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Learning about Locally Existing Technologies by Rapid Rural Appraisal in the Villages, Kanpalet Township, Chin State, Myanmar

ミャンマー、チン州、カンペレート郡の村々における在地の技術に関する速成農村調査法による見聞

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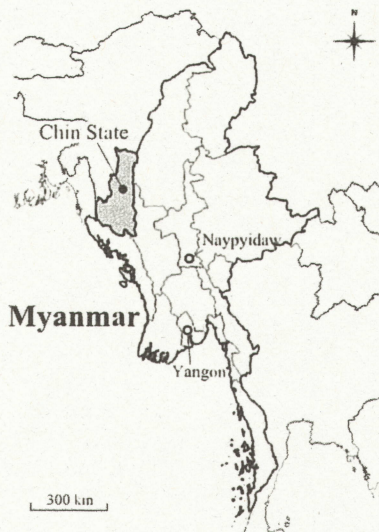


Fig.1. Study Area

Tab.1 Kanpalet Monthly Precipitation and Temperature in 2013

Month	Rainy day	Rainfall mm	Height °C	Lowest °C
Jan	0	0	18	4
Feb	0	0	32	12
Mar	0	0	36	20
Apr	1	30	36	18
May	17	1	34	18
June	17	295	32	16
July	21	360	32	14
Aug	25	407	30	14
Sept	21	654	26	11
Oct	20	334	24	11
Nov	0	0	22	9
Dec	0	0	20	6
Total	123	2316		

Source) Kanpalet Township Office, 2014

Tab.2. Landuse of Kanpalet Township (2013?)

Type of landuse	Area (ha)
Total net agricultural land area	3561
a. Le land	373
b. Yar land	0
c. Kai/kyun land	0
d. Orchard land	236
e. Taungya land	2951
Town, village and other land	329
Forest Land	103484
Taw-yai	414
Myay-yai	9404
Uncultivable Land	133355
Total	249628

Note) Le land=Wet Rice land, Yar Land=Dry Upland Field

Kai/kun land alluvial land, Taungya Land=Swidden land

Tawa-yai=virgin land, Myay-yai=vacant land

Source) Kanpalet Township Office, 2014

1. Introduction Chin State is considered as a highest poverty rate (73.3% in 2005) region in Myanmar (JICA 2013:6). The mountainous and hilly agricultural environment is much influencing the agricultural and livelihood systems of Chin State. The recent figure of the agriculture of local government level in Chin State has not been commonly published, particularly, to the foreigners, due to that Chin State is located at the border along the Northeast of India. Visiting to the rural area of Chin State has been strictly controlled by the government for national security purpose. Kanpalet Township in the southern Chin State is one of these areas. Chin State has also uniqueness in the cultural geographical position. It may be noticed that traditional agriculture of Chin State to be characterized by swidden and livestock namely Mithun (*Bos frontalis*) exist in the most east in continuation from the Bhutan and Arunachal Pradesh of India, making a unique area in the world. The purpose of this

presentation is, therefore, to show general agricultural characteristics of Kanpalet Township.

2. Study Area and Methodology The study villages are Saw Laung, PaKon etc., in Kanpalet Township, Mindat District, Chin State (Fig.1.). The Rapid Rural Appraisal

(RRA) methodology was taken for the field work during Dec.15-18, 2014 and Dec.16-19, 2015. Dr. Yoshiro Akamatsu has only participated in the field work in 2015. Interview was conducted in Myanmar and translated into English by Dr. Khin Lay Swe. The written documents in Myanmar such as the statistics of Kanpalet Township is translated by Mr. K.M.Oo. We must be thankful to the Kanpalet township government for their kind cooperation.

