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Rice cultivation in Namibia and Angola The choice between high-tech and ecological agriculture

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- > Rice is endemic in Namibia, 3 wild species in NBRI,
- > First irrigated rice, 1975 in Mahenene, later in Cunene and Caprivi. In 1990 Feasibility study, rice trade and production-chain analysis and environmental impact assessment (AGRICOLA).

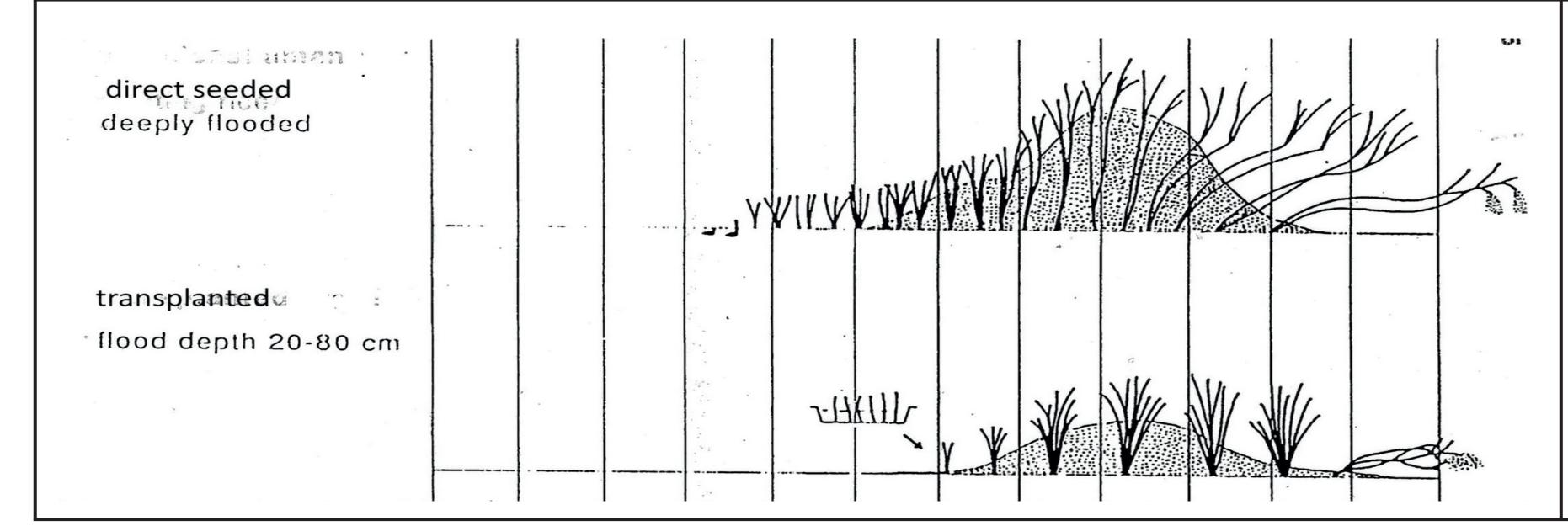
1990-1995, selection trials with deep-water rice varieties (AGRICOLA). 2010, UNAM with Kink-Uni-Japan "New Rice for Africa" (NERICA).

