



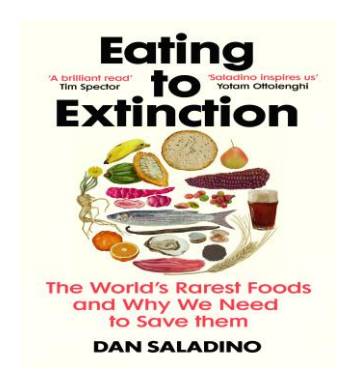
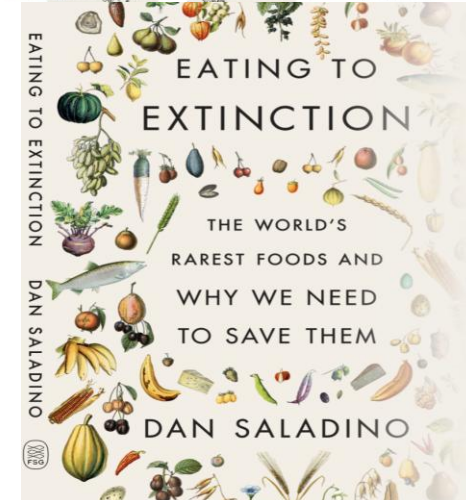
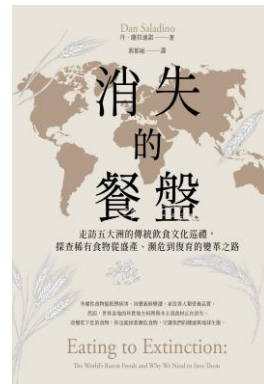
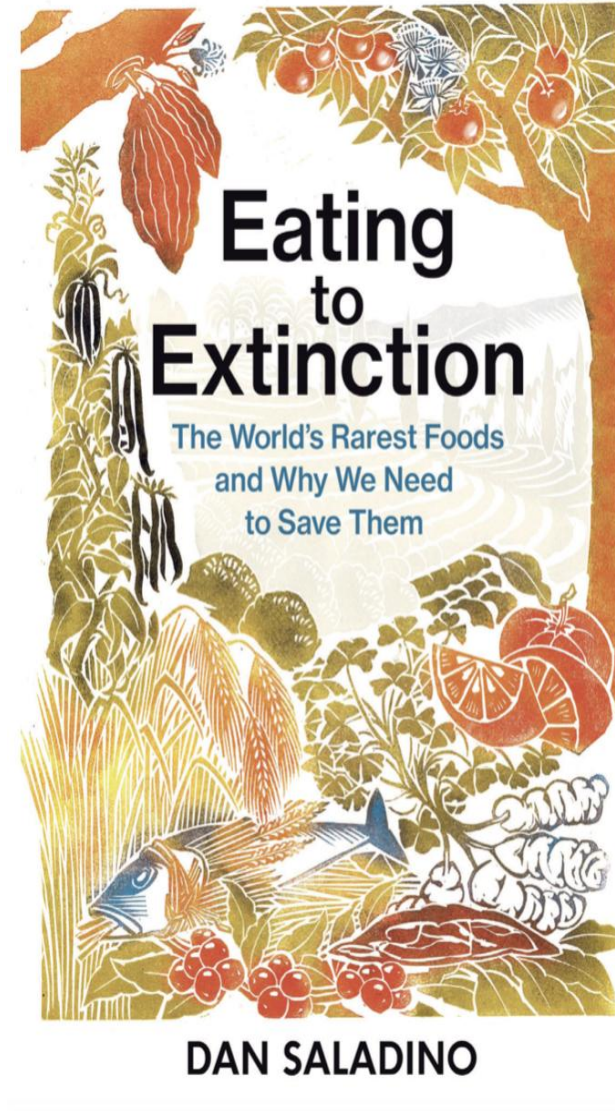
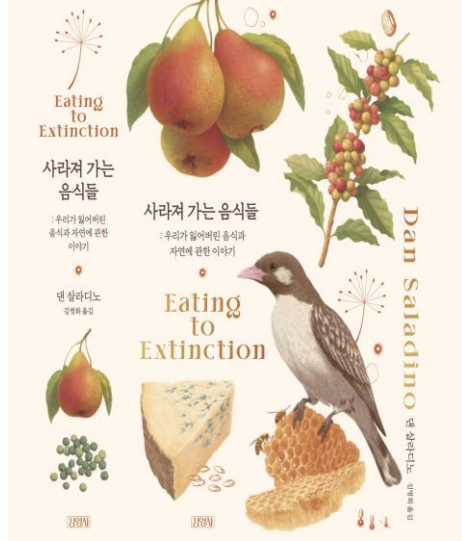
Transforming UK Food Systems Conference, 23-24 March 2026