3. Result & Discussion According to the Township government, Kanpalet Township is hilly topography, having Mt. Victoria 3053m a.s.l. and national Park with several streams. Township government is located at about 1500m a.s.l. The oak and pine are well observed around township

Tab.3. 10Major Crops' cultivated Acreage and Yeild in Kanpalet Township,2013-14

Crop name	2013-14 Allotted	2013-14		Yield(kg/ha)	Total Yeild(t)
		planning acreage (ha)	Sown(ha)		
Rice	Summer	0	2	2	0
	Monsoon	1925	1562	1562	901
Groundnut	Summer	5	5	5	735
	Winter	0	39	39	818
Sesame	Monsoon	14	14	14	111
	Winter	0	0	0	0
Sunflower		5	4	4	396
Blackgram		0	0	0	0
Greengram	Monsoon	0	0	0	0
	Winter	0	10	10	187
Pigeonpea		32	32	32	269
Cotton		9	6	6	1375
Sugarcane		0	0	0	0
Corn		1112	1138	1138	612
Comercial Crop					
Oinion			12	12	25491
Potato			26	26	23509
Elephant foot yam			109	109	25595
Plantation					
Sugarcane			6	6	200
Coffee			15	15	1647
Tea			52	52	4485
Fruit			61	61	54007

Note)Acreage and Yield are originally recorded in Acre and Basket.
Yeild is converted by the rate of 1 basket of paddy = 20.86 Kg or 46 lb.
Source)Kanpalate Township Office,2014

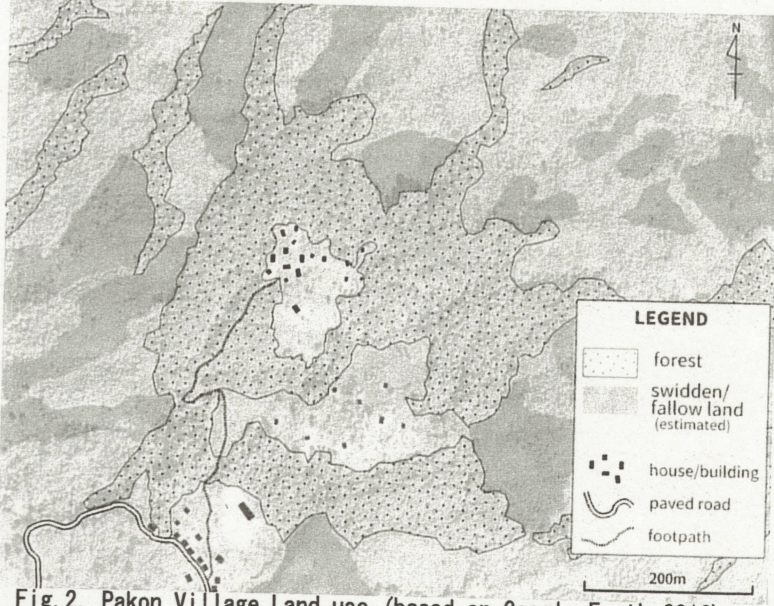


Fig. 2. Pakon Village Land use (based on Google Earth 2016)

Tab.4Livestock of Kanpalet Township

Year	Buffalo	Cow	Pig	Hen	Duck	Goat	Nyar-nauk
2012-13	827	671	3863	14656	-	2127	4168
2013-14	912	307	4947	17695	-	-	4447

Source)Kanpalet Township Office,2014.
Note) Nyar-nauk is the local name of Mithun.

(seeFig.2). In the Chin Villages, the unique local knowledge and technologies, having realized their sustainable livelihood in their history, are still preserved.

Reference) JICA 2013 DATA COLLECTION SURVEY ON AGRICULTURE SECTOR IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR FINAL REPORT, SANYU Consultants Inc.155p.

office and the villages. Evergreen oak forest, and pine forest with Rhododendron are well observed above 2400m a.s.l.in Mt.Victoria. Kanpalet Township has clear dry and rainy season with the moderate temperature (see Tab.1.) There is small area of Le Land (Wet Rice Land) in comparison with Taungya Land (Swidden Land). Most of the land is forest and uncultivable land (see Tab.2. According to the main crops' statistic (Tab.3.), rice is produced in large amount in the township, but the villagers, whom we interviewed with, reported there is no rice field. They have traditionally enjoyed corn and millet by Taungya or swidden. The villagers also reported the hilly and weather environment are not suitable to rice cultivation. The traditional staple food is corn and millet that are cultivated in Taungya. The villagers have enjoyed the staple food such as "mixed rice" with corn and millet etc. The rice has been purchased mainly at the shops in Kanpalet town. The number of Mithun is much larger than that of cow and buffalo, similar to that of pig. The meat of Mithun is commonly to be eaten at the local restaurants in the Kanpalet town. The villagers have traditionally protected their houses from catching fire of Taungya by community forest