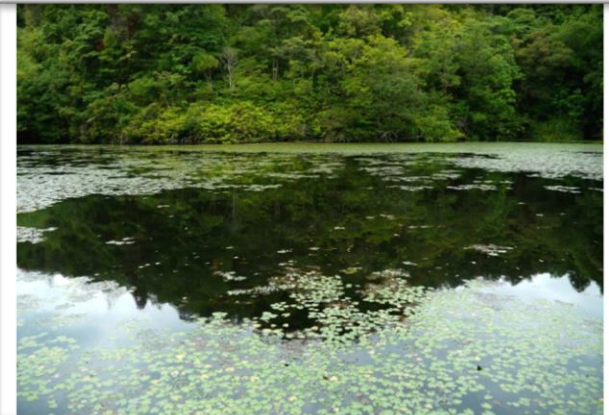


3rd Conference of East Asia Research Association for Agricultural Heritage

# Minabe-Tanabe Ume System



Ryota Nakahaya  
Minabe town, Wakayama Prefecture

# Location

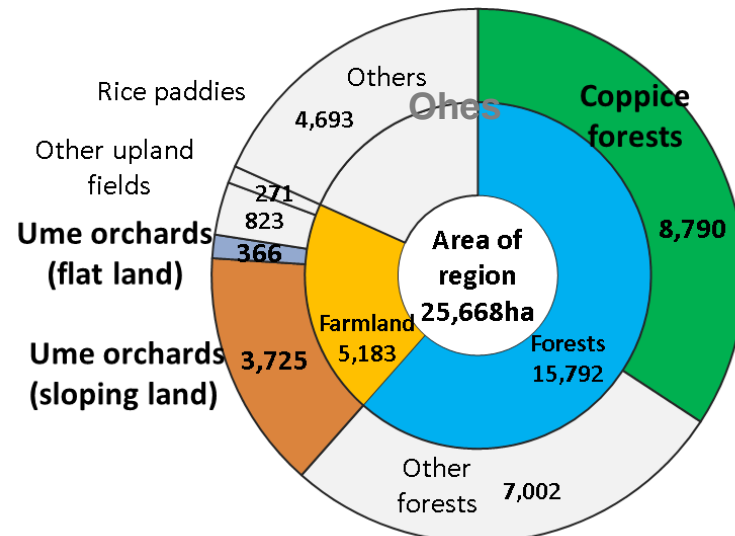




# Minabe-Tanabe Site



## The Site Data



Land area according to land use

# Global Importance

## Ume, a crop of worldwide significance



Processing



**Ume**

(*Prunus mume*, Japanese apricot)

**Umeboshi**

(Pickled Ume)

