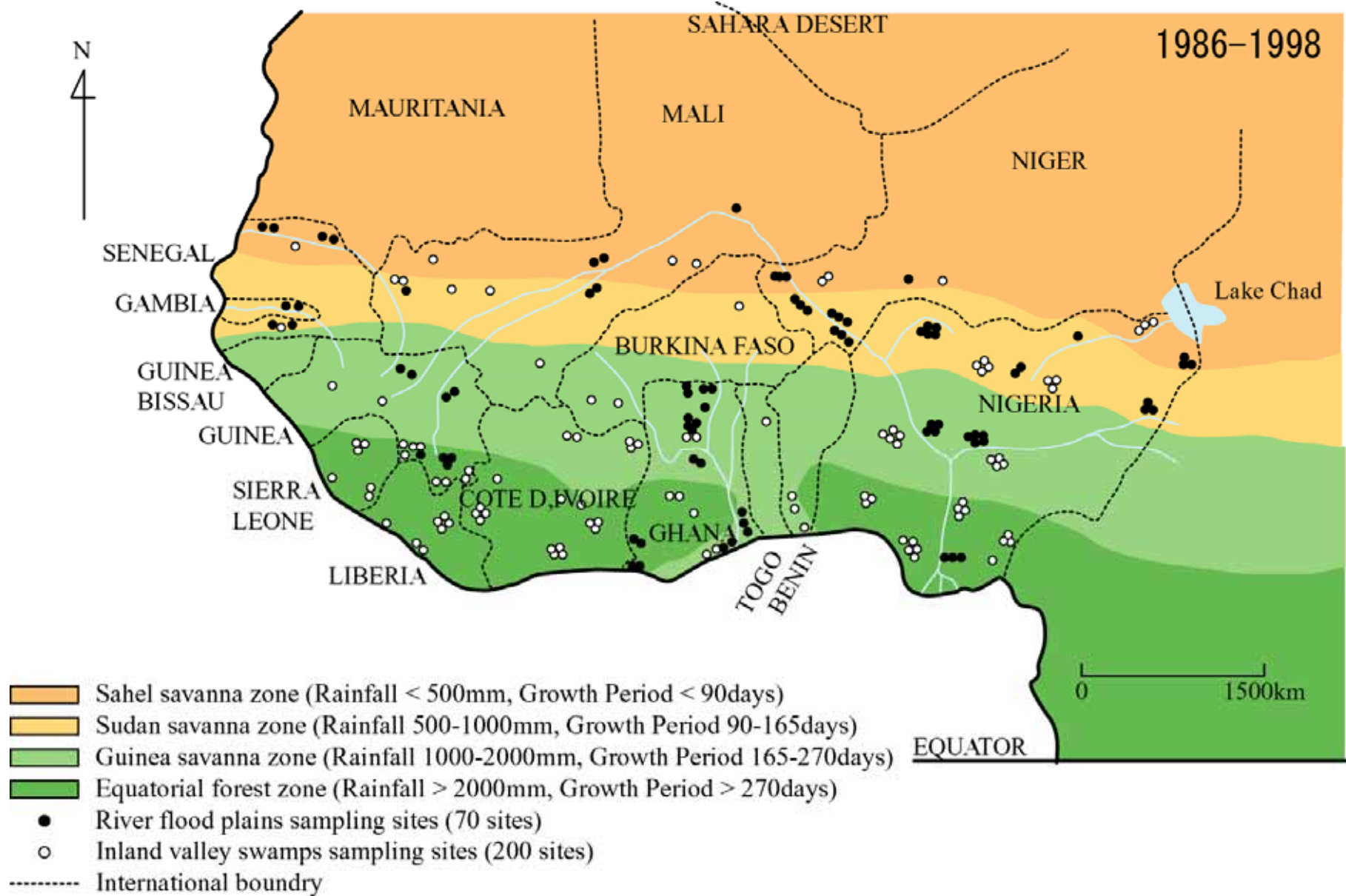


Table 1 Distribution of lowlands and potential irrigated sawah in SSA (Hekstra, Andriessse, Windmeijer 1983 & 1993, Potential Sawah area estimate by Wakatsuki 2002)

Classification	Area (million ha)	Area and potential sawah development(%)	
Coastal swamps	17	4-9	million ha (25-50%)
Inland basins	108	1-5	million ha (1-5%)
Flood plains	30	8-15	million ha(25-50%)
Inland valleys	85	9-20	million ha(10-25%)

Priority target is the inland valley because of easier water control  
Max 20million ha (Estimated sawah area came from the relative amount of water cycle in Monsoon Asia, which has 130 million ha of sawah)





West Africa map showing selected sampling sites of lowland soils. (Buri and Issaka et al)



Mean values of fertility properties of inland valleys (IVS) and flood plains (FLP) of West Africa in comparison with lowland top-soils of tropical Asia and Japan

Location	Total C (%)	Total N (%)	Available P (ppm)**	Exchangeable Cation (cmol/kg)				Sand (%)	Clay (%)	CEC /Clay
				Ca	K	Mg	eCEC			
IVS	1.3	0.11	9	1.9	0.3	0.9	4.2	60	17	25
FLP	1.1	0.10	7	5.6	0.5	2.7	10.3	48	29	36
T. Asia*	1.4	0.13	18	10.4	0.4	5.5	17.8	34	38	47
Japan	3.3	0.29	57	9.3	0.4	2.8	12.9	49	21	61

\*Kawaguchi and Kyuma (529 sites), 1977,\*\* Bray II.

Source: Hirose and Wakatsuki (268 sites), 1997.



# How can we overcome low level nutrients & scarce water in Sub Sahara Africa

**Basic infrastructure for rice farmers fields to make useful scientific technologies , such as lowland sawah systems is the answer**

- The integrated management of lowland & upland, for example, SATOYAMA type watershed agro-forestry, is also key eco-technology
- The core region of West Africa has similar climate, soil, hydrology, and crops to northeastern Thailand: Asian African collaboration in future

**(1) Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, and Burudi have fertile soils because of orogenic activities**

**(2) Madagascar and Zanzibar have their own traditional sawah systems because of the long relation with Indonesian and Asian**

# Sawah hypothesis(II): Sustainable Productivity of lowland Sawah is more than 10 times than Upland Field

1ha sawah is equivalent to 10-15ha of upland

	Upland	Lowland(Sawah)
Area (%)	95 %	5 %
Productivity (t/ha)	1-3 $1 \leq^{**}$	3-6 $2^{**}$
Required area for sustainable 1 ha cropping*	5 ha	: 1 ha

\* Assuming 2 years cultivation and 8 years fallow in sustainable upland cultivation, while no fallow in sawah

**\*\*In Case of No fertilization**



# **Multi Functionality of Sawah Systems**

## **I. Intensive and diverse nature of productivity**

- (1) Weed control**
- (2) Nitrogen fixation ecosystems: 20 to 200kgN/ha/year**
- (3) *To increase Phosphate availability: concerted effect on N fixation***
- (4) pH neutralizing ecosystems: to increase micro nutrient availability**
- (5) *Geological & irrigation fertilization: water, nutrients and topsoil from upland***
- (6) Various sawah based farming systems.**
- (7) Fish and rice, Goose and sawah, Birds and sawah, Forest and Sawah**

## **II. To combat Global warming and other environmental problems**

- (1) **Carbon sequestration through control of oxygen supply.** Methane emission under submerged condition. Nitrous oxide emission under aerobic rice**
- (2) *Watershed agroforestry, SATOYAMA, to generate forest at upland***
- (3) Sawah systems as to control flooding & soil erosion and to generate electricity**
- (4) Denitrification of nitrate polluted water**

## **III. To create cultural landscape and social collaboration**

- (1) *Terraced sawah as beautiful cultural landscape***
- (2) Fair water distribution systems for collaboration and fair society**

# Comparison between Biotechnology and Sawah Ecotechnology Options for Rice Production

- (1) Water shortage: Genes for deep rooting, C4-nature, and Osmotic regulation.** Eco-technology of Sawah based soil and water management, bunding, leveling, puddling, and surface smoothing with various irrigations, Aerobic rice, System rice intensification
- (2) Poor nutrition, acidity and alkalinity: Gene of Phosphate and micronutrient transporter.** Eco-technology of Sawah based N fixation, increase P availability and micro- as well as macronutrient. Geological fertilization and watershed agroforestry(SATOYAMA systems), organic matter and fertilization. Bird feculent are rich in P.
- (3) Weed control: Gene of weed competition, rapid growth.** Eco-technology of Sawah based weed management through water control. and tans-planting. Leveling quality and surface smoothing of sawah are important. Duck and rice farming.
- (4) Pest and disease control: Various Resistance genes.** Eco-technology of Sawah based silica and other nutrients supply to enhance immune mechanisms of rice. Mixed cropping.
- (5) Food quality: Vitamine rice gene.** Sawah based nutrition control. Fish, duck and rice in sawah systems



Weeds are stronger: upland rice, Bida



No ecotechnology measures



Nupe's indigenous partial water control system



Inland Valley, Sierra Leone



Once Sawah systems are developed by farmers' self-support efforts and water is controlled, majority of HYV can produce higher than 5 t/ha

**Table Mean gain yield of 23 rice cultivars in low land ecologies at **low (LIL)** and **high input levels (HIL)**, Ashanti, Ghana (Ofori & Wakatsuki, 2005)**