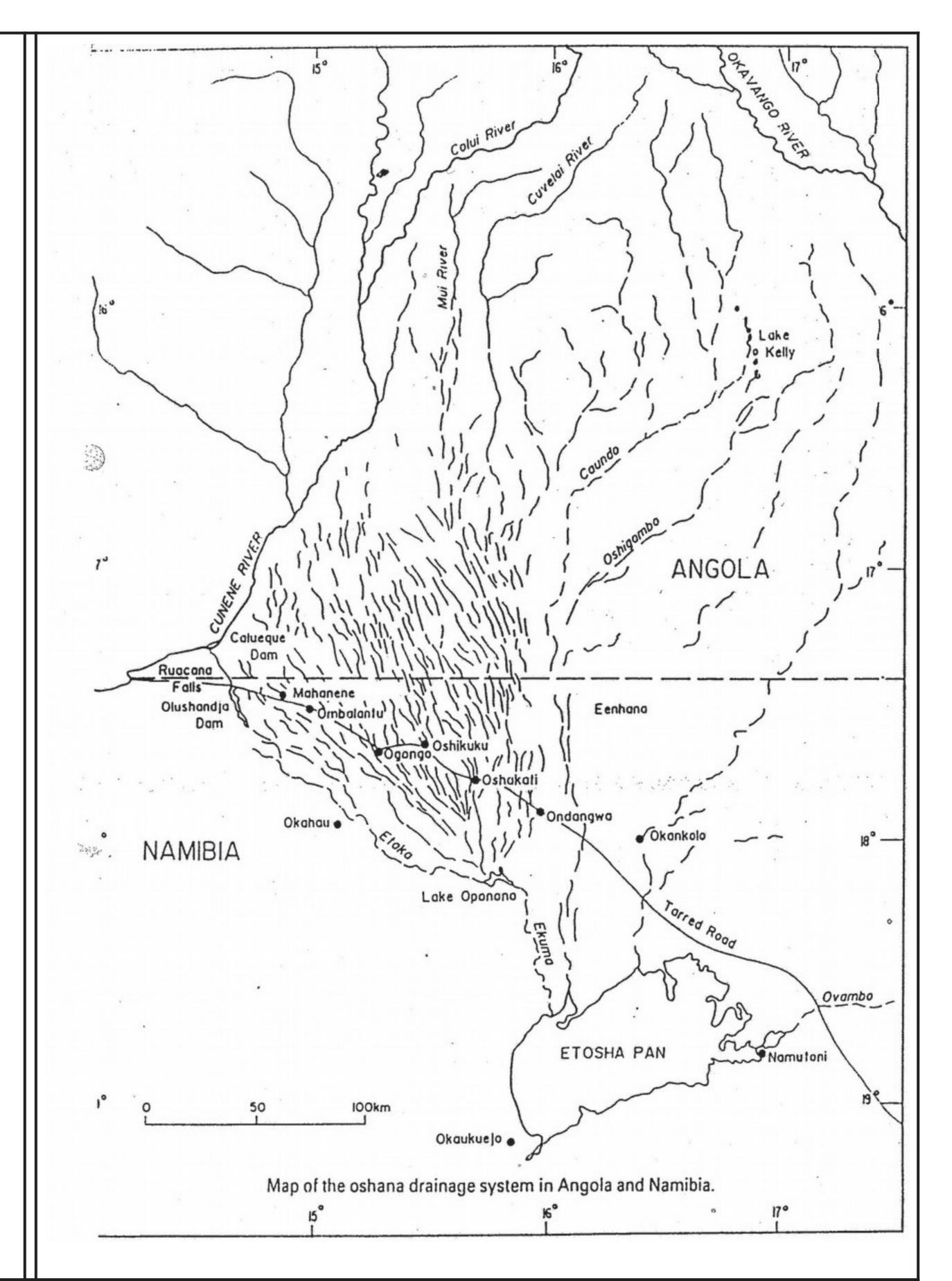
2016-2018 transplanted rice by UNAM Ogongo Campus.