**Ume: Daily Japanese side dish**



**Ume**



**Pickling**



**Sun drying**



**Desalting**



**Flavoring**



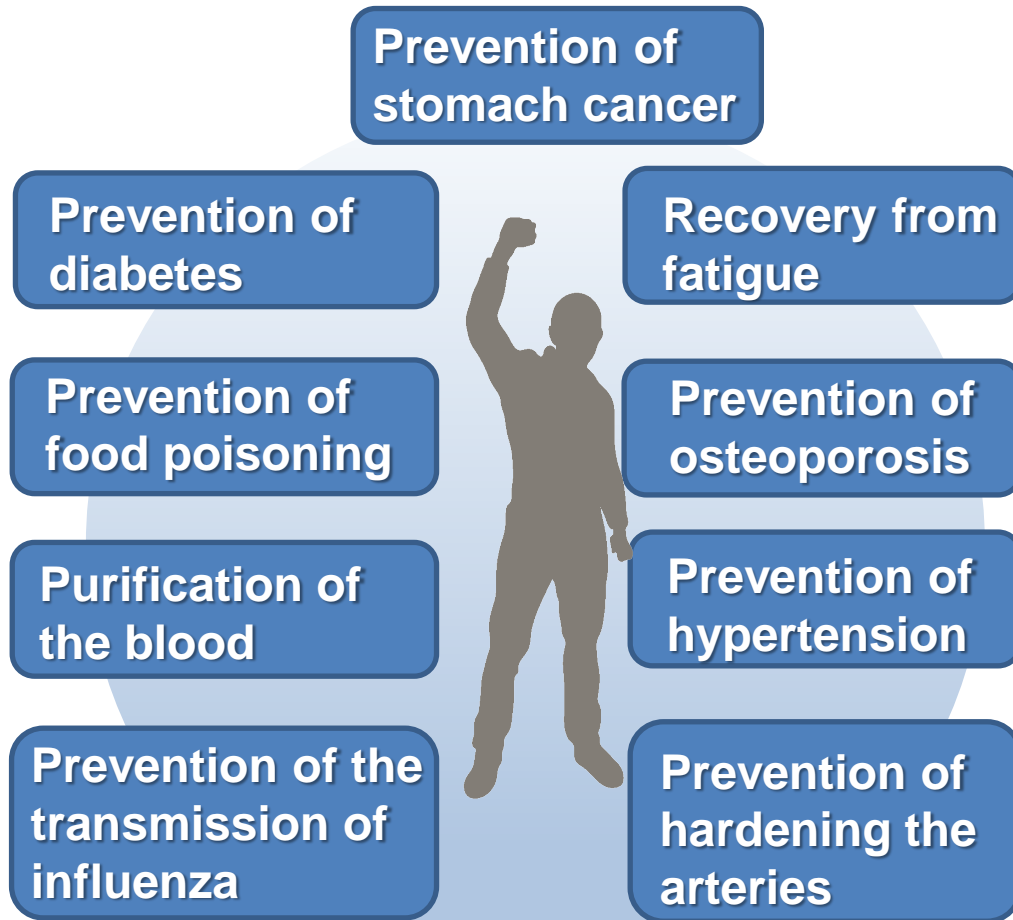
**Umeboshi**

**A unique Japanese processed food, Umeboshi**



# Health Food “Ume”

## Functionality