Entry No. Cultivar		← ECOTECHNOLOGICAL YIELD IMPROVEMENT						
		<u>Irrigated Sawah</u>		<u>Rainfed sawah</u>		<u>Upland like fields</u>		
		HIL	LIL	HIL	LIL	HIL	LIL	
		(t/ha)		(t/ha)		(t/ha)		
<b>BIOTECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENT</b>	1	WAB	4.6	2.9	2.8	1.6	2.1	0.6
	2	EMOK	4.0	2.8	2.9	1.3	1.4	0.5
	3	PSBRC34	7.7	3.5	3.0	2.1	2.0	0.4
	4	PSBRC54	8.0	3.7	3.8	2.1	1.7	0.4
	5	PSBRC66	5.7	3.3	3.8	2.0	1.8	0.4
	6	BOAK189	7.0	3.8	3.7	2.0	1.4	0.3
	7	WITA 8	7.8	4.2	4.4	2.1	1.8	0.5
	8	Tox3108	7.1	4.1	4.0	2.3	2.3	0.6
	9	IR5558	7.9	4.0	3.8	2.0	1.8	0.5
	10	IR58088	7.7	4.0	3.7	1.8	1.4	0.3
	11	IR54742	7.7	4.3	4.0	2.2	1.9	0.4
	12	C123CU	6.9	4.1	4.2	1.9	2.0	0.4
	13	CT9737	6.5	4.0	4.0	1.7	1.9	0.6
	14	CT8003	7.3	3.8	3.8	1.7	2.0	0.5
	15	CT9737-P	8.2	4.0	4.3	1.8	1.2	0.5
	16	WITA1	7.6	3.6	3.3	1.8	0.9	0.3
	17	WITA3	7.6	3.5	4.1	2.0	1.3	0.5
	18	WITA4	8.0	4.1	3.7	2.1	1.5	0.3
	19	WITA6	8.0	3.5	4.0	2.3	1.4	0.3
	20	WITA7	7.3	3.7	3.8	2.2	2.0	0.4
	21	WITA9	7.6	4.4	4.5	2.8	2.0	0.6
	22	WITA12	7.6	4.0	3.8	1.9	1.8	0.4
	23	GK88	7.5	3.8	3.5	2.0	1.8	0.5
<b>Mean (n=23)</b>		<b>7.2</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>0.4</b>	
Range		(4.0-8.2)	(2.8-4.4)	(2.8-4.5)	(1.3-2.8)	(0.9-2.3)	(0.3-0.6)	
SD		1.51	0.81	0.81	0.45	0.44	0.12	

Because of cost of green revolution technology, yield must be higher than 4t/ha





Sawah based rice production: Ecotechnology for Food,  
Environment, Landscape, and Culture(Multi-functionality)

(World Heritage, Ifugao people, Philippine,Koudansha Co. Ltd, 1998)





**Nasi Padang, Indonesian Sawah restaurant, 1 Aug. 2010**



**Sawah is ecotechnology based Multi-Functional constructed Wetland: Production, Environment, and Cultural landscape (JICA sawah project)**



Termite mound

**Inland valley, Ashanti, Ghana, 2001**



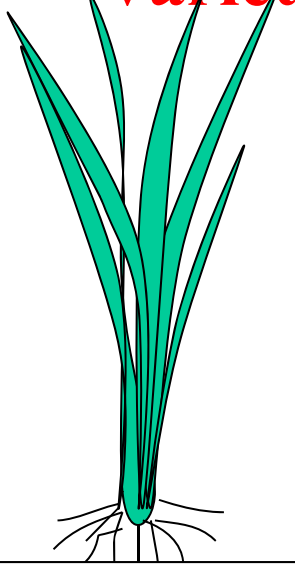
Biemso No.1, Zongo site in 2002  
Pudding, soil moving & leveling





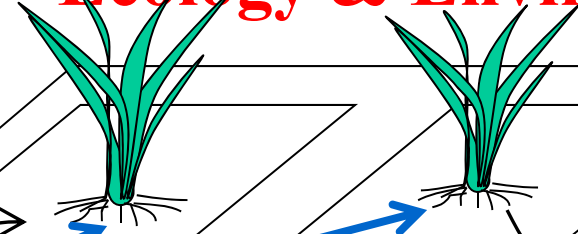
# Bio-technology and Eco-technology

**Breeding to improve Variety**



**Sawah to improve Ecology & Environment**

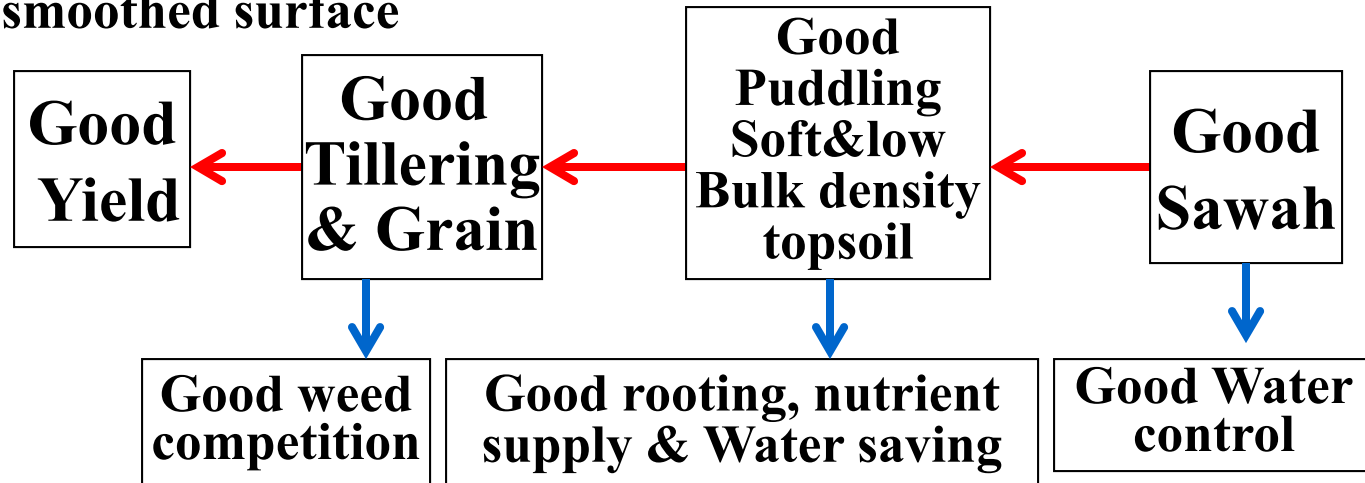
**Water in (irrigation)**



**Water out (drainage)**

Sawah is a man-made, improved rice-growing environment with demarcated, banded, leveled, puddled fields and smoothed surface

Varieties could solve **the main problems** in Asia. Is this also true in SSA? **No! , last 40 years experiences**



**Fig. Rice (variety) and environment (Sawah) improvement. Both Bio & Eco-technologies must be developed in appropriate balance**

**Mr. Tawiah** and his rice, growing on sawah about 4ha developed by himself, with CRI/SRI, and JIRCAS scientists, August 2009. This original site of JICA/CRI sawah project in 1997-1999



