

ISBELL FARMS

Sake Fest 2025 Speaker Series



WHO WE ARE ...





HOW DID YAMADA NISHIKI GET TO ARKANSAS...



DR. SHOICHI ITO

From Ping Pong to Legend

Rough Rice Kernel Types



Long

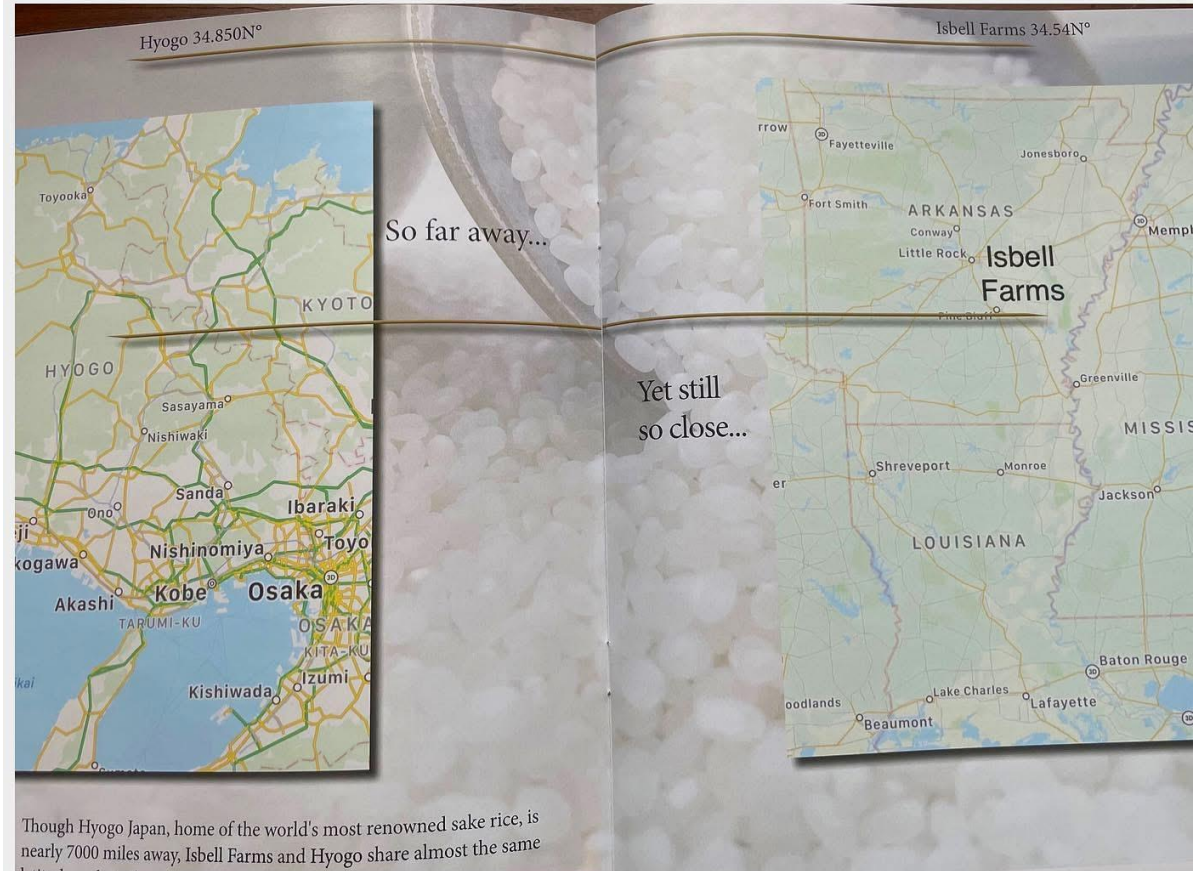
Medium

Short



WHERE WE
ARE ...