of Ume



## Various of ume products

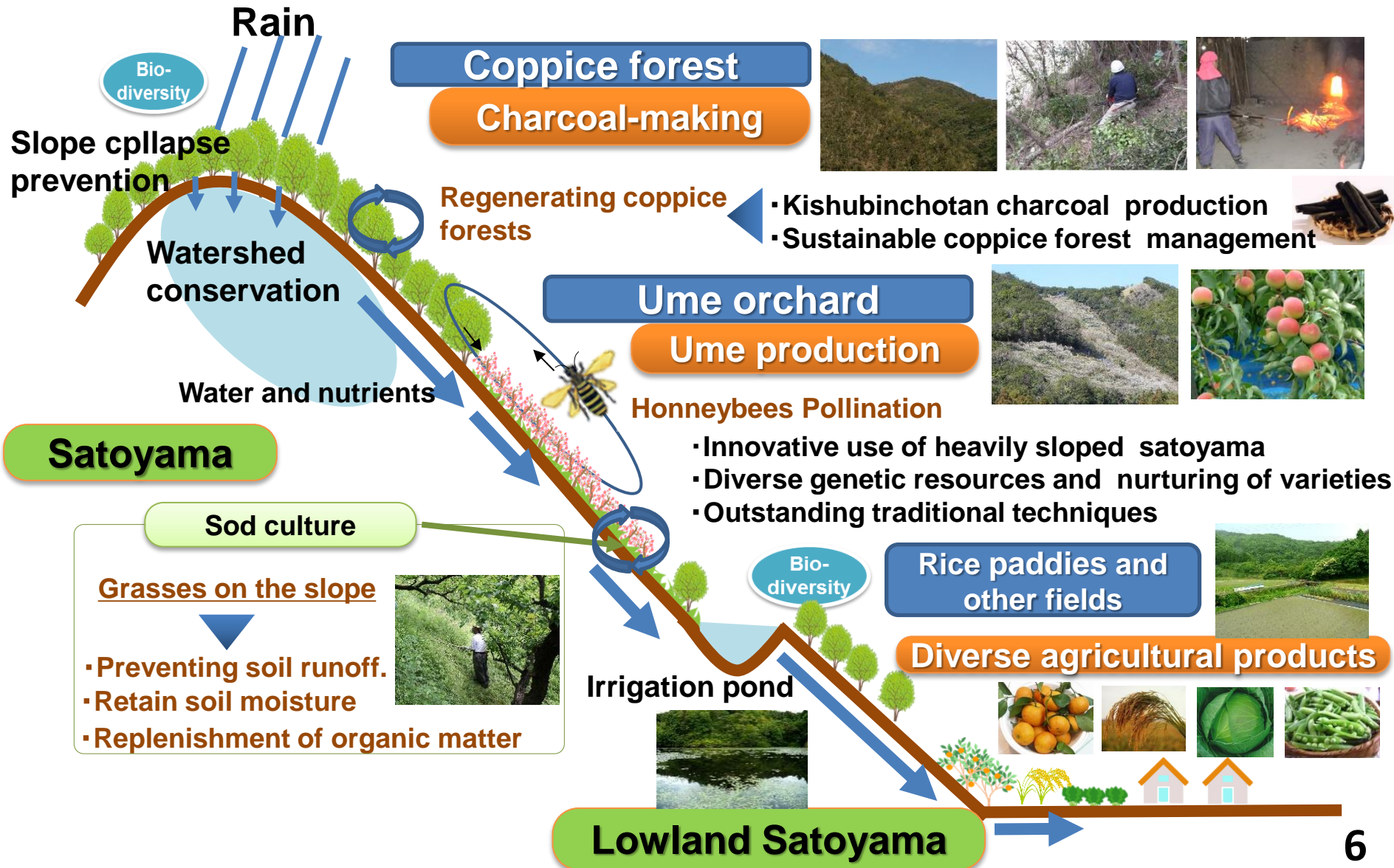


### Processing

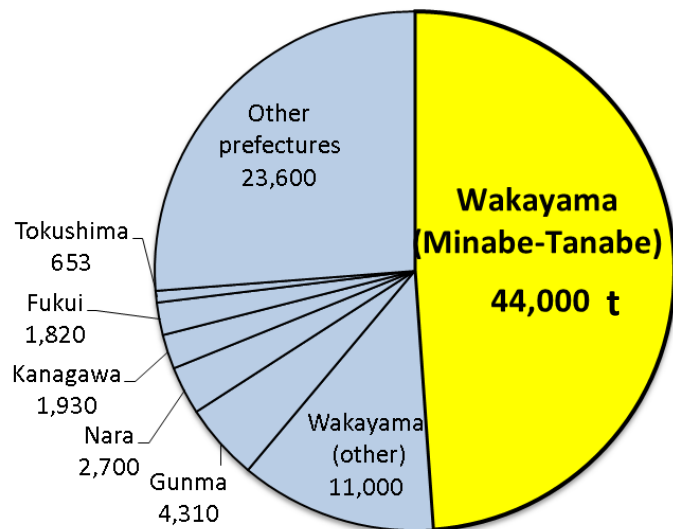


# Global Importance

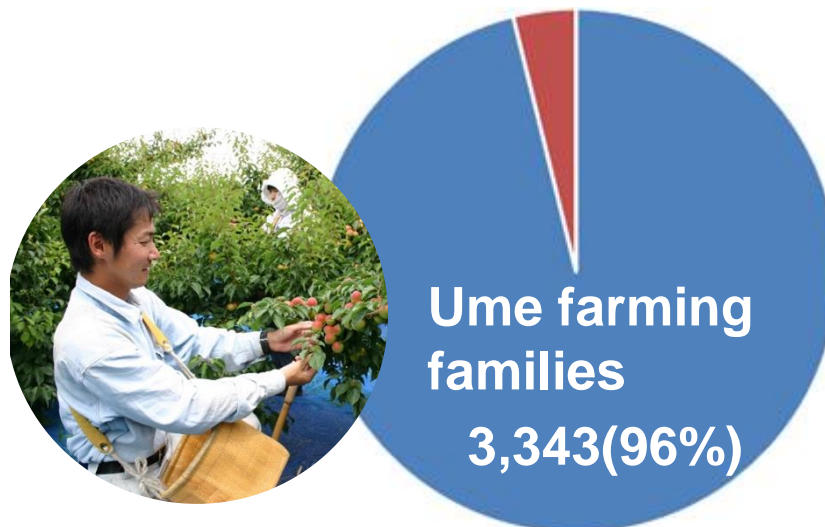
## "Circulation" in Minabe-Tanabe Ume System