#TUKFS26

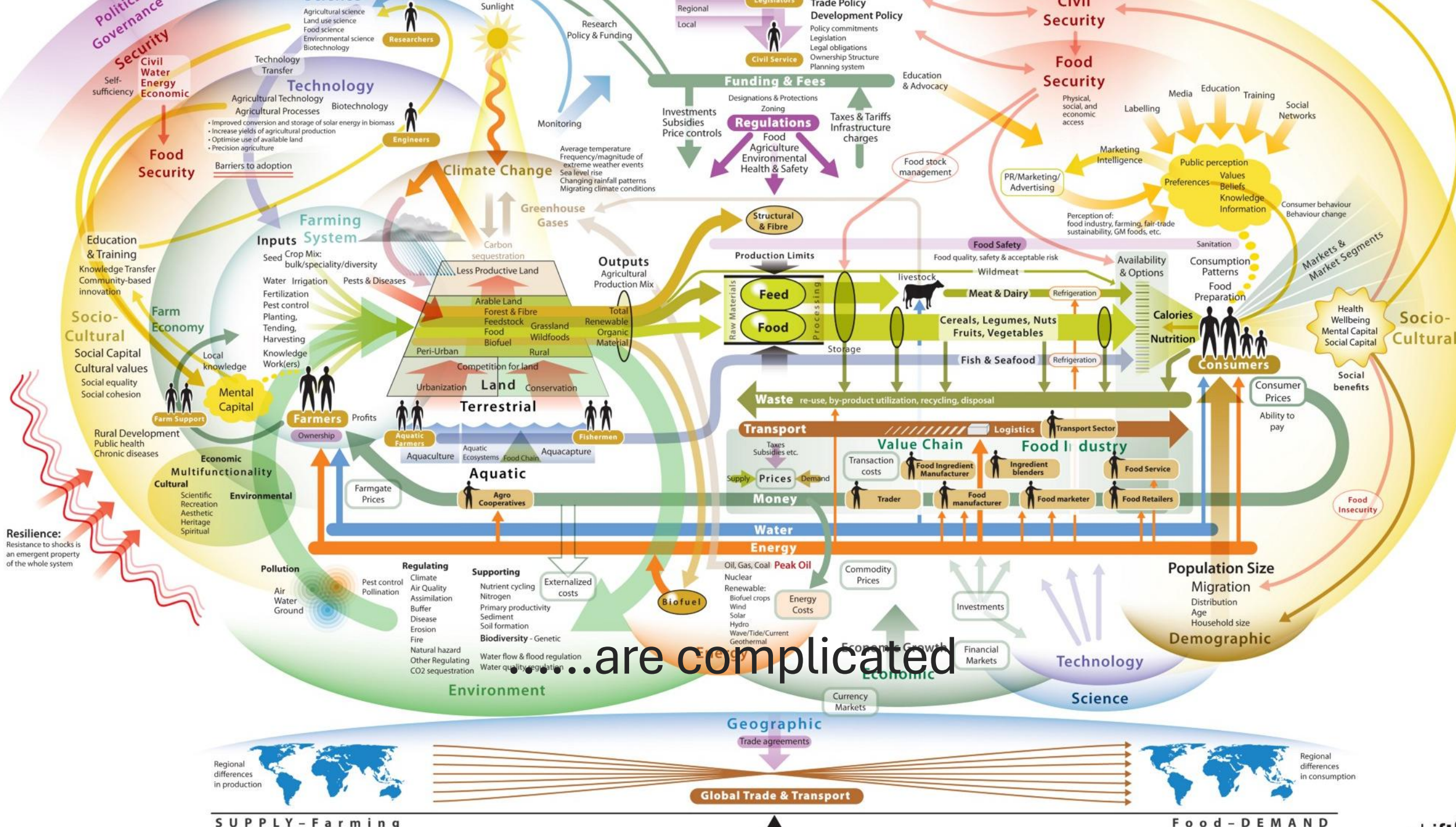


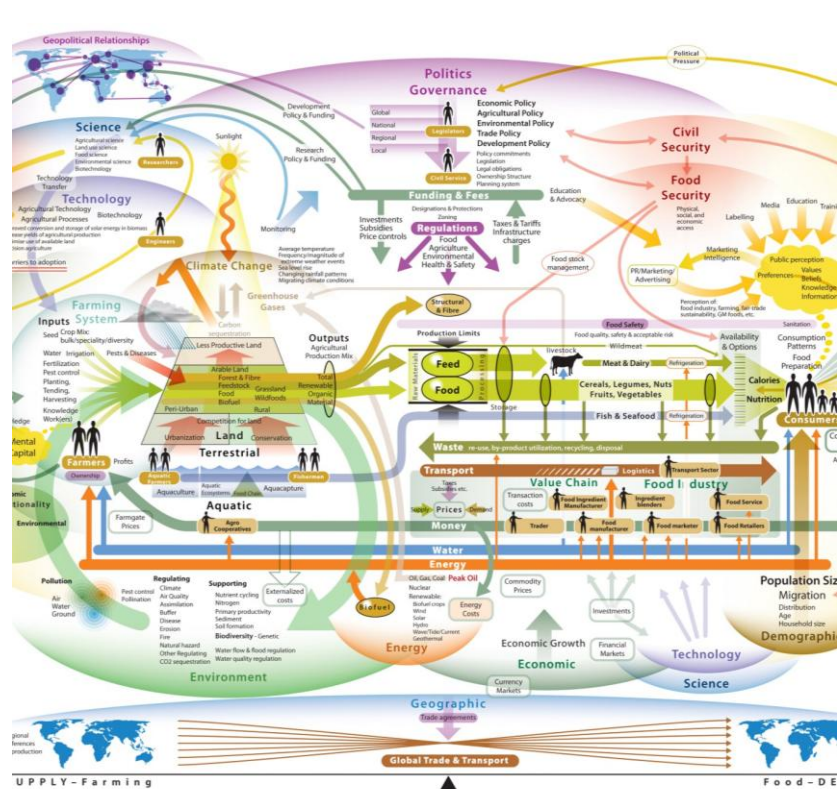
DAN SALADINO – EATING TO EXTINCTION – STORIES OF FOOD DIVERSITY



Food Systems...







Food Systems Change.....
 Everything,
 Everywhere, All at
 Once



It's complicated.....

No Silver Bullet
 Solutions.... Too
 Many Silos.....

The Ark of Taste: The world's most endangered foods

The Food Programme explores ingredients from The Ark of Taste, the international project created by Slow Food to protect foods at risk of extinction.

The power of the Ark.

...an exercise in storytelling.



Introduction to the Ark of Taste

Dan Saladino introduces the Ark of Taste, the world's rarest



8:20

Ark of Taste: Saperavi Grape

Dan Saladino charts the history and near-extinction of one of Georgia's unique wines.



3:25

The Ark of Taste: Churchkhela

Dan Saladino tastes Churchkhela, a traditional Georgian sweet.



Ark of Taste: Salt Fish

Dan Saladino tells the story of salt fish from the remote western coast of Norway.



4:19

The Ark of Taste: Good King Henry

A regal leaf that's tastier than spinach, as nutritious as quinoa and grows wild.



