

Rice fields



HJV wet rice fields provide for the Villa restaurant. Three rice crops are planted each year; each for approximately three months - with a 22 day period to grow seedlings for each subsequent planting



Tropical rice fields are one of the most complex and stable agricultural ecosystems in the world. Irrigated traditional varieties of rice can produce acceptable yields for 100s of years without a fallow period. This is largely because the nitrogen fixing blue-green algae in the fields, plus rice straw and feces from buffaloes, ducks, fish and eels provide sufficient fertilizer. Pesticides can damage this stability and there is increasing evidence that they reduce rice yields.

The economy of the ancient Javan kingdoms from the fourth century relied heavily on rice agriculture. Java was famous for rice surpluses and this contributed to the population growth of the island, which is now the most densely populated island in the world.

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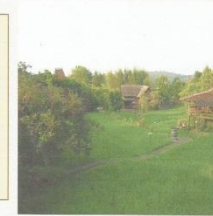
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