# 1. Food and Livelihood Security



Japan's ume production by prefecture  
(t,2012)



Number of farming families  
(2010)



Farmers' market featuring a more variety of agricultural produce  
(Store by farmers)



## 2. Biodiversity and Ecosystem Function

### Mutualism of ume trees and honeybees

#### Coppice forest

Ubame oaks  
(*Quercus phillyraeoides*)  
*Castanopsis* spp  
*Prunus jamasakura*  
etc

Nectar  
source

Habitat

Wintering  
ground for  
honeybees

Nectar  
source

Pollination

#### Ume orchard



Ume blossoms and  
Japanese honeybee



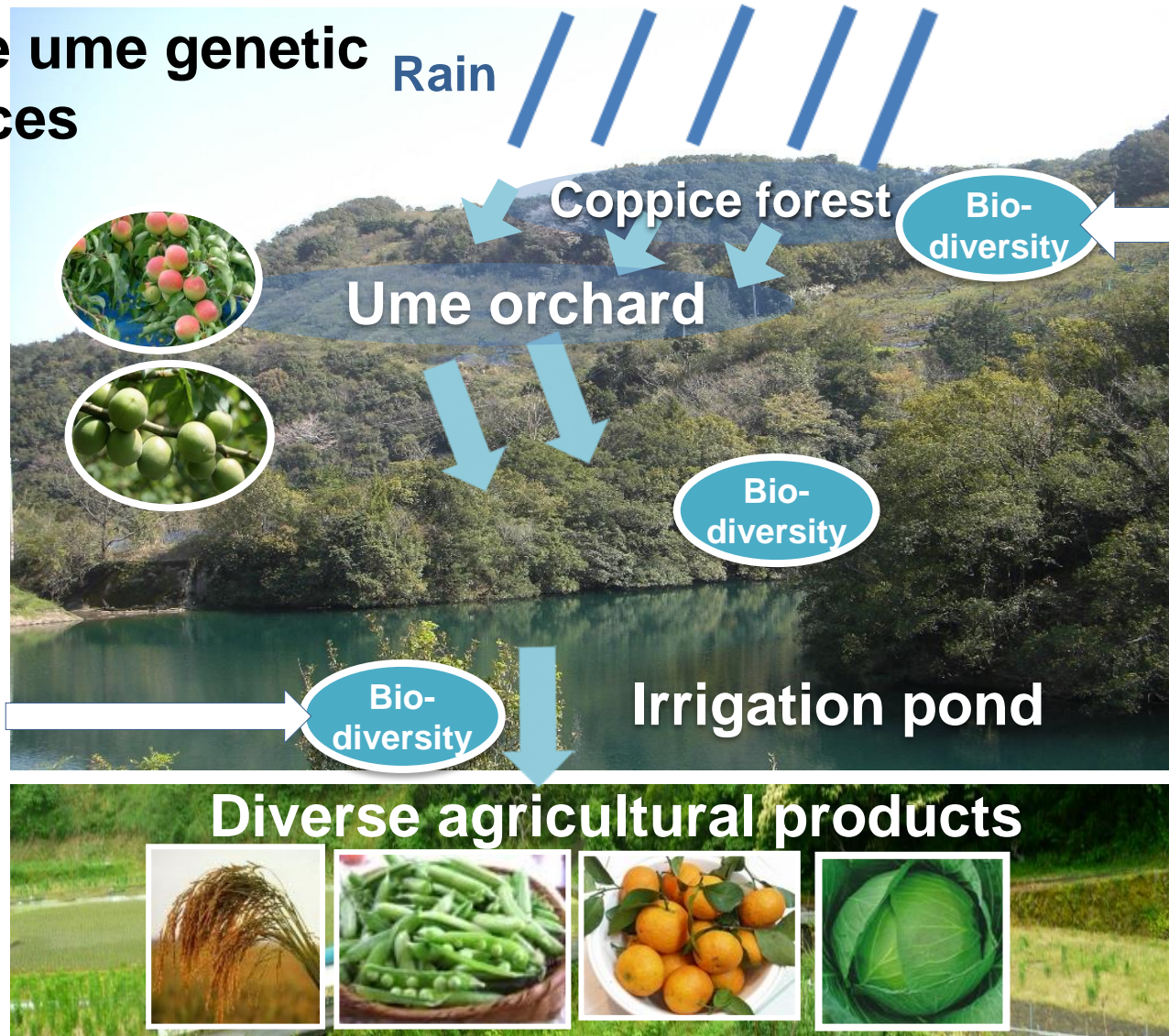
A gora, a traditional beehive unique to the site, which is made by hollowing out a log, capitalizing on the Japanese honeybee's habit of building nests in tree hollows.