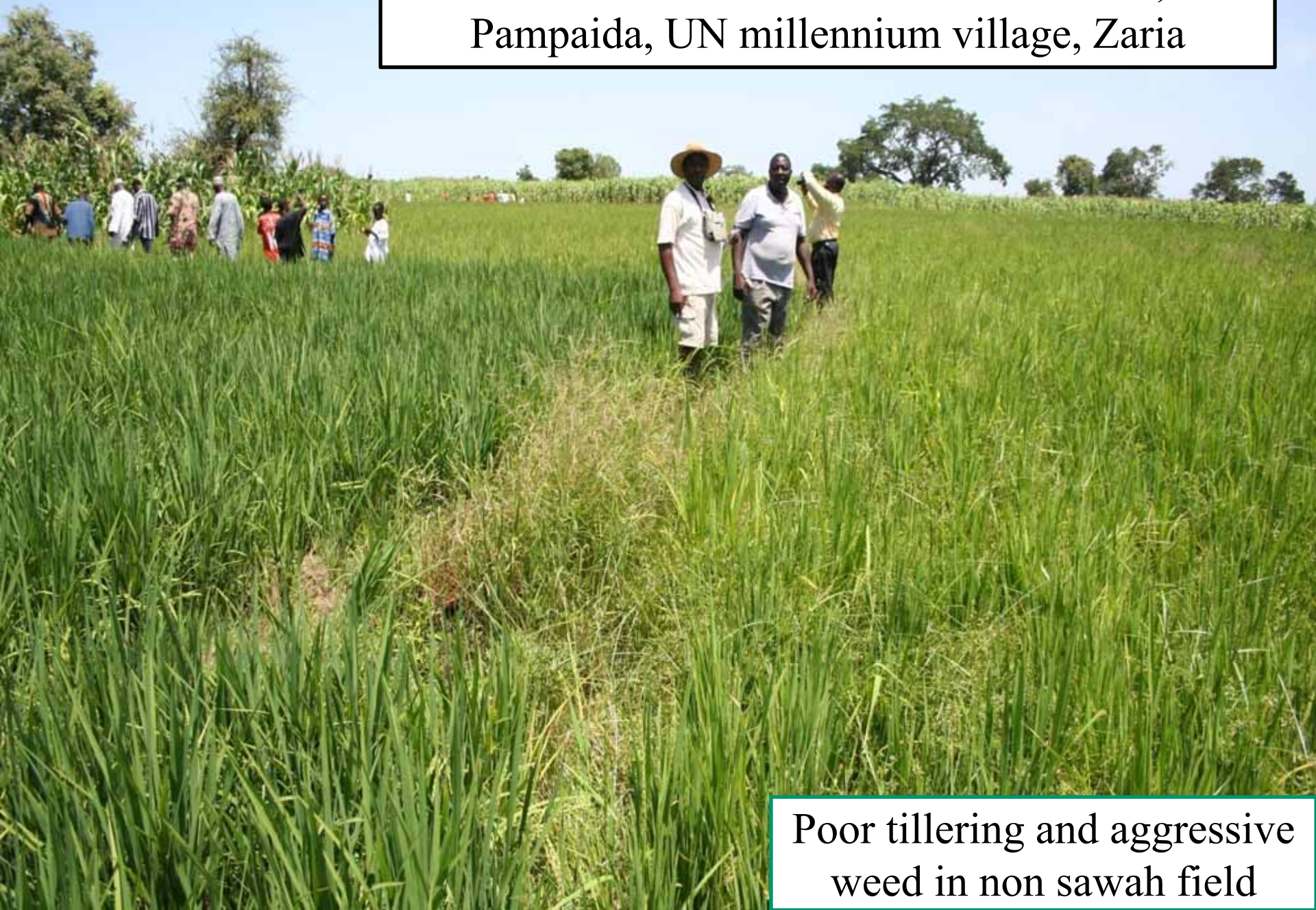


New Sawah, Pampaida, UN millennium village, Zaria





Sawah and traditional non sawah rice ,  
Pampaida, UN millennium village, Zaria



Poor tillering and aggressive  
weed in non sawah field



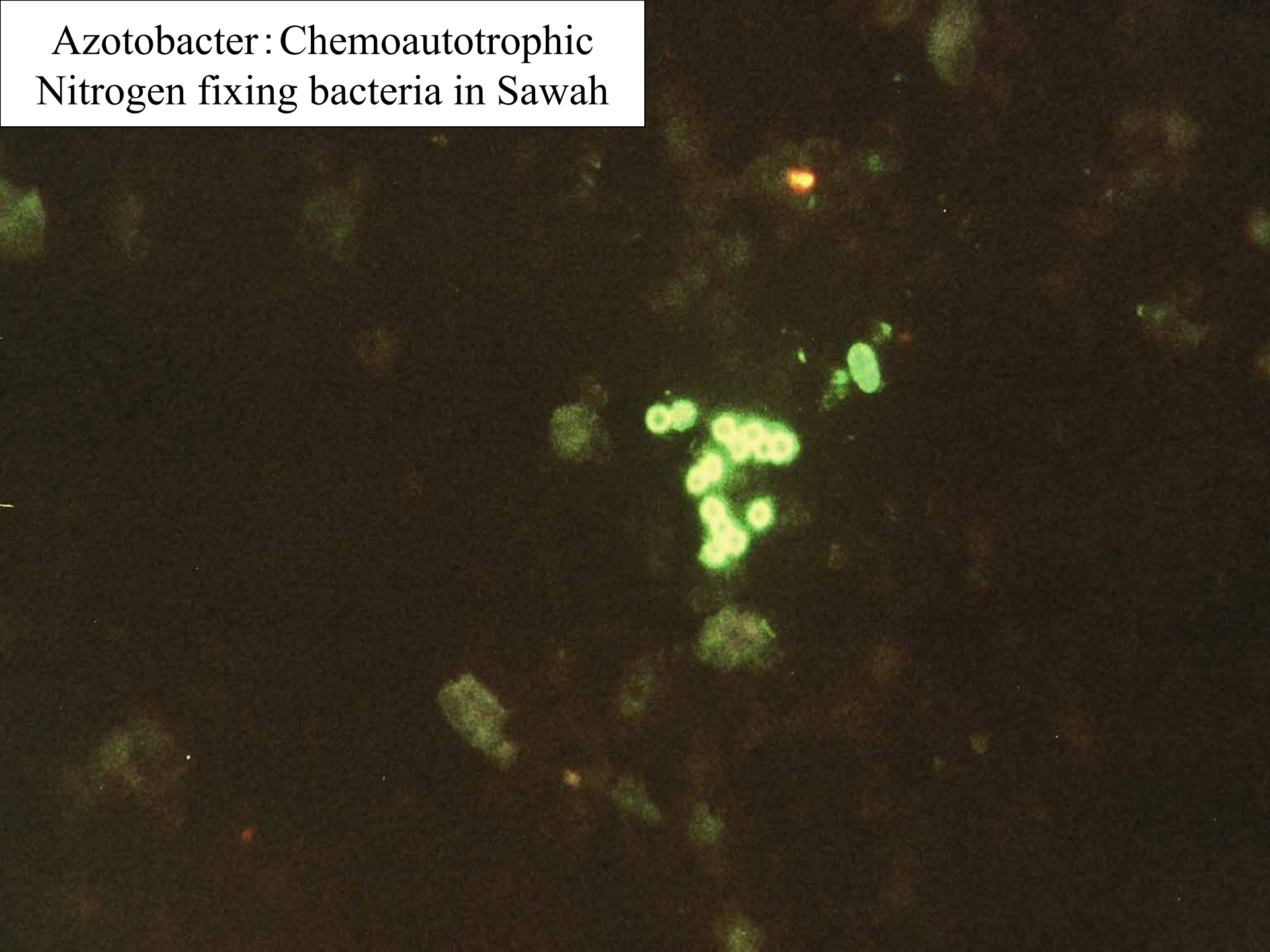
Submerged sawah:  
Multi functional  
ecosystems of various  
interaction between  
Rice, Algae,  
Fish, Goose, microbes,  
and others



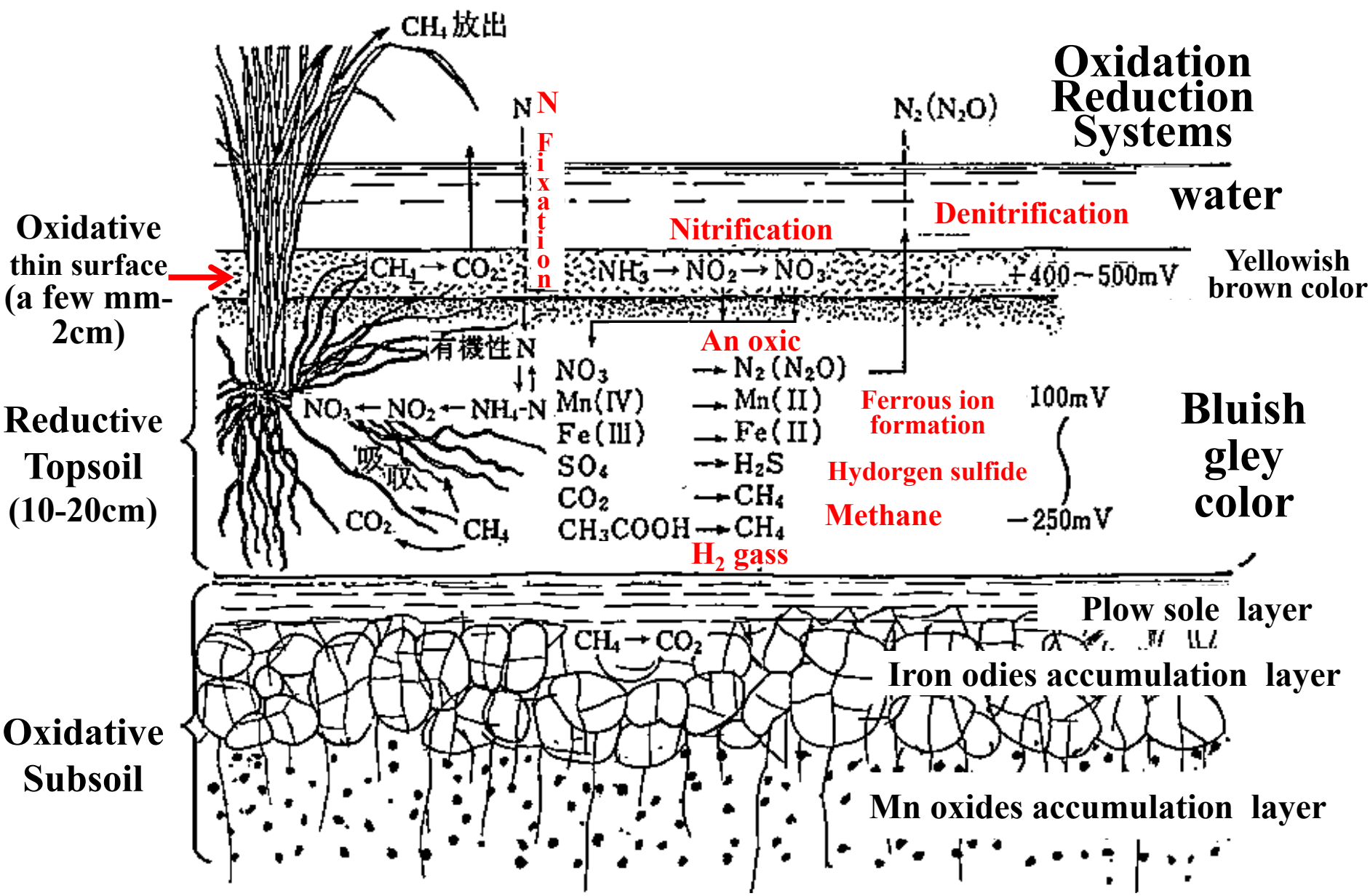
**Left :nitrogen  
fixing Azola**



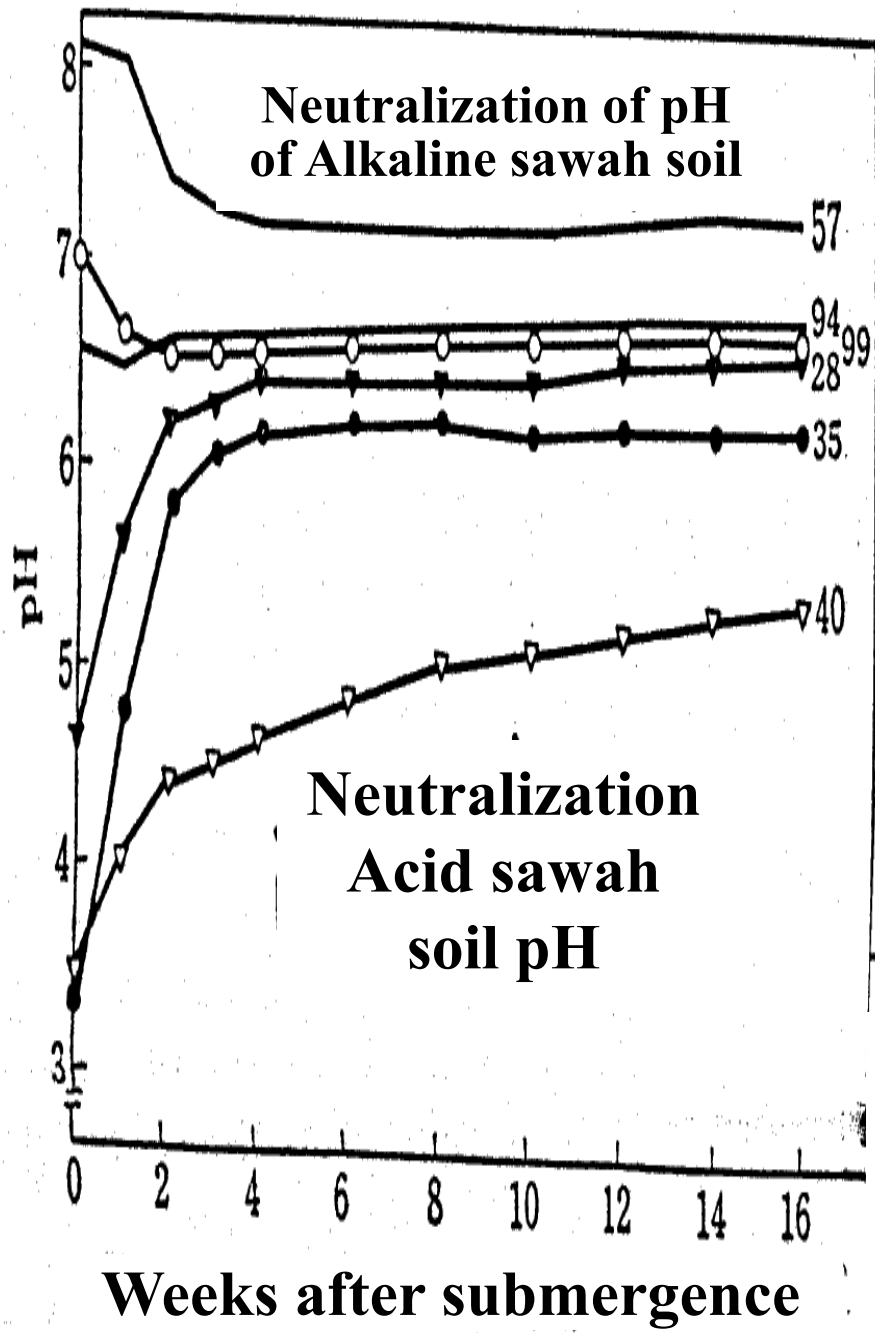
Azotobacter: Chemoautotrophic  
Nitrogen fixing bacteria in Sawah