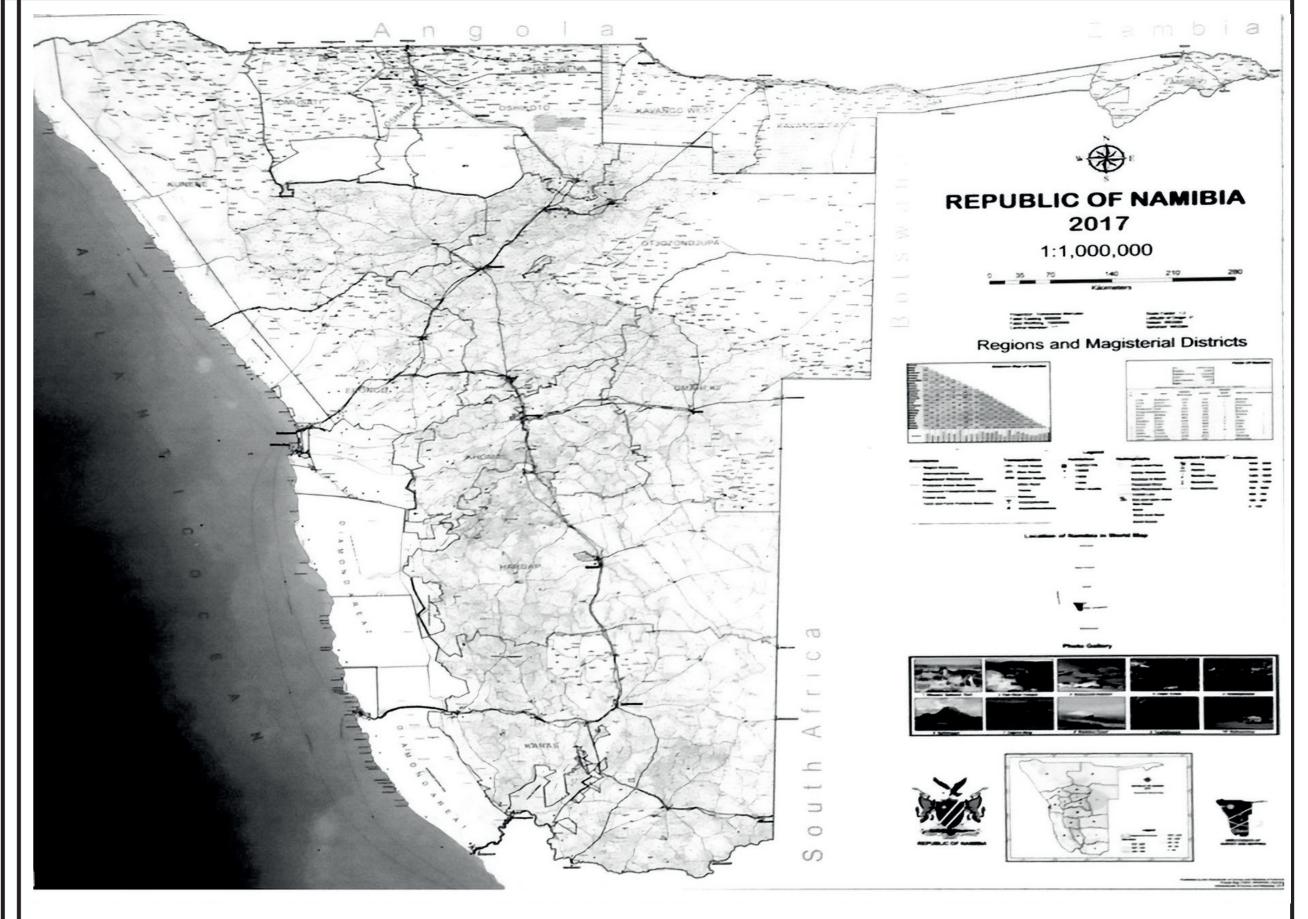
- > Rice yields (2.4-5.1 t/ha, unimproved soil) are higher than for sorghum (staple food), pearl-millet (350 kg/ha).
- > Rain is insecure (450 l/ha pa.) in North Central Namibia, leading to frequent drought and famine.
- > Floodwater from Angola Plateau perform every year and can be used under appropriate Natural Resource Management (Etosha Natural Wildlife Sanctuary), (NRM, IWRM, ICM and IWM).
- > The Cuvelay System of Seasonal Wetlands (CSSW) cover 800,000 ha. (oshanas and odombes).
- > Selection trials during 5 years, on 3 trial sites, testing 588 varieties from IRRI, WARDA, IITA, IRAG. (Results below)
- > On-farm trials, rice cultivation and cattle breeding (Farming Systems Research) AGRICOLA: "Community based rice production in oshanas".
- > Additional food-crop on underutilized communal land.
- > Fodder for cattle, ducks and fish. Grazing ratoon yields.
- > No pests, diseases, serious weeds detected.
- > Substitution of rice imports by own national production is possible.
- > Food security, storage, job creation, poverty alleviation, resilience to climatic change.
- > Wetlands cover 6% of earth's land surface.
- > Argo-ecological farming can feed the world!

Results of selection trials with deep water rice:

- IR42 (IRLON, IRBON), mature 143-165 DAS, plant height 76-120 cm.1.3-2.5 t/ha (no fertilization, no soil improvement)
- FR13A-Mahsuri (IDRON), matured 132-162 DAS, plant height 65-97cm, 1.1-2.3 t/ha. Awns defend against weaver birds.
- Nankin6 (IRAG 8833), 114-122 DAS at plant height 87-115cm, 1.9-2.2 t/ha.
- Rojofotsi (Burundi), 1.9-3.2 t/ha, 105-117 DAS, 1.7-3.2 t/ha.
- TOX33-61 (WARDA, Burundi), 118 DAS, 1.9-3.2 t/ha.
- WAB56-104 (WARDA), 125 DAS, 2.3 t/ha.
- Sundari (India), 158 DAS, 1.3-2,4 t/ha
- R321-1852 cross 962837, 152 DAS, 5,1 t/ha (red-rice).







Workshop

Friday Sept. 16, afternoon 14:30-17:30 h

Target group

Students, researchers, farmers, policy and decision-makers.