

Growing Rice Workshop (*Oryza sativa*)

Dates: May 17 & September 13

Given by: Takeshi & Linda Akaogi

Location: Akaogi Farm, Westminster West, Vermont

Space is limited

Cost: Free

Pre-registration required

We are seeking people who will do the following:

1. Attend both the spring and fall workshops and learn basic rice growing
2. Grow the rice variety "Hayayuki" in a 5-gallon container at their location (we supply seedlings at the spring workshop)
3. Record the progress on the observation record sheet
4. Send the observation record to Akaogi Farm during October so that we can assess the performance of "Hayayuki" in various areas of New England.

The last three years we have been experimenting with growing rice at our farm in southeastern Vermont. This workshop is a two-part series workshop as a part of a Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education (NESARE) Farmer Grant (for detailed information see Section A under "Before Spring Workshop").

Workshop Schedule

Part I – Spring, Sunday, May 17, 1-4 p.m.

1. Introduction; project history by Linda Akaogi
2. Integration of conservation and agriculture (Agriculture and the stewardship of biodiversity locally and globally) by Tatiana Schreiber
She holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Studies with a focus on environmental anthropology – the interaction of people and the environment.
3. Rice growing at Akaogi Farm by Takeshi Akaogi
4. Observation Record Sheet explanation by Sylvia Davatz/gardener & seed saver
5. Distribution of seedlings

Part II – Fall, Sunday, September 13, 1-4 p.m.

1. Tour of Akaogi Farm paddy
2. Progress report by growers
3. Observation sheet, Q & A

Growers are requested to do the following:

- Before Spring Workshop

- A. Read a copy of both our 2008 NESARE Farmer Grant proposal and our 2008 NESARE Final Report including the Rice Growing Manual:
- 1) For hard copies of our 2008 NESARE Farmer Grant proposal, our Final Report or the first edition Manual, contact the NESARE office at 802-656-0471 or email nesare@uvm.edu.
 - 2) For electronic copies of the above, contact Carol Delaney, NESARE Farmer Grant Specialist, carol.delaney@uvm.edu or 802-656-0697.
- B. Read “*A Farmers Primer on growing rice,*” by Benito S. Vergara from The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI):
- 1) buy from IRRI: send an e-mail to irripub@CGIAR.ORG with book information, number of books and shipping address; they will send you an invoice; then mail a check in US\$ to IRRI: then they will ship the books.
 - 2) download free from <http://books.irri.org/getpdf.htm?book=9712200299>.
- For the workshop
Bring “*A Farmers’ Primer on Growing Rice*” and our “Rice Growing Manual”. We will use these as a text book for the workshops. We will try to have some copies of “*A Farmers’ Primer on Growing Rice*” available at the workshop for the cost.
 - At your place
Prepare a 5-gallon container (food grade) with garden soil by May 17 ready to transplant immediately (see our Rice Growing Manual).

How to pre-register

Cost: NESARE is funding this workshop. There is no charge.

Pre-registration is required. To pre-register mail us your name, address, e-mail address, phone no., and a brief statement of your interest and willingness to conduct the work for this project.

Send to: Linda Akaogi, 27 Earthbridge Rd., Putney, VT, 05346.

Deadline: postmarked by May 5

We will notify you the result as soon as we can after the deadline.

LOCATION: 27 Earthbridge Rd., Putney, from I-91, Exit 4.

Directions to our farm: from Route 5 in Putney take a left at the Putney General Store; travel a little over 4 miles on that road (it will start as Kimball Hill Rd. and change to Westminster West Rd.); at the Earthbridge sign on the left, turn left; and take the first left (that is our driveway). After about 250’ the driveway will fork; park at the fork.