**Typical Sawah soil profile development under submerged condition**



soil No.	Soil texture	pH	Content(%)		
			OM (%)	Fe(%)	Mn(%)
28	埴土	4.9	2.9	4.70	0.08
35	埴土	3.4	6.6	2.60	0.01
40	埴土	3.8	7.2	1.50	0.00
57	埴壤土	8.7	2.2	0.63	0.07
94	埴土	6.7	2.6	0.96	0.09
99	埴壤土	7.7	4.8	1.55	0.08

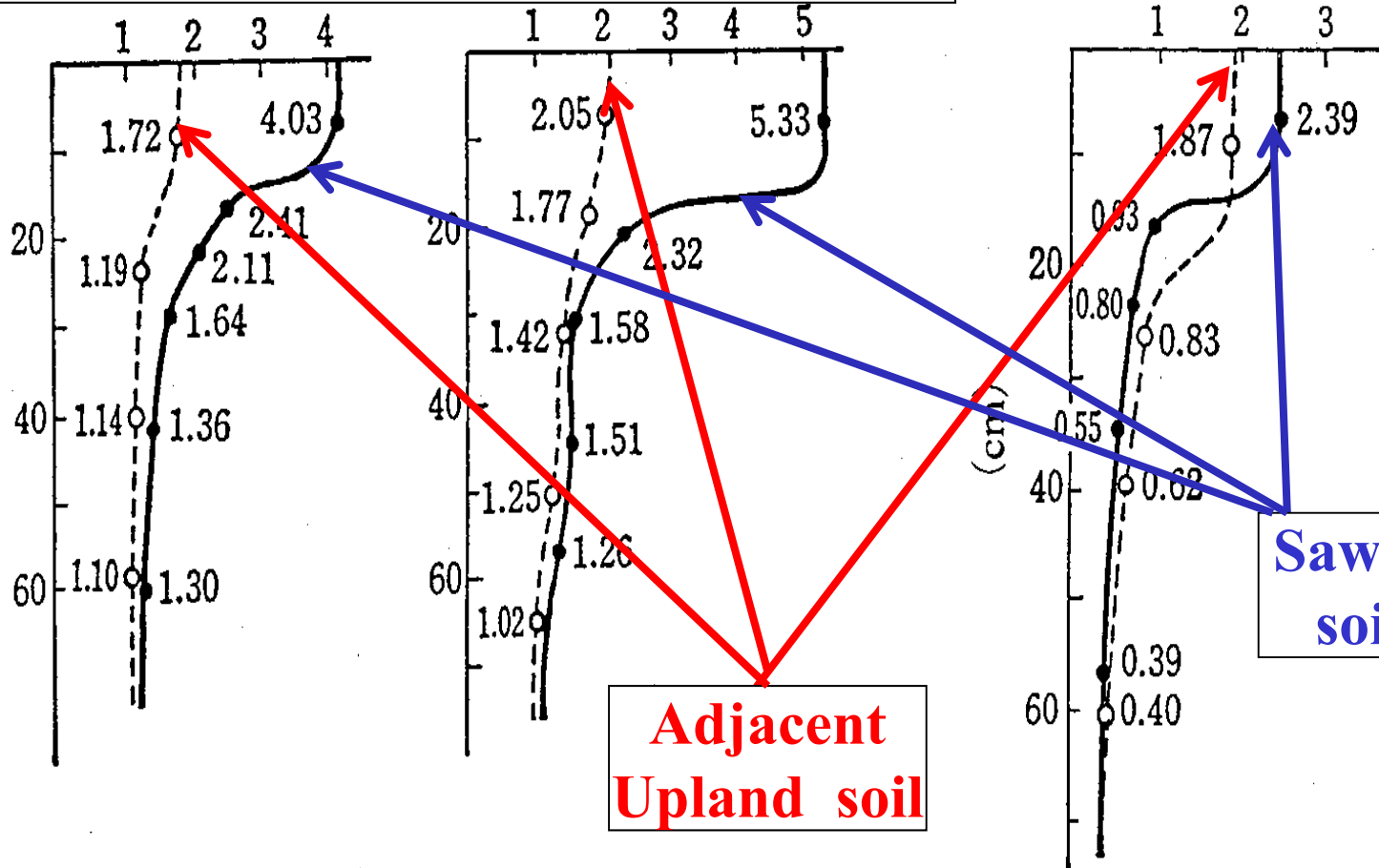
**Sawah soil neutralization through submergence(Ponnamperuma 1976)**