## 2. Biodiversity and Ecosystem Function

### Biodiversity and Ecosystems Conserved by Multiple Land Uses

Diverse ume genetic resources



*Hynobius nebulosus*



*Cynops pyrrhogaster*



*Asiagomphus melaenops*  
.etc



*Citrus tachibana*



*Lilium japonicum*




*Clematis terniflora*  
etc



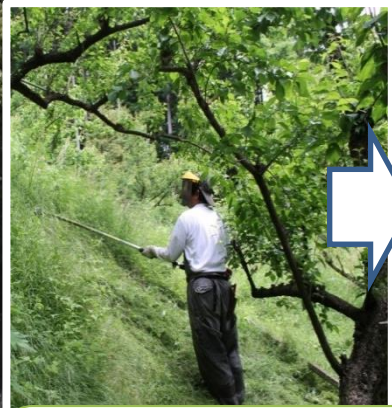
### 3. Knowledge Systems and Adapted technologies

## Innovative use of heavily sloped satoyama



**Coppice Forest**

**Ume Orchard**



Grown grasses on the slope


▼

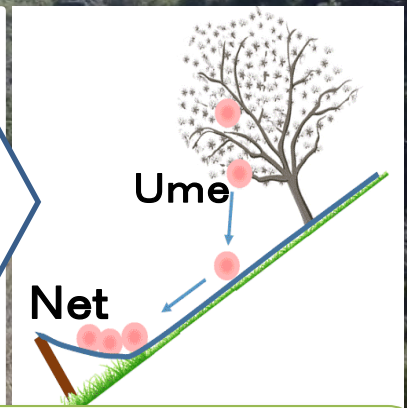
**Prevent drying and runoff of the soil**

