

# Organic Rice Farming

organic paddy rice cultivation depends on a variety of principles one of which includes crop rotation where after growing rice, other crops like legumes and legume pastures like Gliricidia are grown. After growth, the legume pastures are ploughed back into the field to act as manure which adds nutrients to the soil hence no need for chemical fertilizers.

## Organic rice agronomy

Soil preparation, This is done by tilling back green manure like legume pastures in the soil. The manures decay and act as source of nutrients to the rice that would subsequently be grown.

Natural irrigation. In organic paddy rice farming, water is channeled towards the rice field when it rains. This enables the farmer to control the amount of water in the paddy field and through the channels water can be passed on from one field to another.

Paddy field inoculation. Once the green manure is tilled back into the soil, and the paddy field flooded with water, inoculation of the field with a compost is done. The compost has a variety of beneficial micro organisms.

The paddy field is left for about 14 days to enable decomposition of organic matter.

## Transplanting paddy rice

Paddy plant preparation. About 2 weeks before transplanting, a small part of the paddy field with access to sunlight is tilled, and rice seed planted. The rice grows and is transplanted after 2 weeks.

At transplanting, remove a portion of the leaves at plant the rice at a spacing of 1 foot between each plant.

You can fertilize the rice using organic agricultural waste like coco pods, cow dung manure and farm yard manure.

Insect pests are controlled using organic pesticides and harvesting is done after 3 months either manually or using a combine harvester.