3:56

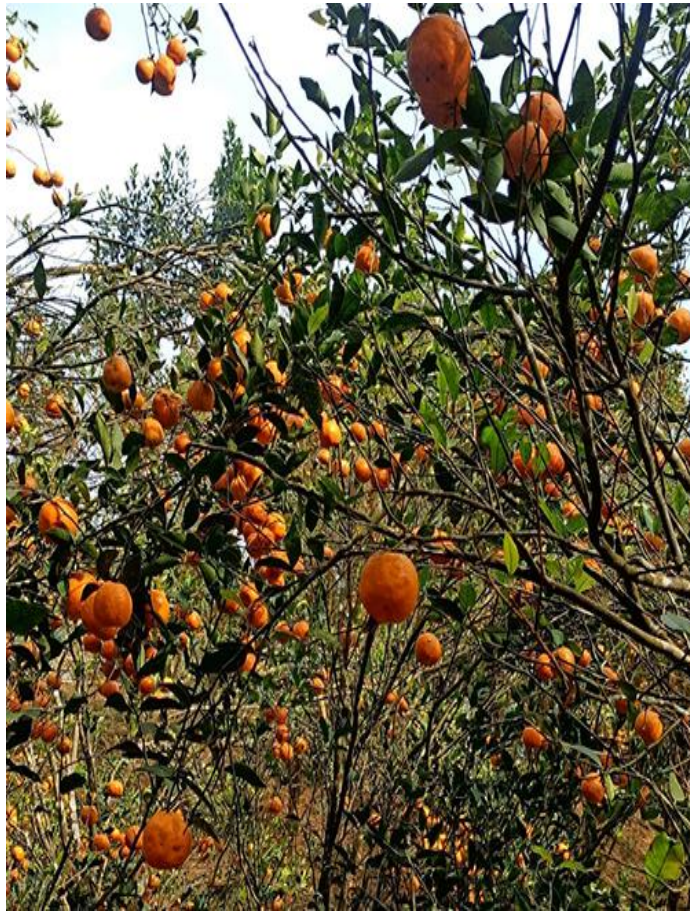
The Ark of Taste: Euskal Txerria Pig

Pello Urdapilleta's quest to save the one remaining pig native to the Basque Country.

Slow Food's Ark of Taste

- 6300 products in the Ark of Taste catalogue
- 150 different countries
- Cereals to legumes, fruit to cheeses.