▼ Cut and use

**Fertilizer for the ume trees**

**Sod culture**





Ume

Net

**Method of Harvesting by net**



# 3. Knowledge Systems and Adapted Technologies

## Coppice forest management



**Coppice forest**

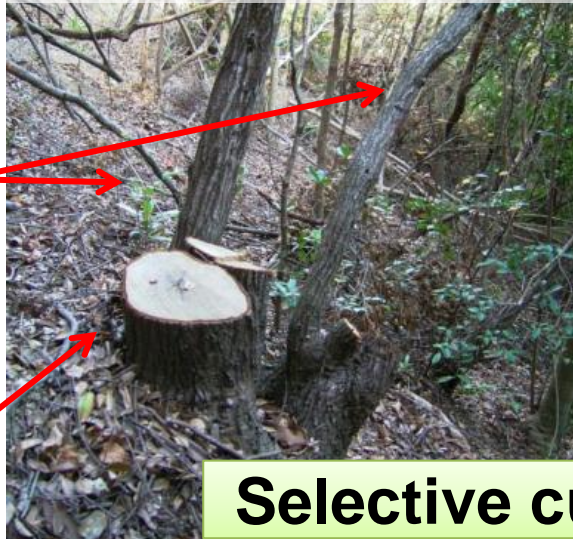


**Removal of charcoal from the kiln**



**Kishubinchotan charcoal**

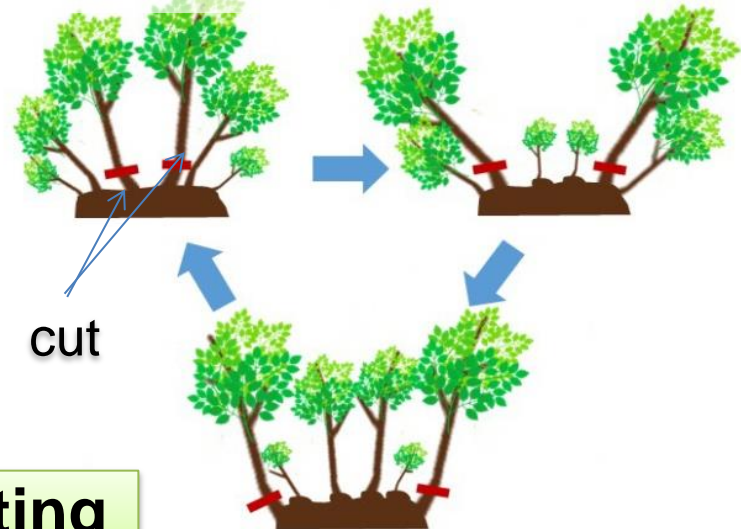
**Ubame oaks (*Quercus phillyraeoides*)**



