

GIAHS Application in Progress!!

Stone Terraced Citrus Orchard System of Arida-Shimotsu Region

In the Arida-Shimotsu region, where the terraced citrus orchards have been built and maintained by farmers for more than 400 years, the stable production and continual shipment of citrus for a long period of eight months have been realized through skillfully utilizing natural conditions to introduce various varieties and lines of Unshu-mikan (*Citrus unshiu*), and effective use of fruit storage technology. This agricultural system is globally unique and important.

What is the Arida-Shimotsu region?

It's a region where the J-NIAHS certified "Arida citrus system that laid the foundation for citrus cultivation" and "Shimotsu stored citrus system" have been merged. We are aiming for GIAHS certification with this integrated system.



Wakayama Pref. advertising character 'Kii-Chan'

Characteristics of this system

Stone terraced orchard

For about 400 years, stone terraces have been built on the slopes of mountain to produce high-quality citrus.

A rarity in the world!



Storage room of citrus

In the Shimotsu region, *Citrus unshiu* is stored in a storage room in a stone terraces to regulate the sugar-acid balance before shipment.



Traditional ritual

Culture associated with citrus fruit is deeply rooted in the region, with rituals held to pray to the citrus god for a good harvest.



Nursery plant production

Some citrus farmers are responsible for nursery plant production, which supports the citrus cultivation base.



General land use in the world

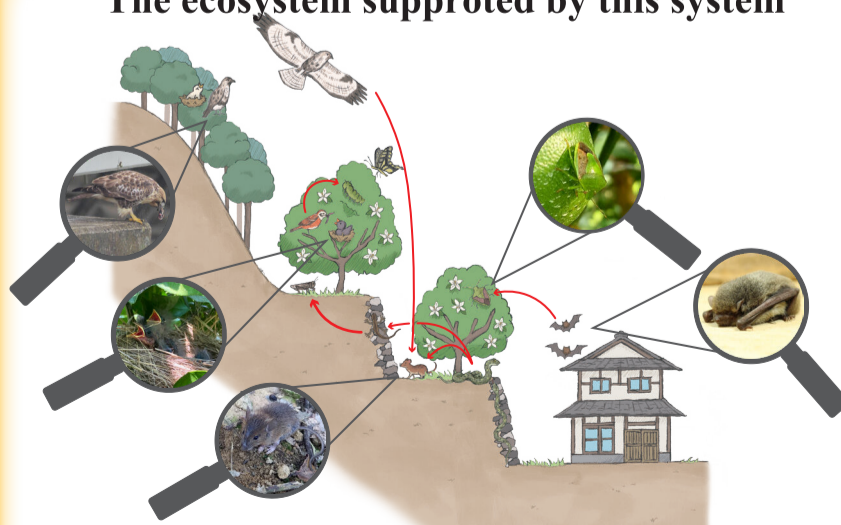


Land Use is Distinctive

Land use in this region



The ecosystem supported by this system



Ecosystem in this region structured by various species such as rats, birds, insects because woodland and residential area exist close to stone terraced orchard.

We will carry the traditional citrus system into the future!



Wakayama Pref. advertising character 'Kii-Chan'