**Organic matter % in Lowland Sawah soils in comparison with soils in upland management condition**

**Upland terraced sawah and upland Non-sawah**

**Depth of Soil profile in cm**

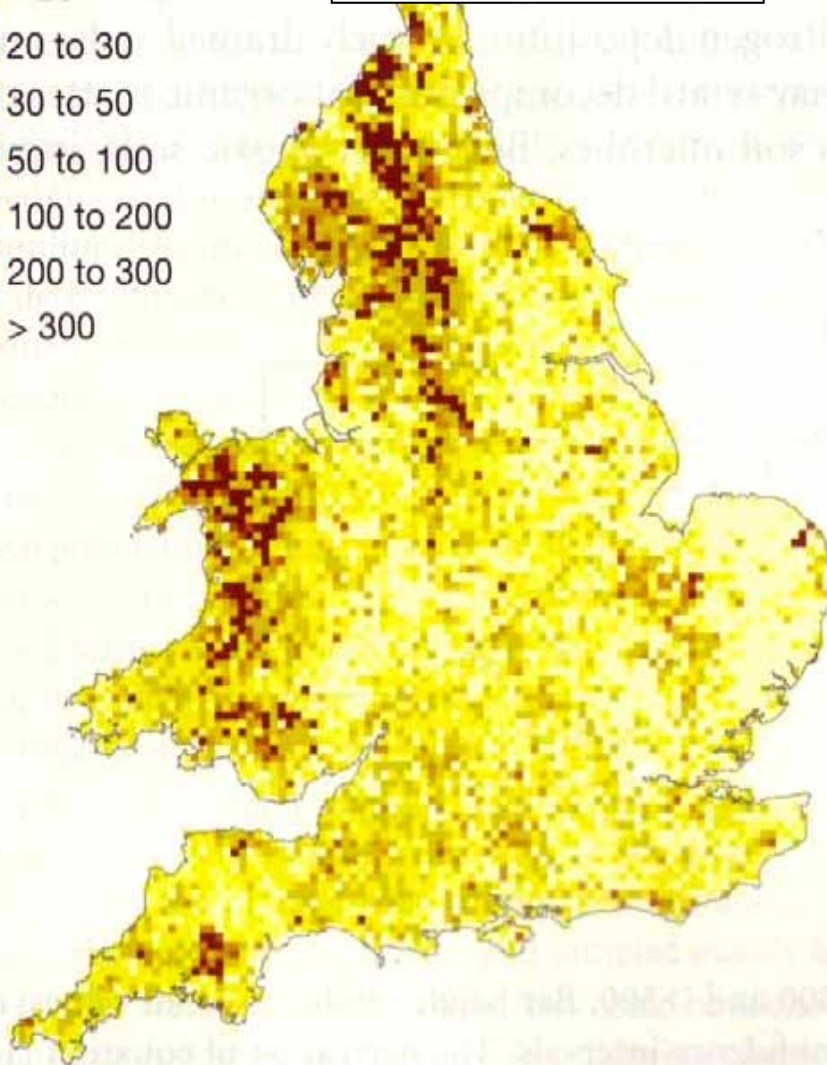


**Organic matter % in Sawah soils in comparison with soils in upland management (Mitsuchi 1970, 1974)**

**a** Original  $C_{org}$  ( $g\ kg^{-1}$ )



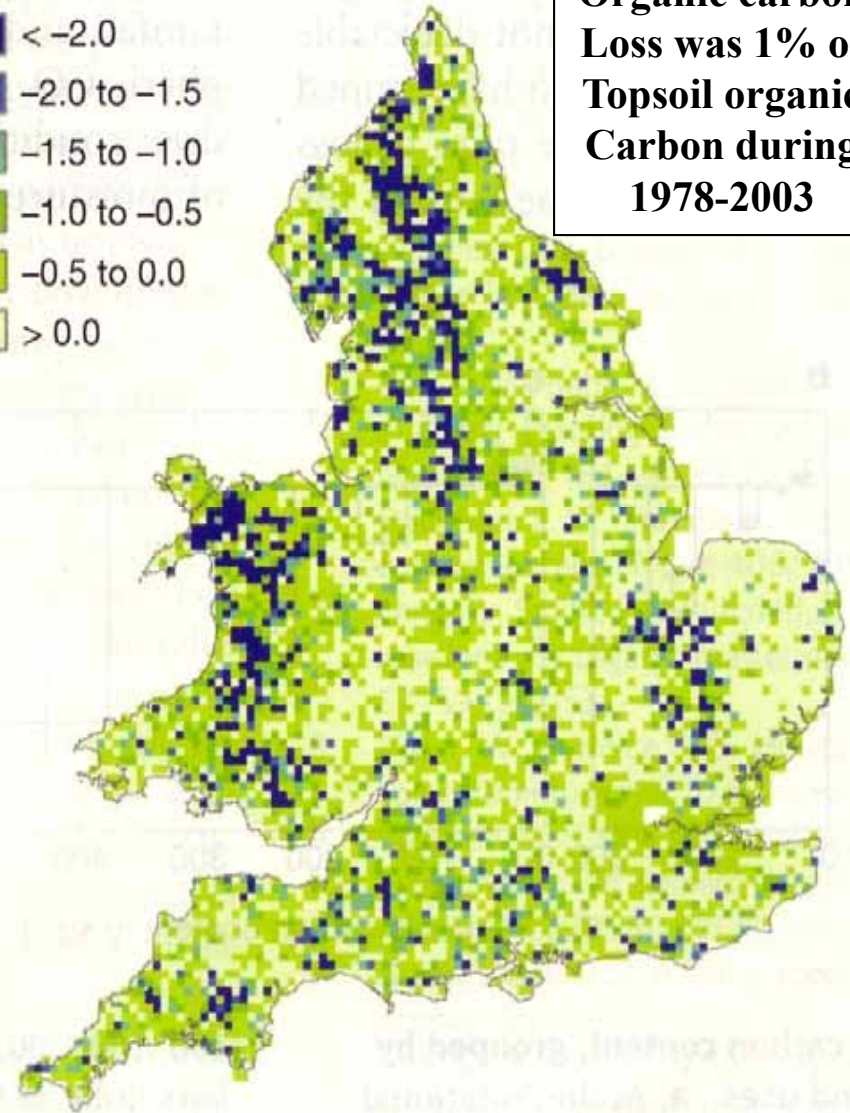
**Top Soil Carbon  
In 1978(2-30%)**



**b** Rate of change ( $g\ kg^{-1}\ yr^{-1}$ )



**Annual rate of  
Organic carbon  
Loss was 1% of  
Topsoil organic  
Carbon during  
1978-2003**

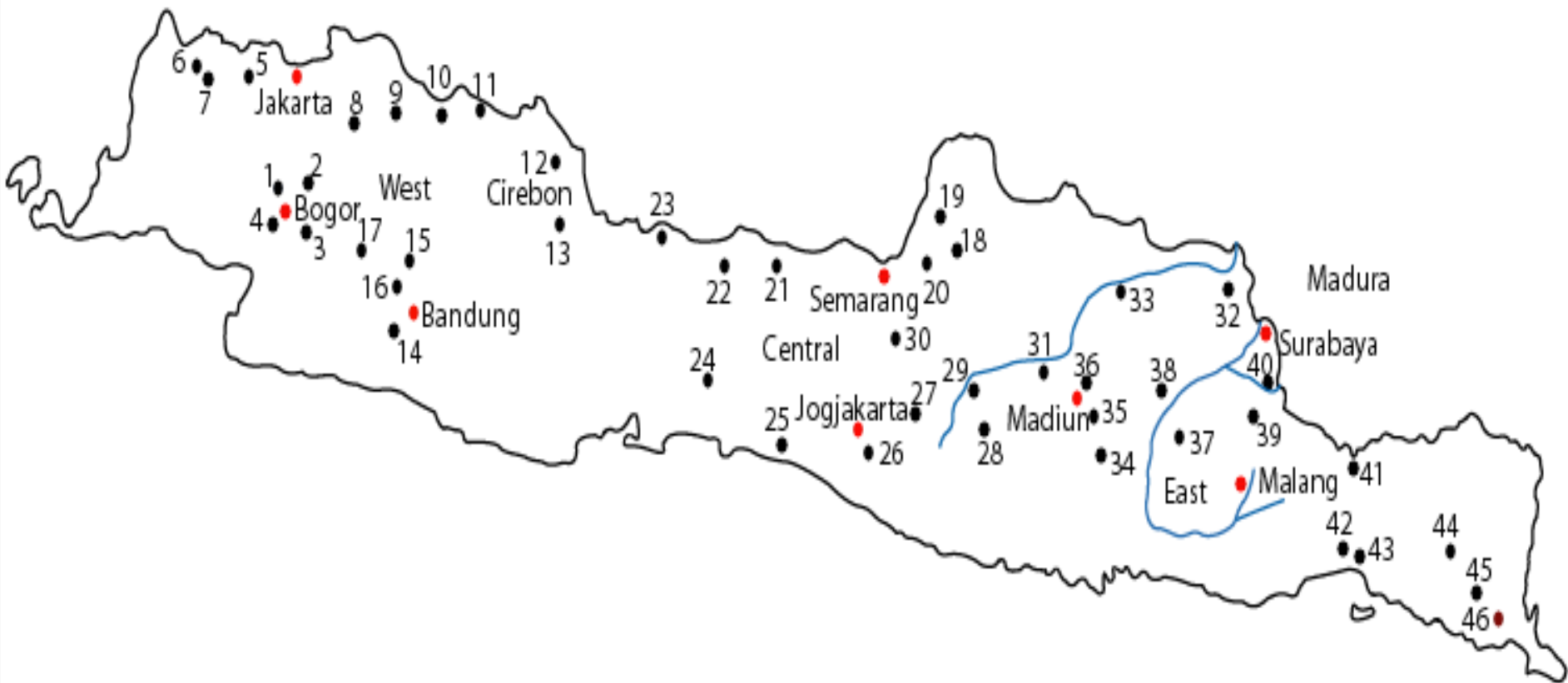


**Soil Carbon Change: Carbon losses from all soils across England and Wales 1978-2003 (Nature Vol.437/ 8, September, 2005 p.245)**





**Sawah soil carbon change of Java, Indonesia, during 1970-2003, the Green revolution period (Darmawan et al 2006)**





**Prof. Kyuma  
Revisited his 1970  
sampling site in 2003**





**In 2003, Dr. Darmawan collected sawah soils from the same sites where Prof Kyuma surveyed in 1970**



**Table 3** Changes in total carbon and total nitrogen (Mg ha<sup>-1</sup>) content in the 0–20 cm and 0–100 cm soil layers in seedfarms and non-seedfarms from 1970 to 2003 in Java, Indonesia

	Seedfarm				Non-Seedfarm			
	0–20 cm		0–100 cm		0–20 cm		0–100 cm	
	1970	2003	1970	2003	1970	2003	1970	2003
<b>Total carbon (Mg ha<sup>-1</sup>)</b>								
<i>n</i>	18	18	18	18	22	22	22	22
Mean	34.50	39.24	92.68	112.83	29.77	41.37	79.60	114.86
Standard deviation	9.95	9.70	39.47	40.91	10.88	15.12	28.07	40.50
Mean change		4.74		20.15		11.60		35.26
% change		13.7		21.7		39.0		44.3
<i>t-test</i>		*		***		***		***
<b>Total nitrogen (Mg ha<sup>-1</sup>)</b>								
<i>n</i>	18	18	18	18	22	22	22	22
Mean	3.16	3.95	9.34	12.03	2.94	3.98	8.93	11.44
Standard deviation	1.07	0.89	4.01	4.10	1.15	1.24	3.16	3.30
Mean change		0.79		2.69		1.04		2.51
% change		25.0		28.8		35.4		28.1
<i>t-test</i>		**		***		***		***

*n*, number of sampling sites. \**P* < 0.05; \*\**P* < 0.01; \*\*\**P* < 0.001

**Both C & N increased 30% per 30 years during Green Revolution**



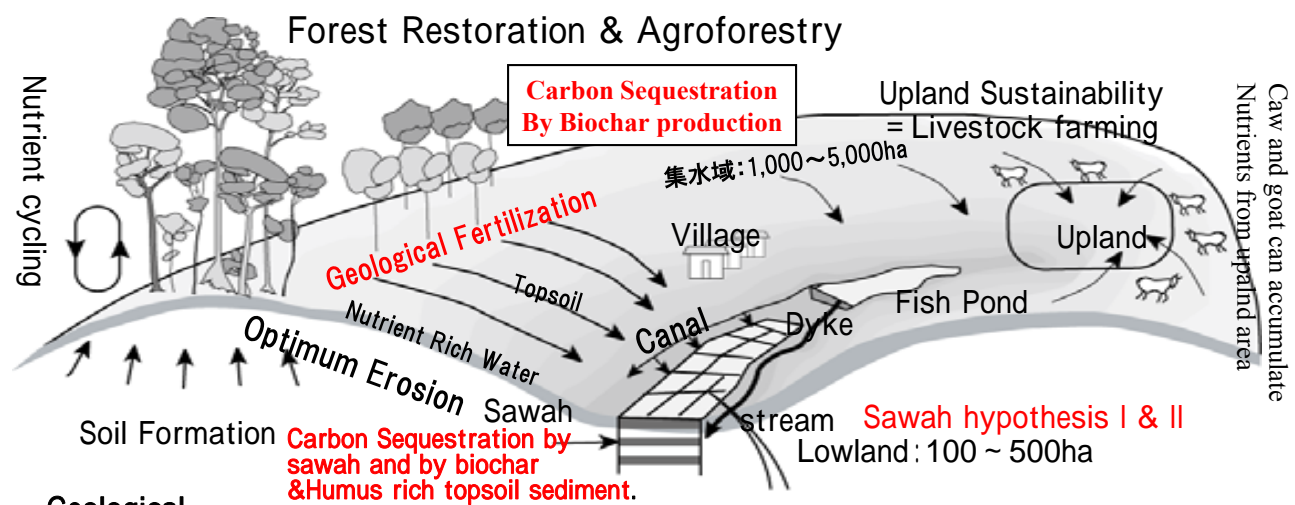
**Macro-scale watershed eco-technological mechanisms to support Sawah hypothesis II:** Geological Fertilization of eroded top-soils and accumulation of nutrient rich water in lowland Sawah