CITRUS INDICA
(INDIA): NUTRITION



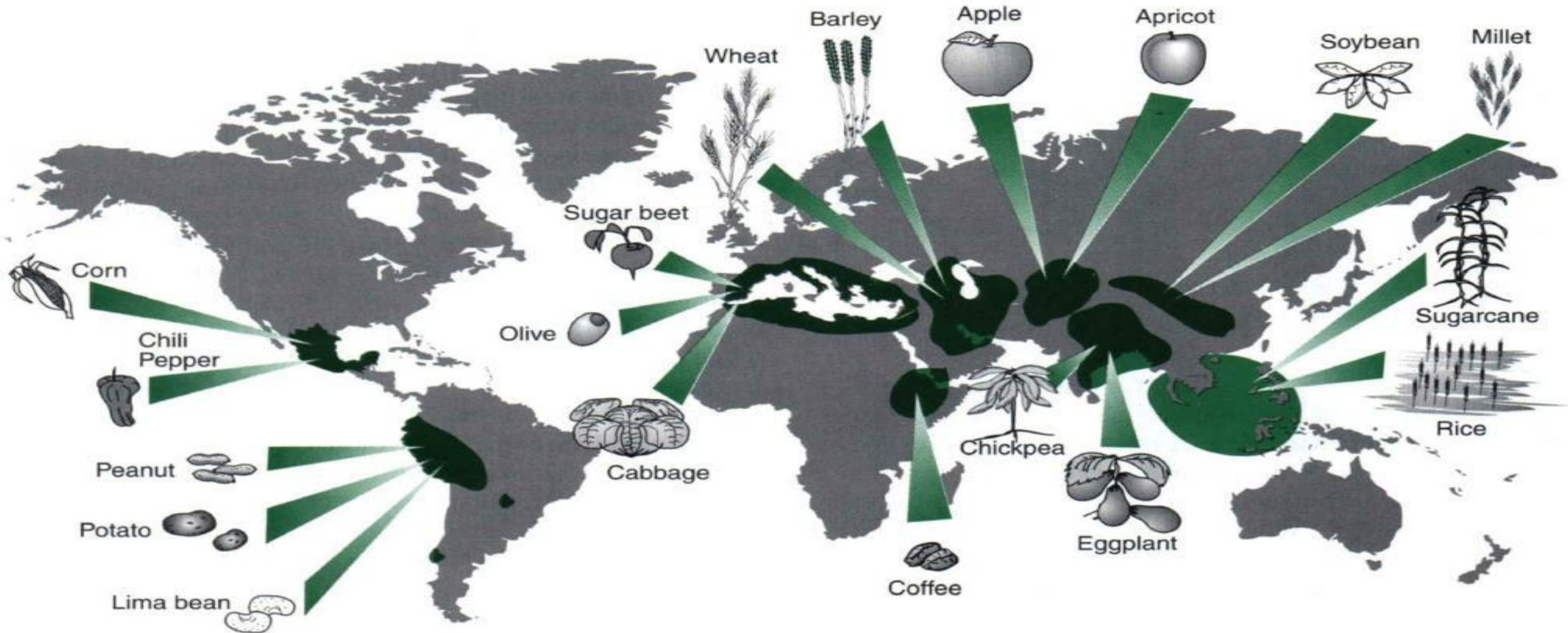
TUBERS (ANDES):
HUMAN ADAPTATION

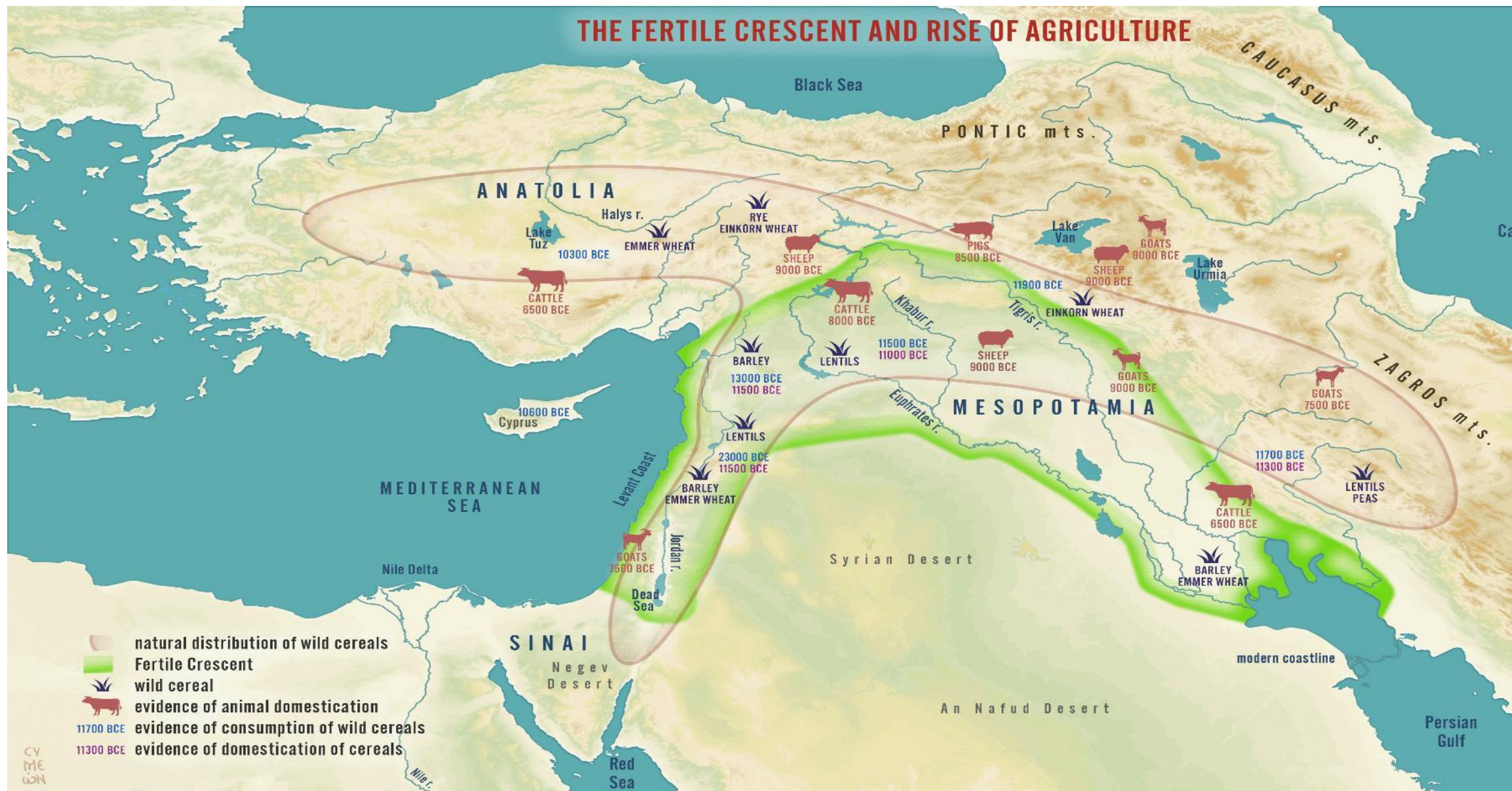


SEA ISLAND RED PEA
(USA) HISTORY