Thin  
trunks  
are left

Thick  
trunks  
are cut

**Selective cutting**





## 4. Cultures, Value Systems and Social Organizations



Dedicated to thank for harvest

**Traditional lion dance**



**Ceremony to appreciation the pioneer of ume cultivation**



**Festival of offering ume to the shrine**



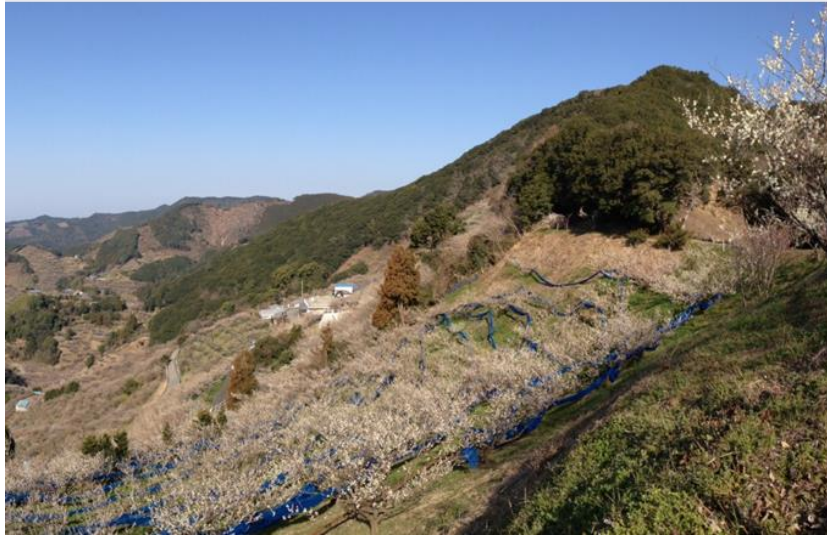
**Ume rice**



**Handing-down of traditional cuisine using ume**

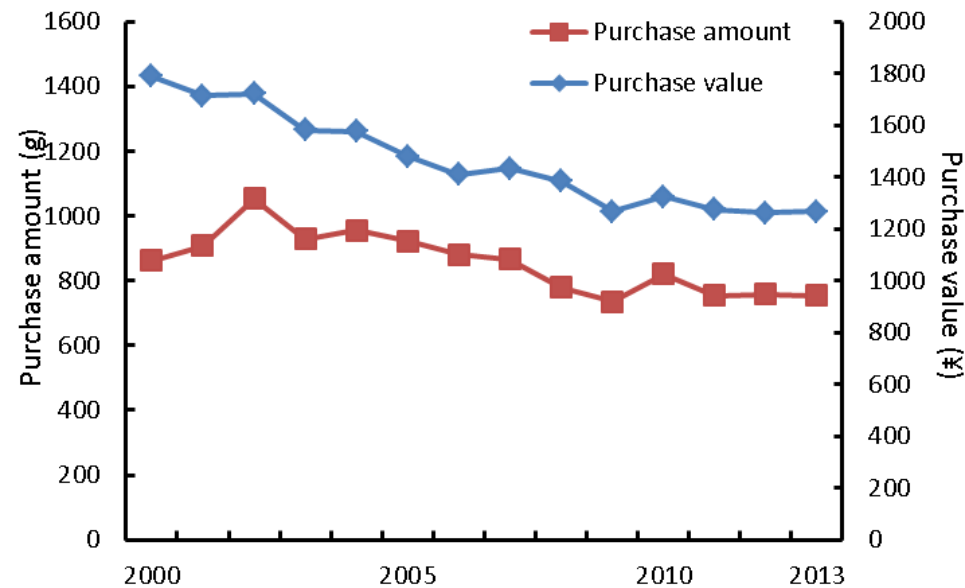


## 5. Remarkable Landscapes, Land and Water Resources Management Features

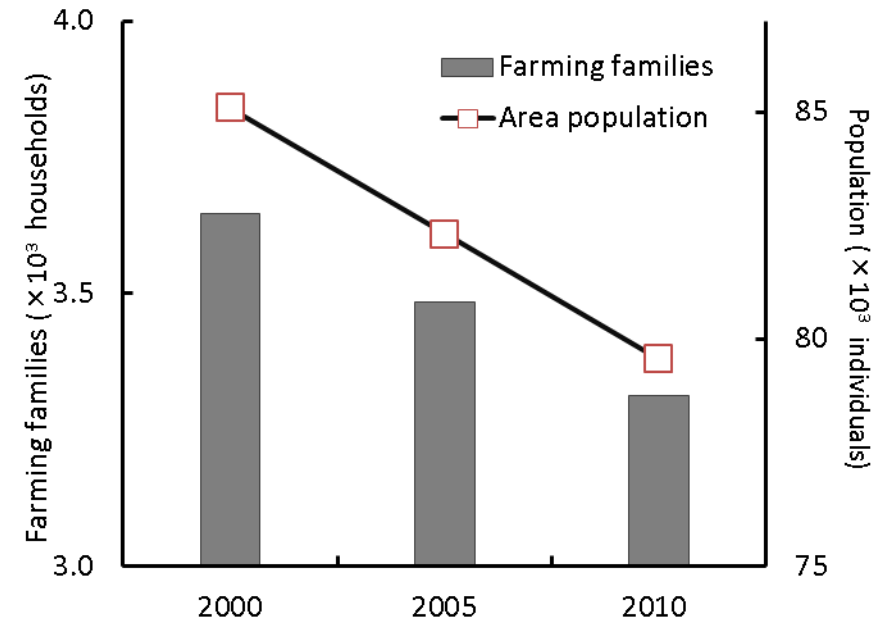


# Threats and Challenges

1. Fewer farming families and advancing age
2. Declining ume consumption
3. Coppice forest management techniques being lost



Amount of Umeboshi purchased, and purchase value per Japanese household



Population and number of farming families in the Minabe-Tanabe area



# Minabe-Tanabe Ume System

## Outline of GIAHS Action Plan

### **I . Promoting ume and charcoal production and expanding sales channels**

1. Improving ume productivity and nurturing successors.
2. Adding value to ume
3. Sustainable charcoal production and nurturing human resources

### **II . Preserving biodiversity and local landscapes**

1. Preserving the biodiversity of ume orchards
2. Initiatives to eliminate abandoned farmland and preserve local landscapes

### **III . Passing on traditional techniques and culture**

1. Passing on traditional techniques
2. Nurturing cultural stewards

### **IV . Generating synergy domestically and internationally**

1. Disseminating information on local industry through urban-rural exchanges
2. Contributing to society both domestically and overseas through local industries

# GIAHS Action Plan for 5 Key Criteria

## 1. Food and livelihood security



Promoting ume production and expanding sales channels .etc.

## 2. Biodiversity and ecosystem function



Conserve honeybees .etc



## 3. Knowledge systems and adapted technologies



Pass on ume production technique .etc

## 4. Cultures, value systems and social organizations



Pass on ume cuisine .etc

## 5. Remarkable landscapes, land and water resources management features



Cooperative farmland conservation .etc



# Nurturing Successors

## Inheritance of traditional technology and culture



## Farming experience of students and Urban-rural exchanges







Fostering local power bonds by ume system

Thank you

