Korea Important Agricultural Heritage
Damyang Bamboo Agrosystem

Security of Food and Livelihood

Bamboo colony or "Bamboo Forest" has been called a 'Bamboo Field' by people of Damyang because bamboo has been an important element to their livelihood. Raw bamboo-wood, bamboo-sheet, bamboo-ferment, and various mushrooms from Damyang Bamboo Agrosystem have offered additional incomes. Bamboo has contributed higher income to the residents by producing bamboo farming tools, plant-export-pillar, bere-frame wheels, and handicrafts. The new-industry development for the bamboo-ferment, bamboo-vinegar, and bamboo-handicraft are on its way to expanded variation of bamboo-related livelihood of people.

Agro-biodiversity

Abundant floral structures of 358 species are found in Damyang Bamboo Agrosystem, depending on its nearby soil environment, type, and age of the bamboo. Damyang Bamboo Agrosystem borders on forests, residential area, paddy, cultivation area, and streams. 172 species including 5 Endangered Natural Heritage, various mammal, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates are found in Damyang Bamboo Agrosystem.

Knowledge System & Technology

Damyang Bamboo Agrosystem over hundreds of years farming practice has developed its unique knowledge system over the site selection, formation method, planting period, fertilization, harvesting, and harvesting. People had the wisdom to make the necessary farming tools from the abundant bamboo trees and also have passed down their unique bamboo farming technique, utilizing bamboo by-product to increase the soil fertility.

Culture, Value System, and Social Organizations

People of Damyang have taken care of Bamboo Agrosystem thru village farmers' cooperatives called "Pyeong" in Jeolla-do. Bamboo-crafting work and local agricultural by-products were divided, utilizing the farmers' off-season period among bamboo farmers and Damyang bamboo community was established in the advancement. The 15th day of the Fifth month of the lunar calendar and May 15th is celebrated as Jukkwal (Bamboo Planting Day) since the Goryeo Dynasty. The custom of celebrating the day with Bamboo Leaf Festival to bond people's solidarity has brought the establishment of annual Damyang Bamboo Festival.

Landscape, Land, and Water Resources Management

Damyang Bamboo Agrosystem in a gradual elevation from village-reserved farmland-stream offers distinctive landscape at each season. Damyang Bamboo Agrosystem is in a hilly area that prevents disasters against flooding, blocks off the strong wind and protects the village in the winter. The natural paddy at the lower part of the Bamboo Agrosystem has provided sufficient water supply for farming thru droughts in Damyang.

Utilizing water resources from Bamboo Agrosystem

1. Bamboo field
   - Folding/Fermenting/Thinning
   - Tale of Gains and Fame
   - Utilized for tourism resources

2. Village
   - Raw wood-crafting/Bamboo-crafting
   - New-industry/Tourism industry

3. Reservoir
   - Agricultural water

4. Cultivation area
   - Bamboo by-product utilized (Bamboo vinegar/ Bamboo-dried tea/milk)

5. Stream
   - Environmentally-friendly agriculture protects the water resources

Designated as a UNESCO Global Geopark 2018

World Bamboo Fair Damyang KOREA 2015 2015

Damyang bamboo field was designated as
Korean Important agriculture heritage 2014

Designated as a International SLOW CITY
for the first time in Asia 2007

Selected as a GREEN CITY and designated as
a wetland protected area 2004

Damyang Bamboo Field

Damyang is a small town located in the northern Jeollanamdo Province which contains 3.7% of the national land area. Damyang is the home of Korean bamboo that supplies 52% of national distribution and in the advanced bamboo crafts. Damyang bamboo has been around for over 1,000 years, and each of the villages has been formed by bamboo located on the landscape with deep fertile forest. Bamboo is the symbol of Damyang. Damyang bamboo has been a part of people's lively emotional ties and multi-benefits of Damyang Bamboo Agrosystem.

The government of Korea has designated Damyang Bamboo Agrosystem for Korea’s Important Agricultural Heritage Systems number 4, to be passed down for the wisdom of formation • management • utilization process of Damyang bamboo agrosystem.

Bamboo crafting(farming tools, etc.)
Processed(bamboo vinegar, etc.)
Secure moist, Bamboo-field lower ground cultivation (Bamboo shoot/ Tea tree/ Mushrooms, etc.)