**Sustainable green revolution by sawah and SATOYAMA systems for combating Global warming:** (1) efficient use of water cycling and conservation of soil fertility, (2) Ecological safe carbon sequestration by CDM, Bio-char and humus accumulation in sawah Soil layers, which will eventually transfer to sea floor, and (3) increase soil productivity by bio-char and humus accumulation

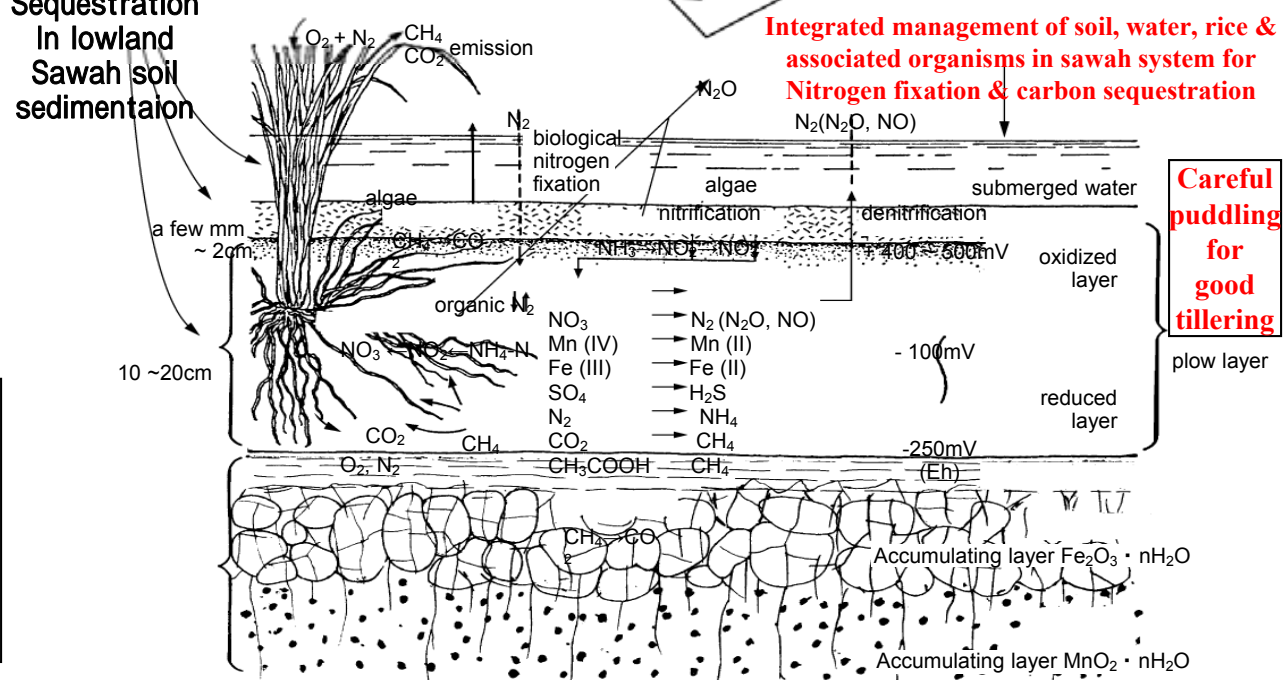
**Global warming:** (1) efficient use of water cycling and conservation of soil fertility, (2) Ecological safe carbon sequestration by CDM, Bio-char and humus accumulation in sawah Soil layers, which will eventually transfer to sea floor, and (3) increase soil productivity by bio-char and humus accumulation

**Micro-scale eco-technological mechanisms to support Sawah hypothesis II:** Enhancement of the availability of N, P, K, Si, Ca, Mg, and micronutrients and quality carbon accumulation

**Micro-scale eco-technological mechanisms to support Sawah hypothesis II:** Enhancement of the availability of N, P, K, Si, Ca, Mg, and micronutrients and quality carbon accumulation



**Sawah and Satoyama System Development under Global Warming ( Watershed Agroforestry )**



**Fig. Sawah hypothesis (II) and creation of African SATOYAMA watershed systems to combat food crisis and global warming**



Primary  
Forest

“YAMA”

Secondary  
Forest

Cocoa  
Plantation

“SATO”

Rice  
'Sawah'  
Field

Through fall, decomposition of litter, mineralization,  
erosion and transport of dissolved nutrients and nutrients releases to  
fertilize inland valley at the lower slope (Si, N, P, K, Ca, Mg)

**One Example of Africa SATO-YAMA Concept Map by Dr. Owusu, FoRIG, Ghana, which is a watershed agro-forestry applicable to Cocoa belt region in West Africa.**



