

# What is Agricultural Heritage Systems?

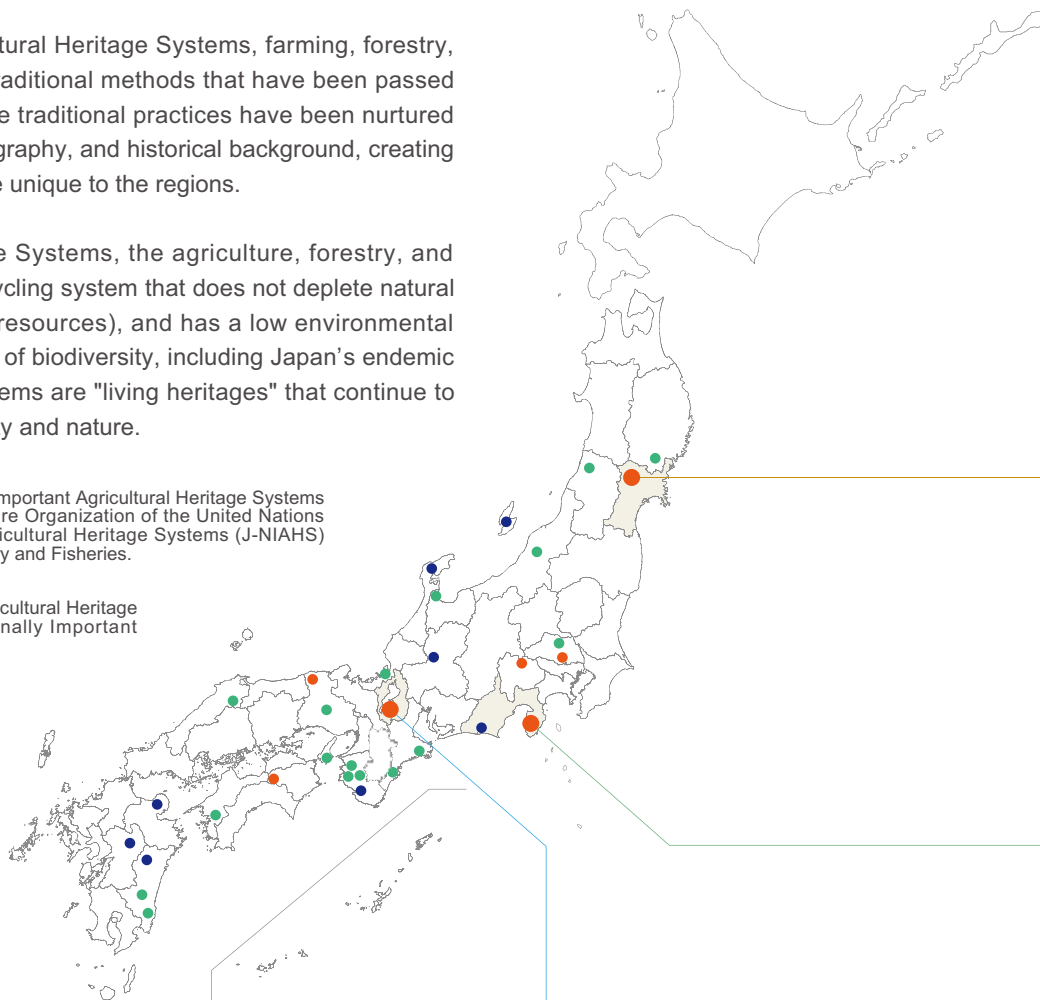
In the regions designated as Agricultural Heritage Systems, farming, forestry, and fishing have been practiced in traditional methods that have been passed down for more than 100 years. These traditional practices have been nurtured and formed by the local climate, topography, and historical background, creating a food culture, climate, and landscape unique to the regions.

Designated as Agricultural Heritage Systems, the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries industry has a resource recycling system that does not deplete natural resources (soil, forest, and aquatic resources), and has a low environmental load, contributing to the conservation of biodiversity, including Japan's endemic creatures. Agricultural Heritage Systems are "living heritages" that continue to evolve and adapt to changes in society and nature.

Agricultural Heritage Systems include Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) designated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Japanese Nationally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (J-NIAHS) designated by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

In Japan, there are 15 ● Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) and 24 ● Japanese Nationally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (J-NIAHS).

● Areas designated for both  
(As of the end of September 2023)



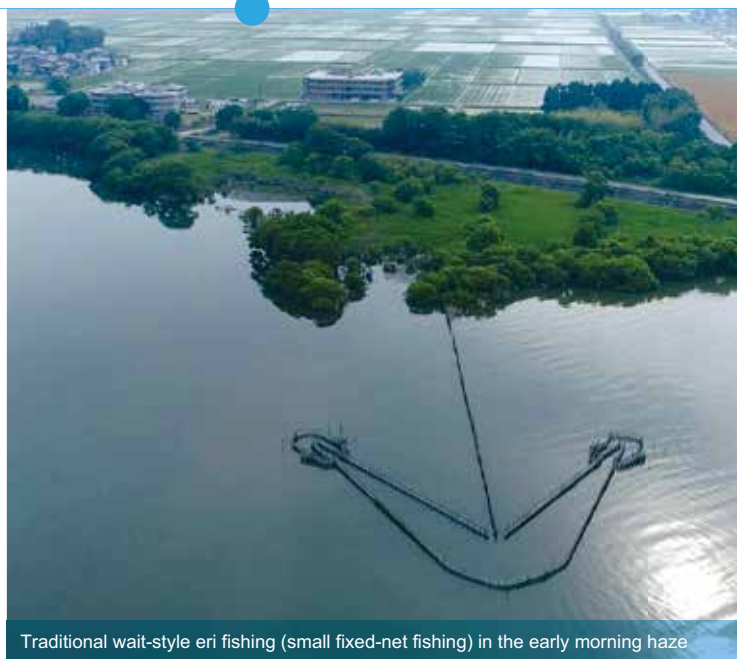
## Biwa Lake to Land Integrated System

### Lake Biwa region in Shiga Prefecture



The Biwa lake to land integrated system is known as Satoumi. The system has a history of more than 1000 years of using eri fishing (small fixed-net fishing) and agricultural techniques that contribute to lake conservation, leading to a unique food culture that was passed down.

Around Lake Biwa, fishing for catching lake fish including species indigenous to Lake Biwa such as Nigoro-buna (the round crucian carp), has connected with agriculture, and created a diverse and distinctive food culture that combines lake fish with agricultural products, such as "fish and rice". Enjoy a trip in harmony with Lake Biwa, and experience fishing and farming where people's ingenuity shines through.



Traditional wait-style eri fishing (small fixed-net fishing) in the early morning haze