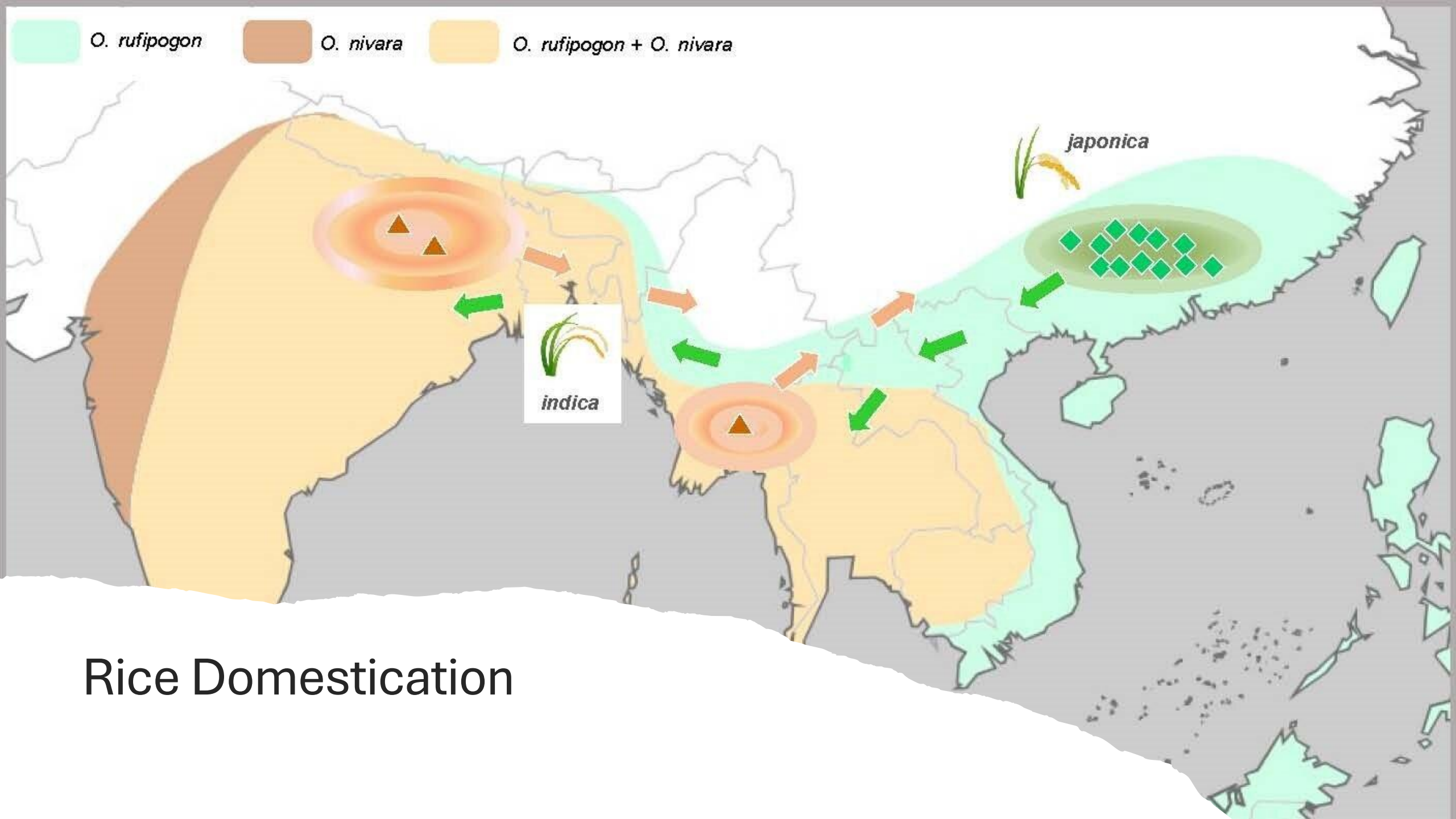


Vavilov centers – centers of plant diversity and areas of origin for agriculture



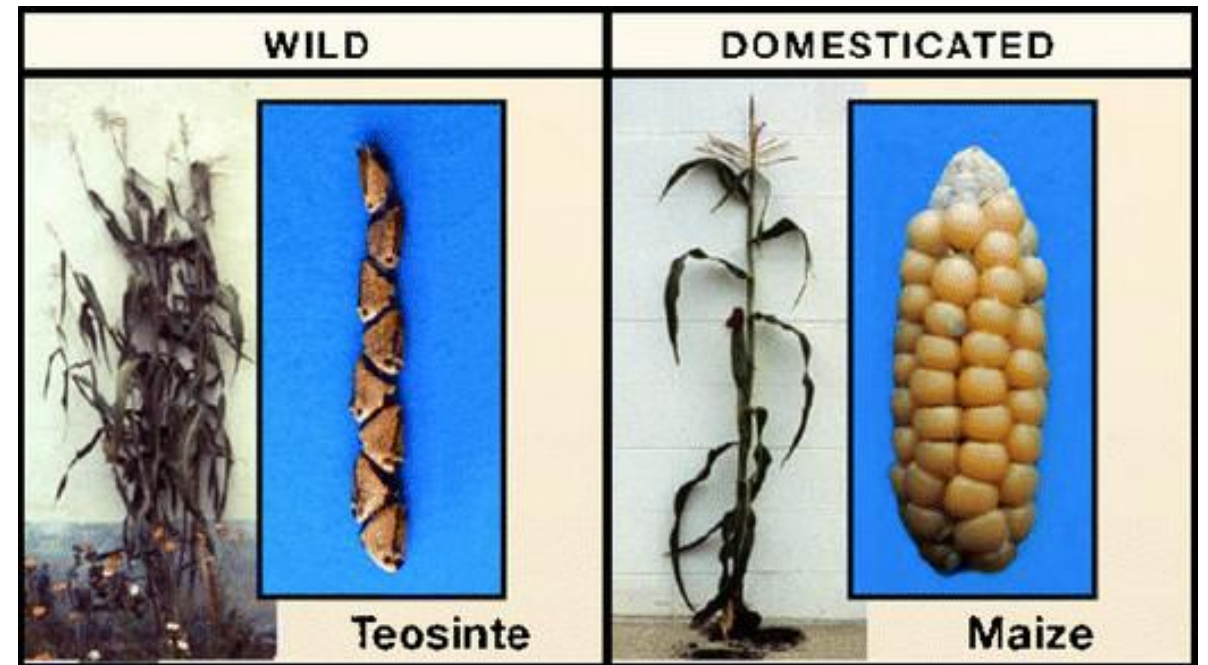
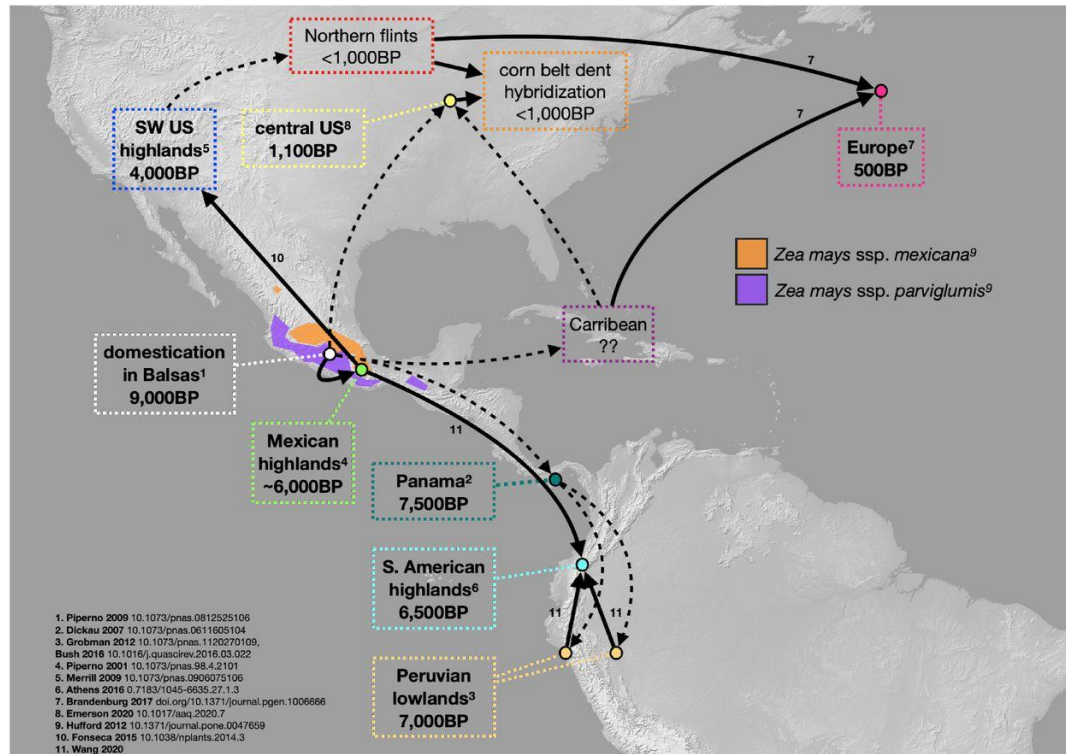


