



JIRCAS



Progress in JIRCAS Research Activities with CARD

Kunihiro Doi

In FY 2014



Facilities for supplementary irrigation with new micro reservoir was constructed near Tamale, Northern Region, Ghana through MAFF-funded project

JIRCAS has implemented the project “*Study on Improvement of Micro Reservoir Technologies for Rice Production in Africa (IMRT for Rice)*” starting from FY2013; it is funded by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) of Japan.

New paddy fields and irrigation & drainage system that includes a micro reservoir were constructed near Tamale for a verification study aimed at evaluating the effectiveness of the supplementary irrigation system for rice cultivation.

Supplementary irrigation system was set up in FY2015.



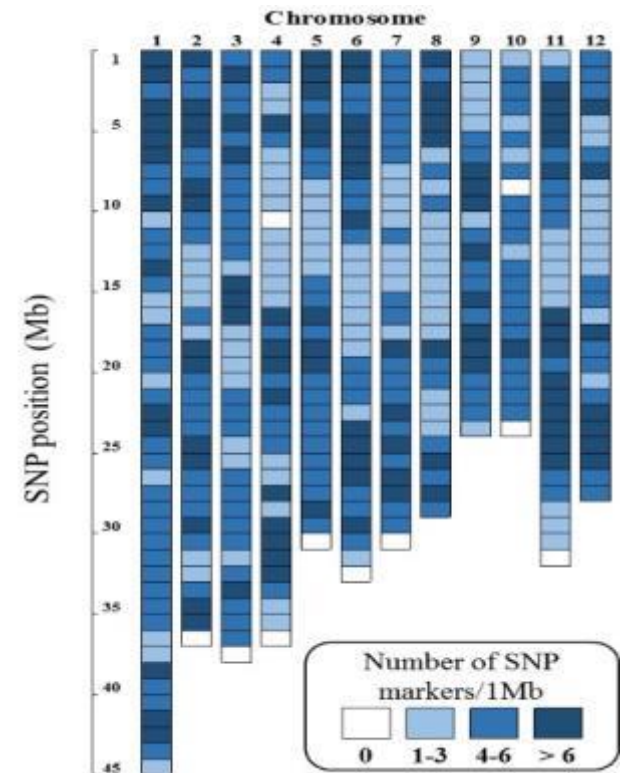
**New micro reservoir
and paddy fields
near Tamale**

In FY 2014



A flexible high-throughput marker system can help develop new rice varieties for Africa

A new DNA marker information set based on single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) sites, where the genome DNA sequence of two or more individuals differs by a single base, was developed under the collaboration among JIRCAS, international research centers and a university. A set of 2015 SNPs are evenly distributed in the genome, with the exception of small gaps in chromosomes 4 and 10. It is useful for marker-assisted breeding work to develop new varieties suitable to African conditions.



- (1) **Fifteen** JIRCAS staff members and **3** collaborators from universities in Japan are engaged in research activities under the Africa Rice Project.
- (2) **Supplementary irrigation system** has been successfully constructed at the **IMRT for Rice** project site in Tamale, Ghana and is now being used by farmers in their rice cultivation practice.
- (3) On the 3rd year of the MAFF-funded project (budget c.a. US\$260,000), a technical committee meeting was held at Accra, Ghana on 9th October.
- (4) JIRCAS has started the preparation of the **4th Medium-Term Plan (2016-2020)** which includes a research plan that ensures continuous contribution toward the achievement of CARD goals.

Thank you very much!