Nigeria Nupe's  
rudimentary  
Sawah system

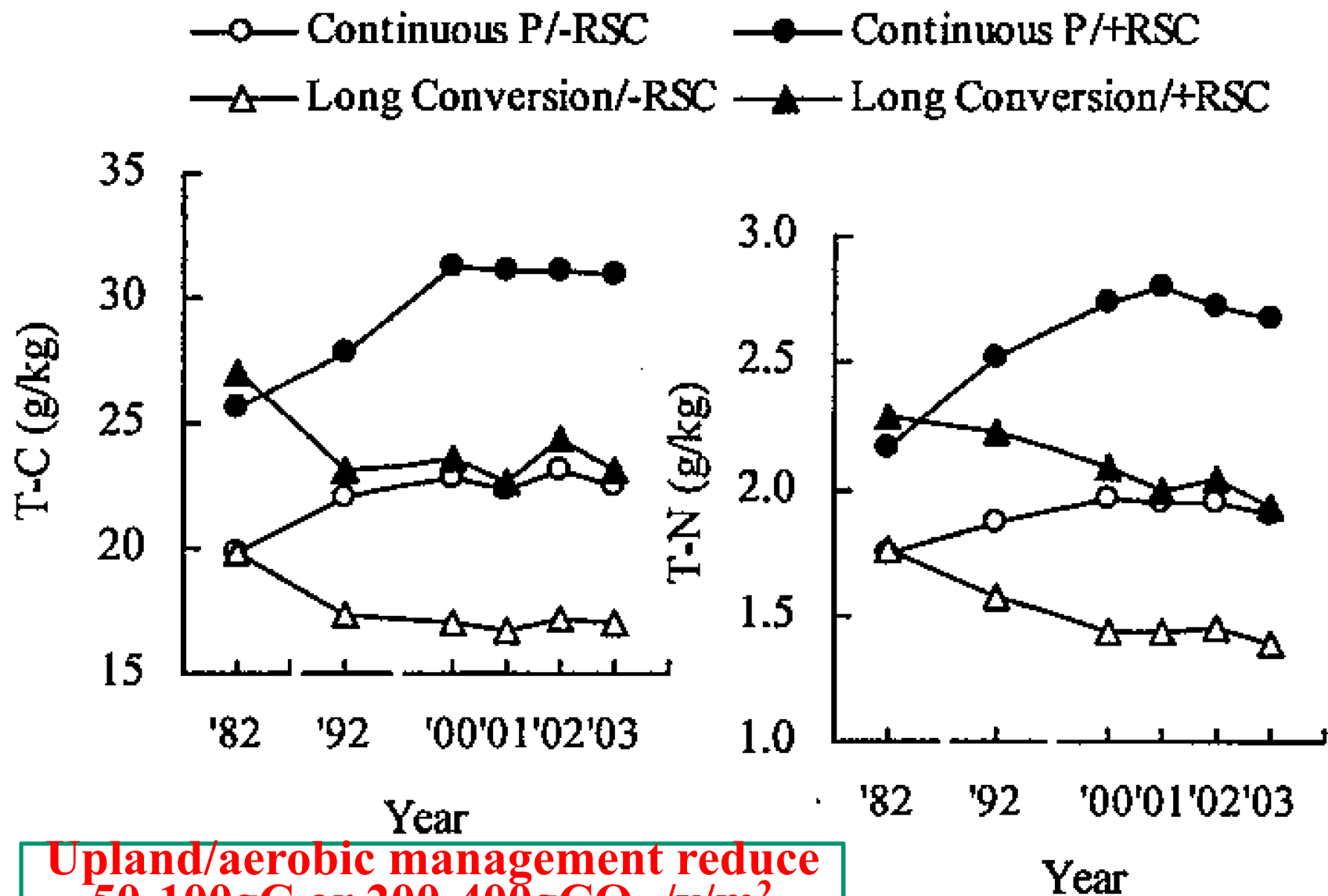
THANK

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LISTENING



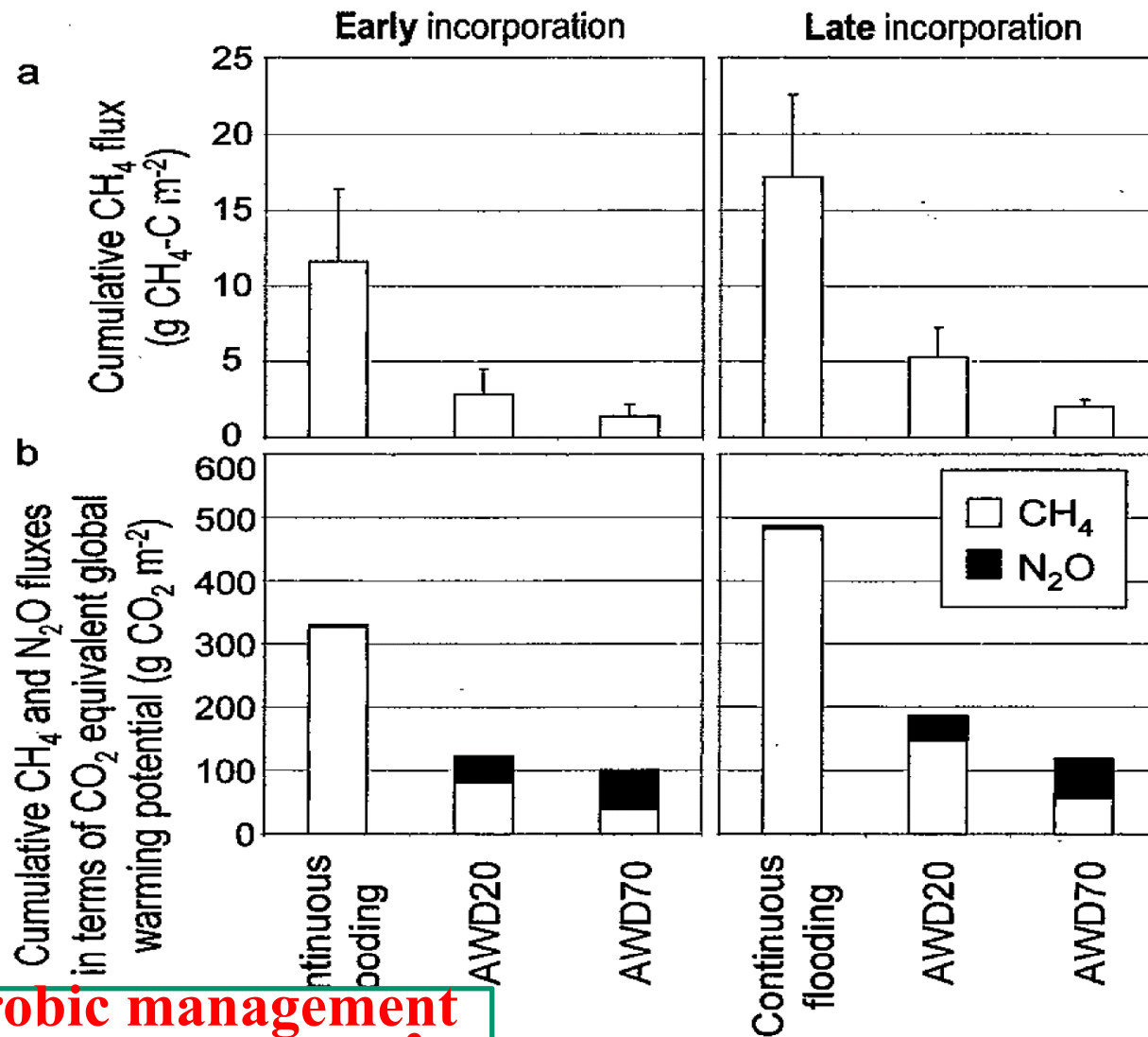


Upland/aerobic management reduce  
50-100gC or 200-400gCO<sub>2</sub> /y/m<sup>2</sup>

**Fig. 5** Changes in total C and N contents of the soil in long-term upland conversion system. P, paddy; RSC, rice straw compost.



100gCO<sub>2</sub>/m<sub>2</sub>  
is equivalent to  
0.27ton C/ha  
200g of CO<sub>2</sub>  
is equivalent to  
0.54 g of C

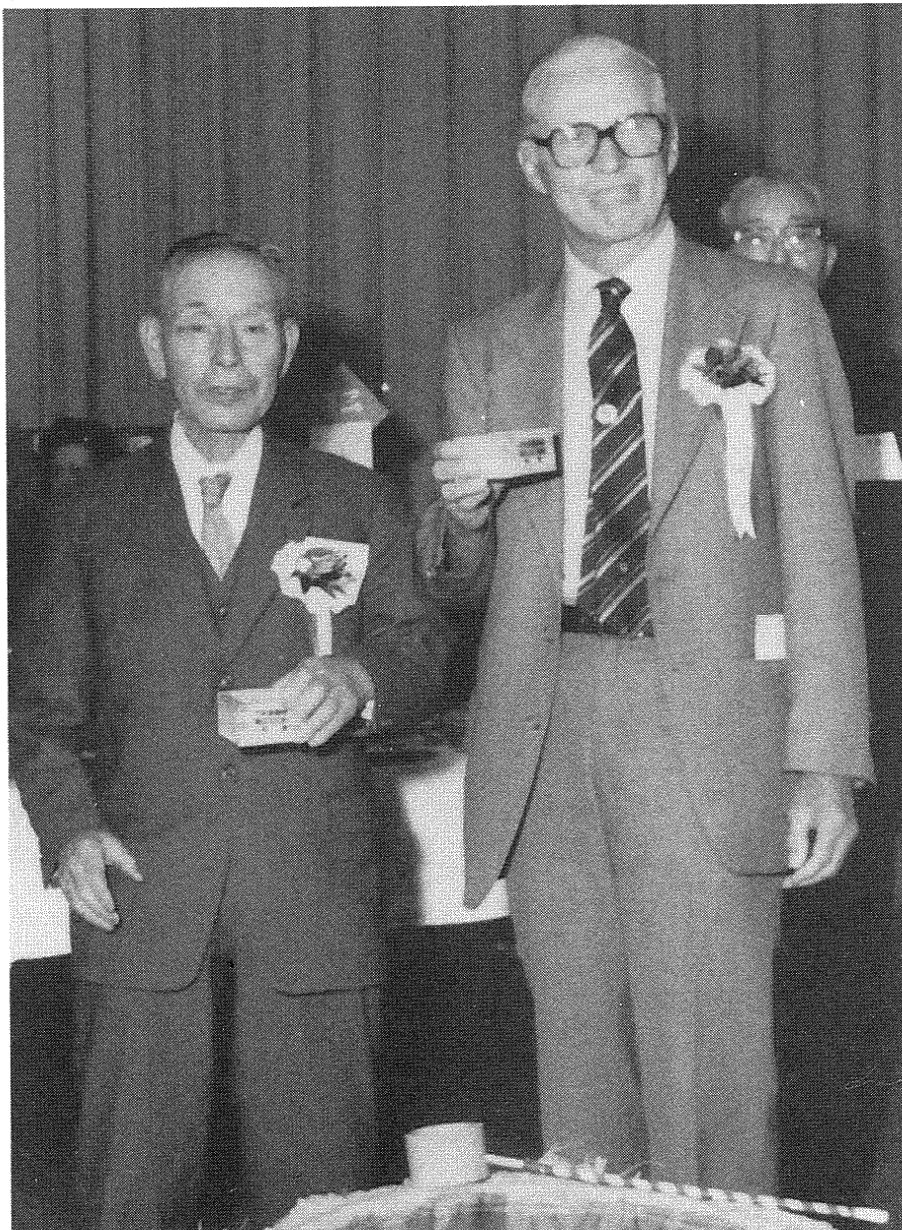


**Upland/aerobic management  
reduce 200-400gCO<sub>2</sub> /y/m<sup>2</sup>**

**Figure 1.** Cumulative CH<sub>4</sub> flux (a) and cumulative CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>O fluxes in terms of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent global warming potential (b) during rice cropping period (January 29, 2007 (transplanting) – May 8, 2007 (harvest around this date); the conventional cropping period in dry season in the region). Bars indicate S. E. (only for a) (n = 3).

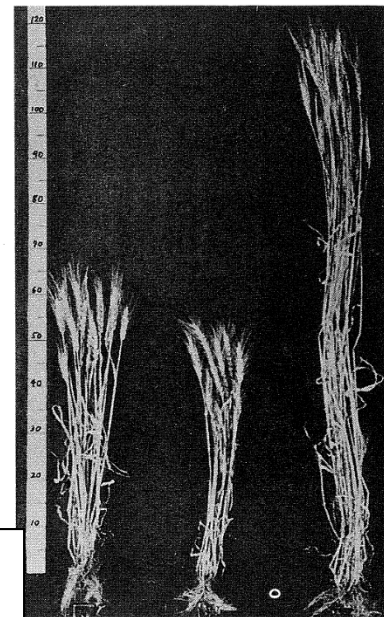
AWD20: irrigation under water potential-20kP(=2-3 days after water saturation)  
AWD70:intermittent irrigation under water potential at-70kP(close to upland)





