

Conserve and Utilize Goryo Terraced Rice Paddies

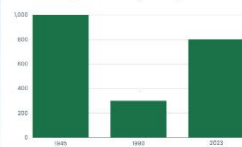
W202303 Kofu First high school in Yamanashi prefecture

The problem is ...

Density of the Goryo's paddies

This is because farmers are getting old and unable to work. This problem causes not only loss of multiple functions of terraced fields but also the loss of Japanese traditional landscape.

Density of Goryo's paddies



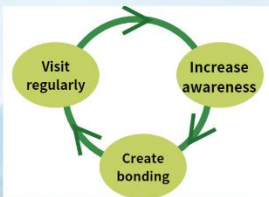
Solution

that we came up with

1. Raise awareness of the fields by selling food made with Goryo rice in supermarkets, rice grown in terraced rice fields is often sold without distinction from plain rice. This causes low awareness of terraced rice fields. Therefore, we thought that it is necessary to sell products that are labeled as being made with terraced rice.

2. Organize events at the fields for elementary students

If we hold an event for elementary school students, they become aware of the terraced rice field, and this creates bonding with the local area and people. Then they come to visit there regularly.



Research Result

Doing in rice fields



Held a harvest festival

We held a harvest festival last November. We treated **omusubi** and **pork miso soup** to families with elementary school students. All the foodstuff for miso soup were locally sourced.



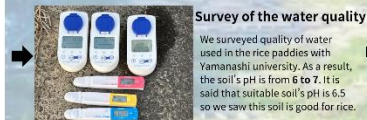
Rice planting festival

We planted rice in our paddies with local children last June. And, we created rice for there and local plums in bamboo to participation. We could give children the valuable experience and they got to know them.



Discussing with people of terraced rice paddies

We discussed the people of Goryo terraced rice paddies. We must need confirmation of their vision. As a result of talking, we saw they had minds that had to remain there.



Survey of the water quality

We surveyed quality of water used in the rice paddies with Yamanashi university. As a result, the soil's pH is from 6 to 7. It is said that suitable soil's pH is 6.5 so we saw this soil is good for rice.



Rice harvesting

We harvested rice with a volunteer group, people of Yamanashi university and our school students last October. We harvested 30 Kg of rice. And also we researched creatures around there with students of Yamanashi university.



Held a second harvest festival

We held a harvest festival this November. This year in addition to last year we cooked rice with bamboo.

Selling at markets



Selling rice balls in our school

We sold salt omusubi in limited quantities at our school for three days. Many students came and bought them. We heard how the omusubi was. Then some students had positive opinions like "It is tasty," while others had negative opinions like "It is too expensive," or "It is too small." It was a good opportunity to hear real customers' views.



Selling rice balls at Prefectural Office

We sold 100 omusubi in all near the prefectural office for two days last August. It was the first time to sell them on a market however we could sell out immediately.



Developing sweets



Visited a local manufacture

We visited **Kinseiken**. It is a famous Japanese sweets company in Yamanashi. So we are planning to develop original sweets with rice flour. We had a meeting there about when our sweets will sell in a market, how sweets we will make and so on. In the future, we are going to discuss them more and make our sweets selling.



Future Vision

1. Food Development and Marketing (Sweets and more rice ball)

We would like to develop and sell sweets made from Goryo terraced rice and local groceries in Kai City with Kinseiken. We aim to sell them around spring. By thinking and discussing, we want to decide what we will make, how to sell them and how we will capitalize on the good points of terraced rice. Also, we continue to sell rice balls to convey the delicious taste of terraced rice directly.

2. Organizing Events

From our research, we found that it is effective to create chances for people in the community to get involved with the rice fields. Because of this, we will continue to organize events that allow people to help in the care of the rice fields.