THE 'NEOLITHIC PACKAGE'



Rice Domestication

Maize Domestication





**Kavilca Wheat
Eastern Anatolia**

Cultivated for 7000+ years

**Landrace varieties now 1%
of Turkey's cereal
cultivation.**









Peruvian Andes



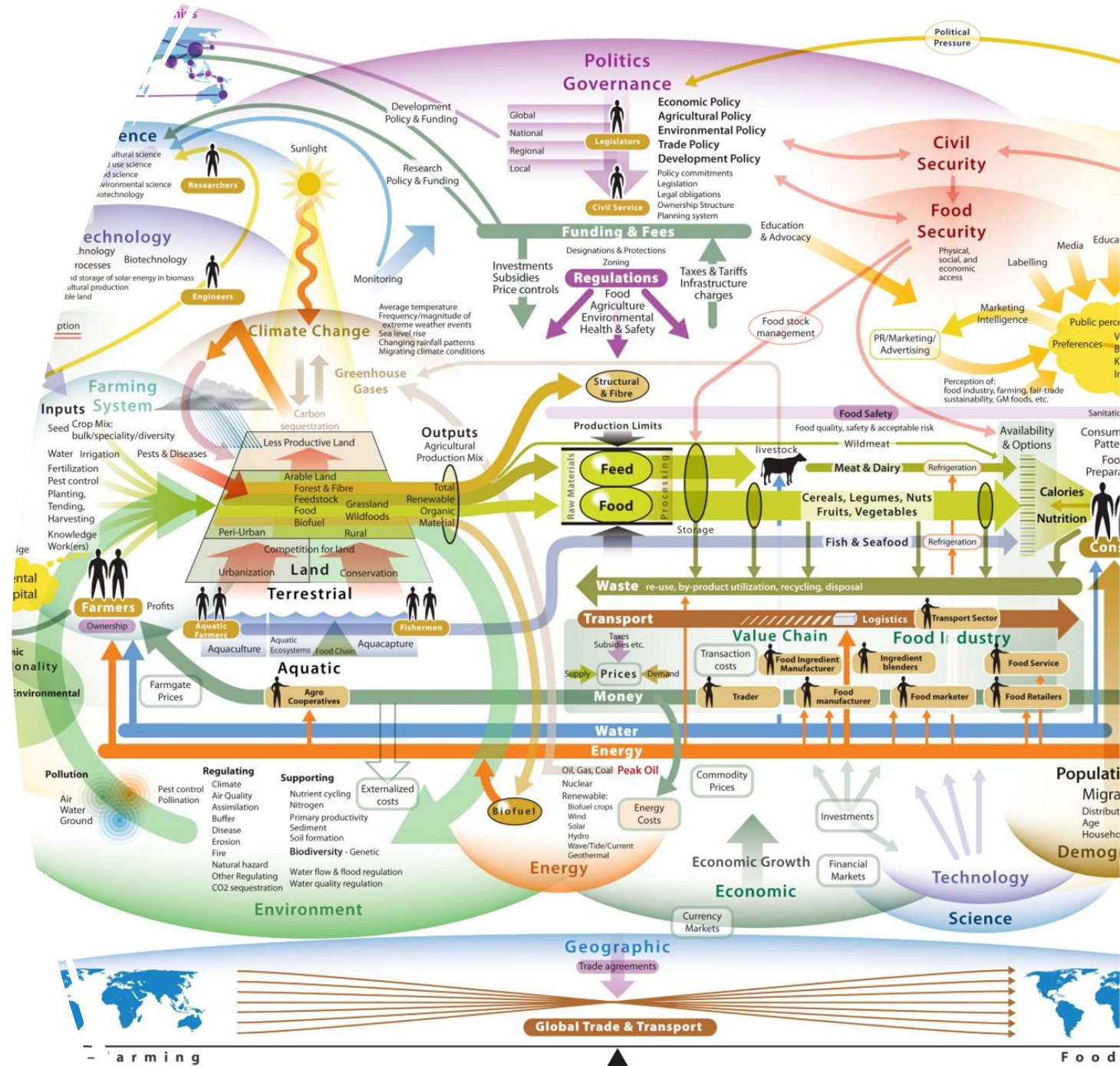


SVALBARD SEED VAULT

- Wheat 213,000
- Rice 170,000
- Maize 39,000
- Potato 21,000
- Millet 35,000



- WHAT DO ANY OF THESE FOODS HAVE TO DO WITH FOOD SYSTEMS CHANGE?





NIAB – Cambridge

NIAB – CAMBRIDGE







Innovating rural-urban supply chains.

- Chef Marsia Taha Mohamed &.....
-the Wildlife Conservation Society – Bolivia + an entire National Park.
- Entrepreneur Claus Meyer.
- Conserving a food culture and agrobiodiversity.....
- Communicating food stories to an urban audience...
- Economic support for communities.





Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Globally Important
**AGRICULTURAL
HERITAGE**
Systems



GIAHS

Globally Important Agricultural
Heritage Systems



Background

Become a GIAHS

GIAHS around the world

News

Resources



Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems: China, Mexico, Morocco and Spain get additional sites, along with first one in Thailand

CHINA AND GIAHS

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) of China: the challenge of complexity in research

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Abstract. The challenge of researching Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) as complex systems forms the subject matter of this study. Complex adaptive systems are those that combine natural ecological processes with human interactions to produce a mutually supportive agro-ecological system. In China, these highly varied systems have the added dimension of long historical time, in that they have evolved over many centuries and thus add a historical dimension to the natural and human dimensions of complexity. In preparing research on GIAHS, it is clear that seeing GIAHS sites as whole systems is an essential starting and ending point. Examining the adaptive capacity of a GIAHS with its multiple scales and complex interdependencies is a major challenge for researchers accustomed to specialized disciplinary thinking. A GIAHS represents a mature agro-ecological system with human agency as a central component that has been honed over many centuries, and has already adapted to many perturbations and changes. The beauty of the GIAHS is in the integration of custom, knowledge, and practice, and it should be studied for its “wholeness” as well as for its resilience and capacity for “self organization.” The agro-ecological approach opens the possibility of researching a system as a whole and of taking its complexity seriously. This study reviews the essential features of the GIAHS as a complex adaptive system where uncertainty is normal and surprise is welcome and, in a case study of Qingtian rice–fish culture system, focuses on new perturbations, namely loss of young people and the introduction of tourism.

Key words: *agro-ecology; complex adaptive system; Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (GIAHS); Qingtian County, China; rice–fish culture system; self-organizing system; tourism; traditional ecological knowledge; uncertainty.*

Citation: Fuller, A. M., Q. Min, W. Jiao, and Y. Bai. 2015. Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) of China: the challenge of complexity in research. *Ecosystem Health and Sustainability* 1(2):6. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1890/EHS14-0007.1>

Three sites in China among six newly recognized as Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems



Deqing Freshwater Pearl Mussels Composite Fishery System in Zhejiang Province, China

©GIAHS/China

CHINA



Designated sites

1. Rice Fish Culture
2. Wannian Traditional Rice Culture
3. Hani Rice Terraces
4. Dong's Rice Fish Duck System
5. Pu'er Traditional Tea Agrosystem
6. Aohan Dryland Farming System
7. Kuaijishan Ancient Chinese Torreya
8. Urban Agricultural Heritage - Xuanhua Grape Garden
9. Jiaxian Traditional Chinese Date Gardens
10. Xinghua Duotian Agrosystem
11. Jasmine and Tea Culture System of Fuzhou City
12. Zhejiang Huzhou Mulberry-dyke & Fish-pond System
13. Zhagana Agriculture-Forestry-Animal Husbandry Composite System, China
14. Traditional Mulberry System in Xiajin's Ancient Yellow River Course, China
15. Rice Terraces in Southern Mountainous and Hilly areas
16. Shexian Dryland Stone Terraced System
17. Anxi Tieguanyin Tea Culture System
18. Ar Horqin Grassland Nomadic System in Inner Mongolia
19. Qingyuan Forest-Mushroom Co-culture System in Zhejiang Province
20. Kuancheng Traditional Chestnut Eco-Planting System in Hebei Province
21. Xianju Ancient Chinese Waxberry Composite System in Zhejiang Province
22. Tongling White Ginger Plantation System in Anhui Province
23. Gaolan Shichuan Ancient Pear Orchard System in Gansu Province

C40 CITIES & THE FOOD SYSTEM: 97 cities representing 920 million people. 23% of the world's economy.


C40 CITIES

WHO WE ARE ▾ WHAT WE DO ▾ OUR CITIES LATEST ▾ 🔍

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Food Systems

Cities are driving the transformation of food systems to improve health and resilience, reduce emissions, and ensure equitable access to sustainable food.



© filmstudio / Getty Images

“Transforming food systems for health, equity, and climate”

“Cities leading the shift to sustainable, equitable food consumption”

“Cities are uniquely positioned to transform food systems. Half of all food worldwide is consumed in cities, and this could rise to 80% by 2050”

“Mayors can use their influence over food procurement, policy, communications, and waste management to drive a transition towards healthier, more sustainable, and equitable food systems.”

Transforming food systems for health, equity, and climate

Cities leading the shift to sustainable, equitable food consumption

Cities are uniquely positioned to transform food systems. Half of all food worldwide is consumed in cities, and this could rise to 80% by 2050^[1]. Mayors can use their influence over food procurement, policy, communications, and waste management to drive a transition towards healthier, more sustainable, and equitable food systems.

Public Procurement Models – sending signals through the supply chain.

Brazil – National School Feeding Programme (PNAE) – 2009 - 30% of PNAE funds must be spent on food purchased directly from family farmers, with preference for local suppliers and a 30% price premium for certified organic and agroecological produce.

South Korea: Seoul - Urban–Rural Coexistence Public Meal programme

Milan – Distretto Agricolo - 77,000 school meals per day via its municipal catering service. The city works with the Distretto Agricolo Milanese (DAM), a consortium of over 30 peri-urban farms.

Denmark - Copenhagen & the Organic Benchmark (1,000 public kitchens, across schools, hospitals, nursing homes, and day-care centres. Restructuring tenders into smaller lots (vegetables, fruit, bread, dairy) so that smallholder farmers can realistically compete. Investment in kitchen staff skills, so chefs can cook from scratch rather than rely on processed inputs.

France: Mouans-Sartoux, France: The Municipal Farm Model.

Other Innovations: Food on Prescription.

- UK - Alexandra Rose Vouchers - 80% of participants were eating five portions of fruit and veg daily, up from 28% at baseline, with a 40% reduction in GP visits.
- United States – Wholesome Wave - Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP)
- Australia - George Institute for Global Health
- Brazil - Bolsa Família Programme
- Canada - Community Food Centres
Canada's Market Greens (Greens Rx)

FOOD AND THE NEW TOWNS

The seven to be progressed further are Tempsford; Leeds South Bank; Crews Hill and Chase Park; Manchester Victoria North; Thamesmead; Brabazon and West Innovation Arc as well as a site in Milton Keynes.