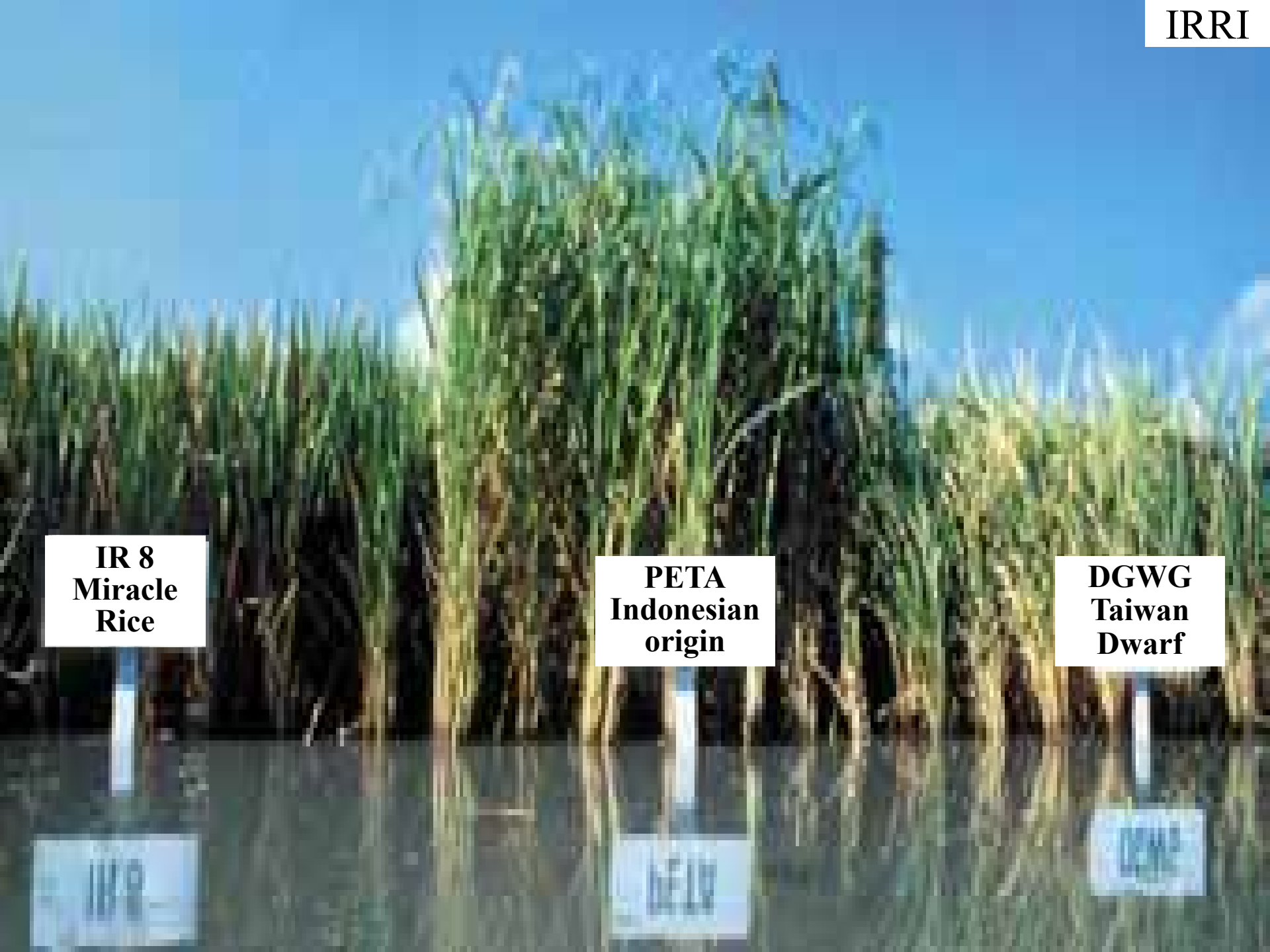
上/新品種を生み出すため、岩手県立農事試験場では地道な小麦の栽培が続けられた

**Right: Turkey Red**  
**Center:**  
**Fruit DARUMA**  
**Left: NORIN 10**  
**in 1935**



**Dr.G. INAZUKA bred Norin 10 of wheat in 1935. The Norin 10 was collected by US occupied force in 1951. Dr. N. Borlaug bred, released 14 HYVs using Norin 10 in 1957. The start of CG center**

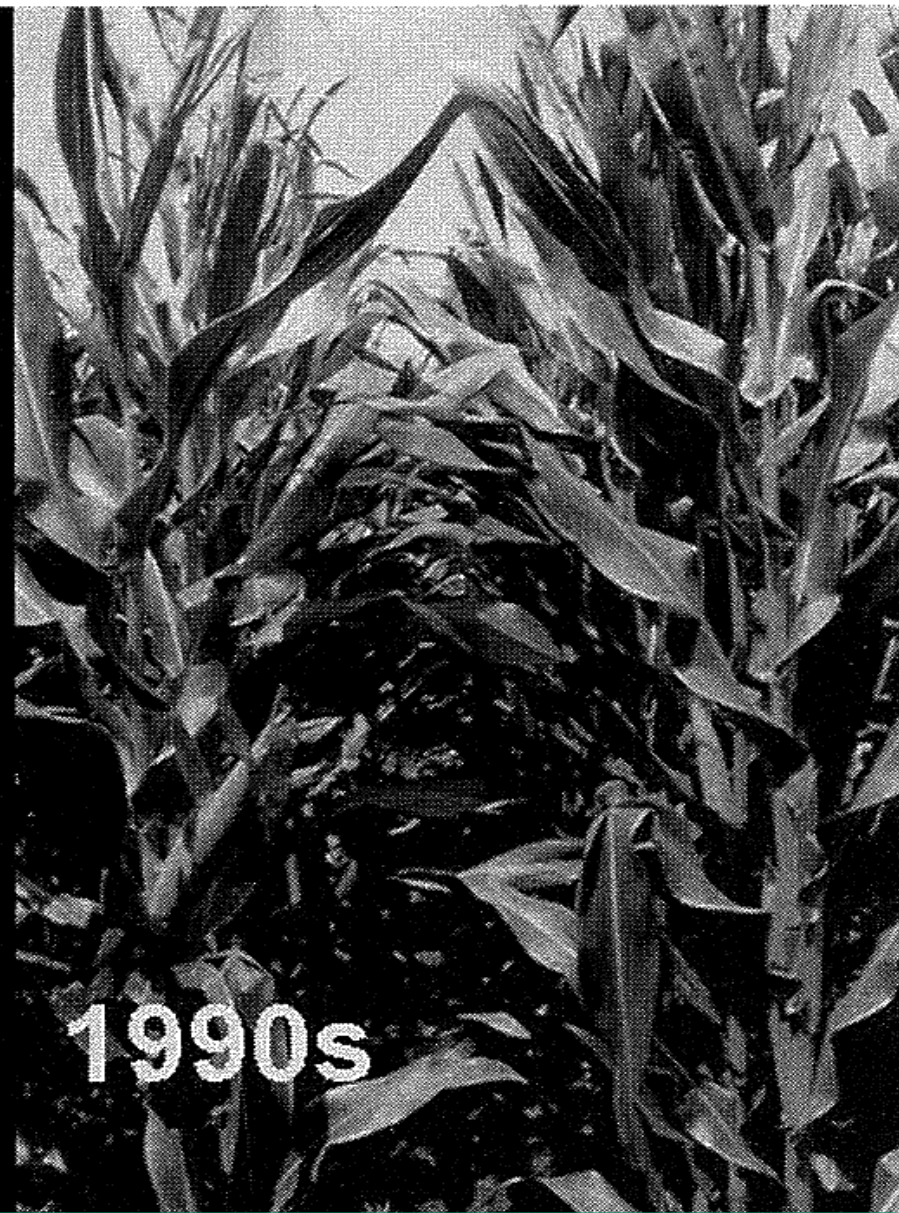




**IR 8  
Miracle  
Rice**

**PETA  
Indonesian  
origin**

**DGWG  
Taiwan  
Dwarf**



Left: traditional old variety

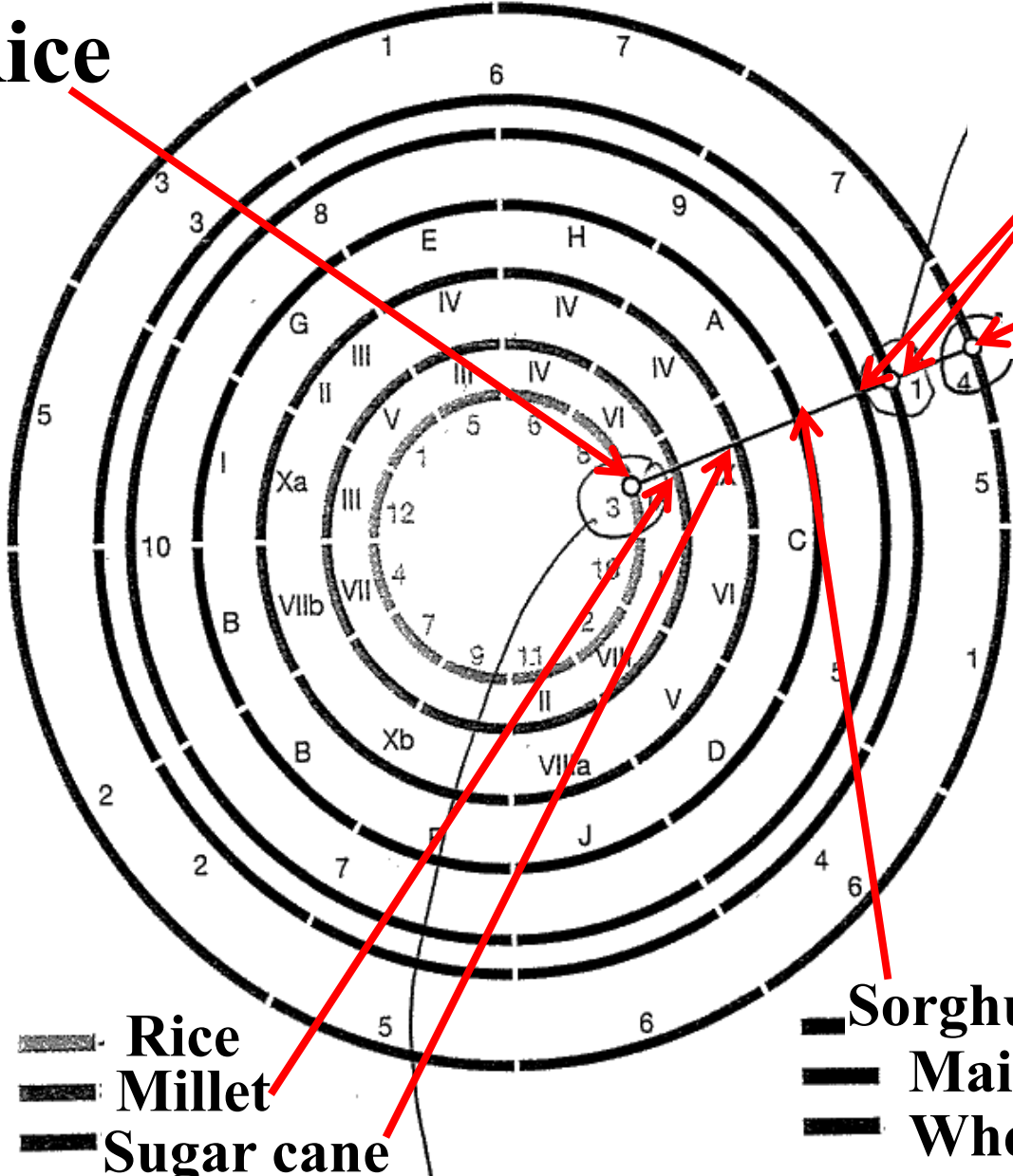
Right: Semi-dwarf high yielding variety (Sd1)



**Rice**

**Maize**

**Wheat**



**High Yielding Varieties for Green Revolution in Asia and Latin America have the same Gene, Sd 1. The Norin 10 was the first variety that expressed the Sd 1 character.**

- Rice
- Millet
- Sugar cane

- Sorghum
- Maize
- Wheat

**(Matsuoka 2004) Sd1=Semi-dwarf 1**