

A Case Study of Awaji Island

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Resource Use and Biodiversity in Japanese Agriculture: A Case Study of Awaji Island

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What is Awaji?



- An unknown place?
- The Origin of Japanese Shinto?
- An epicentre of the Kobe Hanshin Earthquake?
- A polder for the largest suspension bridge in the world?
- A lecture hall in UMDS?
- A Japanese region with unique landscapes?



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Division of Japan

- Japan
- Kinki region
- Hyogo ken
- Awaji shima
- 4 municipalities
 - Awaji shi
 - Sumoto shi
 - Minami Awaji
 - Goshiki-cho
 - (Previously 11 municipalities)
- Applied examples from Awaji
 - visit the poster session to see

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Future of Awaji Island

- The Not Impossible Future
 - We fear further depopulation.
 - Current variety of landscapes can not be maintained.
 - Neglect in landscape care alters impacts of disasters.
- The Wanted Future
 - Keep agriculture, enhance tourism and find new income.
 - Attract migrants young professionals and retired people and from urban areas.
 - Keep bio-diversity for Awaji island and preserve the century old cultural landscape.

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Japan and Awaji in 2003

- Japan
 - 128 million people
 - 378,000 km²
 - 10% urban
 - 90% rural
- Awaji
 - 154,000 people
 - 596 km²
 - 0.12% of population
 - 0.16% of land

Major Categories of Land Use in Japan 2003

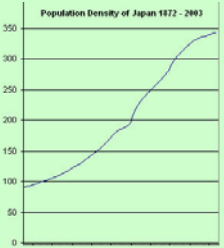

Farmland	13.8%
Forest	68.4%
Waterways	13.8%
Roads	1.2%
Building land	1.2%
Other	1.2%

Major Land Uses Awaji Shima

Cultivated	30.8%
Forest total	54.7%
Building land	4.0%
Others	10.5%

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Do we have to fear depopulation?

- In 1950, Awaji population was 0.27% of Japan
- In 2003, Awaji population was 0.12% of Japan
- Since 1950 population decreased in Awaji by one third
- In some places (Hokudan-cho) even to half



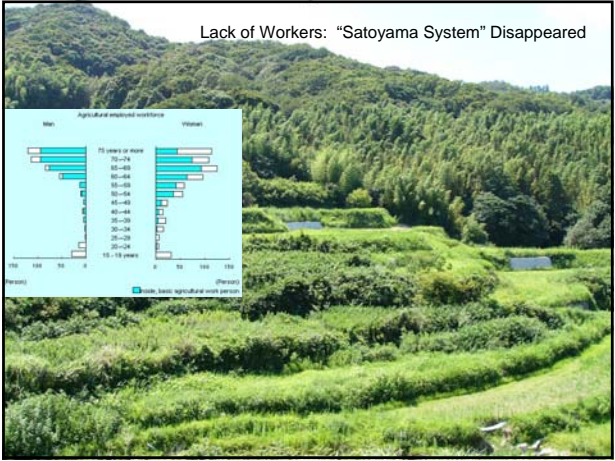
Traditional wealth from fishery and agriculture



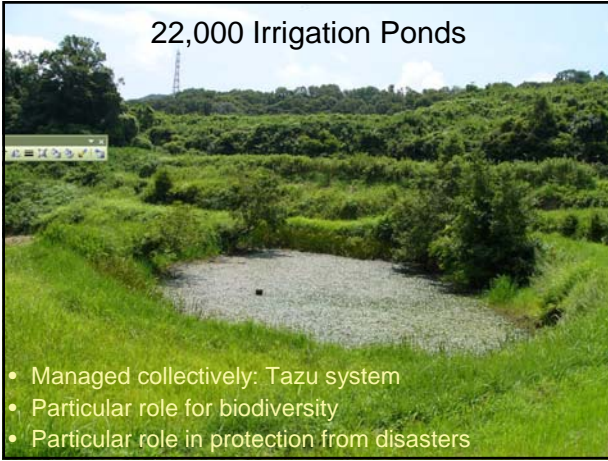
Typical Landscape of Awaji



Difficulties in Landscape Management



Lack of Workers: "Satoyama System" Disappeared



22,000 Irrigation Ponds

- Managed collectively: Tazu system
- Particular role for biodiversity
- Particular role in protection from disasters

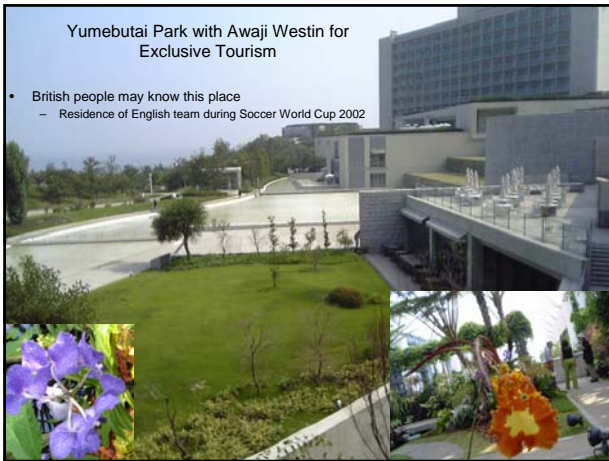



Richness of Man Made Secondary Biotops



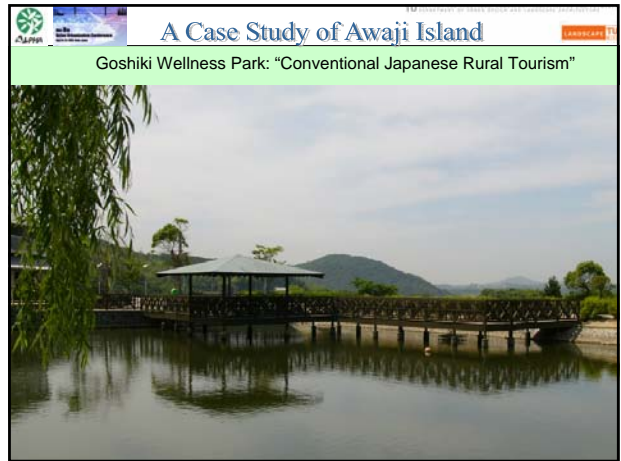
Yumebutai Park with Awaji Westin for Exclusive Tourism

- British people may know this place
 - Residence of English team during Soccer World Cup 2002

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Goshiki Wellness Park: "Conventional Japanese Rural Tourism"



Neglected Urban Park in Tsuna Port

- High tourism potential, but not used
- Previously boat to Kansai airport
- Boat still fastest connection
 - to Southern Osaka
 - Wakayama






However, a dream for particular budget travellers

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Options for Tourism

- In particular from Kansai region
 - Nearby resort
 - Short holiday resort
 - Currently only high cost accommodations
 - Need to build out inexpensive kind of tourism: e.g. farmholidays
- High environmental quality settlements for occasional urban dwellers
 - Inexpensive land
 - Vicinity to major urban centres of Osaka and Kobe
 - Maybe in future conflict with shrinking Japanese cities

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Graduate Students of ALPHA

- Study for two years in Awaji Landscape Planning and Horticultural Academy ALPHA of the University of Hyogo
- Come from all over Japan
- Bring fresh ideas to the island
- They developed ideas for the future of Awaji
- They are happy to talk to you in the poster session