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Ministers name seven areas where 'new towns' could be built



ANDY CATO
GROOVE
ARMADA







WILDFARMED

WHEAT WITH A STORY....



..... a story now being told in supermarkets.



Swabian Jura

Alb Lentil





The Lentil Underground.....

- Hodmedods (UK)
- Nordisk Råvara (Sweden)
- Alb-Leisa (Germany)



FRESH PRODUCE FROM SENEGAL:
A QUESTION OF RESILIENCE?

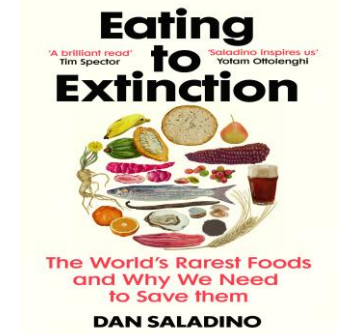
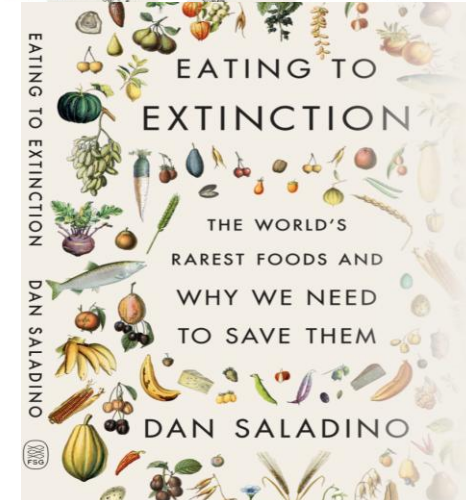
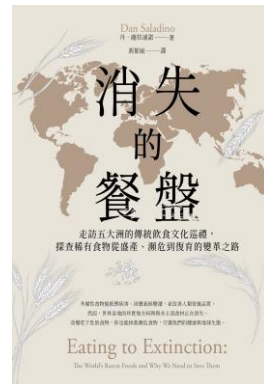
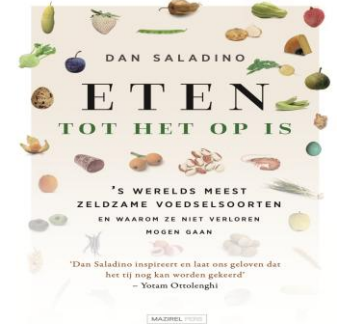
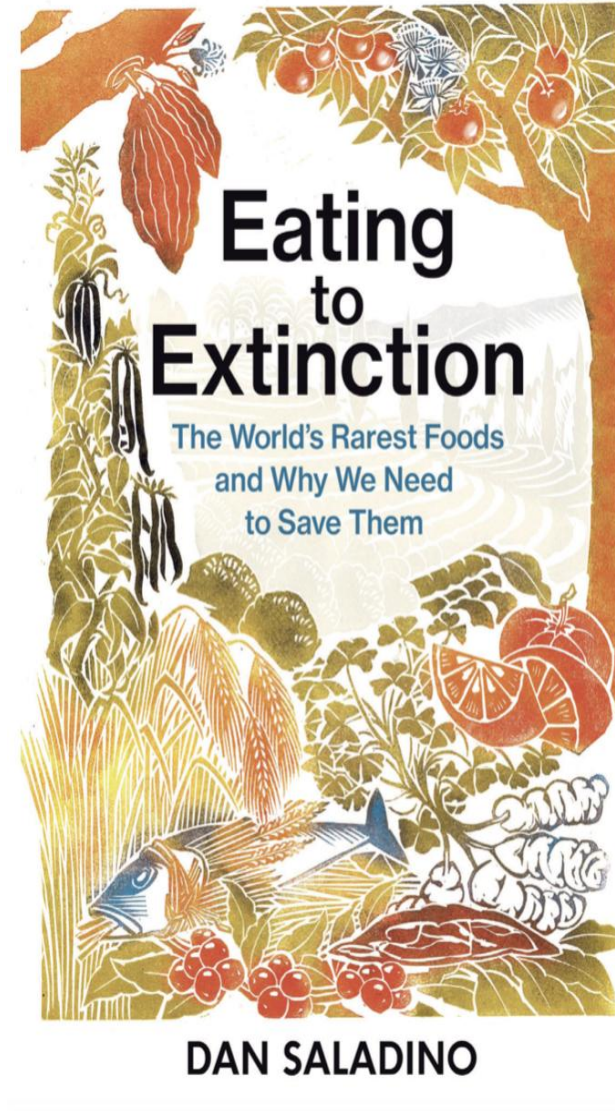
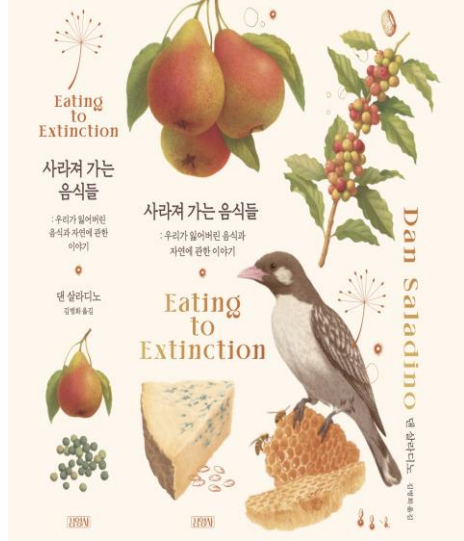




- **Gut microbiome....**
- trillions of bacteria, archaea, fungi and viruses
-Shapes our physical and mental health
- **Tollund man 4th century BCE.....**
- 40 different plants
- Food diversity = our evolutionary history.



DAN SALADINO – EATING TO EXTINCTION – STORIES OF FOOD DIVERSITY





Transforming UK Food Systems Conference, 23-24 March 2026



#TUKFS26