CLOSER THAN YOU
THINK



I S B E L L F A R M S

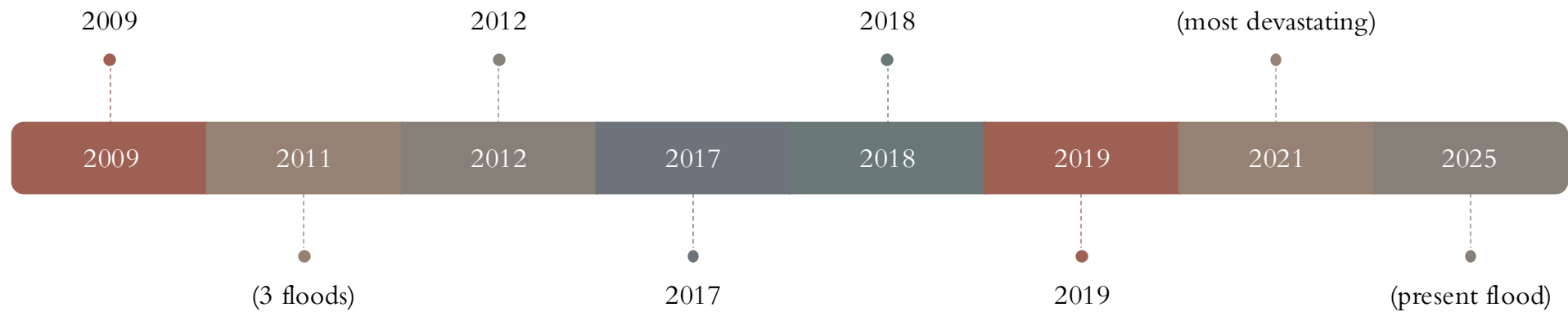


WHY THIS MATTERS...

HOW IS CLIMATE CHANGE AFFECTING THINGS...



FLOODING EXAMPLES...



2024 HOT
SUMMER
TEMPERATURES
HOW DID THIS
AFFECT THE
RICE...

Hot summer temps last year
caused some changes to the rice

We noticed a different gel temp
within the grain

This affected the cooking times
for the rice

We have data on these changes
to add to our research.

WHAT ARE WE
DOING TO
MEDIATE THE
EVER-
CHANGING
CLIMATE ...

Spreading crops over different parts of the farm. This allows us to research which soil types produce the best sake rice.

Spreading plant dates over the planting season. This allows us to research whether early planting or later planting produces the best sake rice.

Constantly looking at ways to achieve the best quality rice within the confines of an ever-changing climate.

WHAT ARE WE DOING AS A FARM TO HELP CLIMATE CHANGE... THE BIG PICTURE!



100 Grains of Rice

International Sources
20 cups



US Average
12 cups



Isbell Farms
5 cups









IN A WORLD FILLED WITH CHAOS ...

- Trade wars are impacting us across the board, but we are resolved to prepare and adapt as needed to ensure supply...



VARIETIES CURRENTLY AVAILABLE...

Yamada Nishiki

Omachi

Titan

VARIETIES WE HAVE IN COLD STORAGE AVAILABLE TO PLANT

- Wataribune
- Goyakamangoku
- Koshihikari
- Other Southern Medium Grain Varieties

To add or differentiate from the current varieties we have available now, we would need to know what the demand is. It would need to be a contract situation.

HOW DID THE GOYAK DO ...

Todd Bellomy of Farthest Star Sake is currently brewing with a batch of Isbell Farms Goyakamangoku ...

Todd used a 60% mill rate. He is brewing a ginjo sake so it still has some fermentation time.

These are his early notes.

TODD SAYS ...

- I think this will mirror the GHMG in Japan; light and sweet, unlike Yamadanishiki, which makes a much richer and heavier sake.

GOYAKAMANGOKU

Requires a longer soak than YN70- a full 10 minutes longer (even though it's a lower mill rate at 60)

Hard, light-colored grains feel like glass (vs. YN70 which has a more plastic feel)

Good shipaku percentage, but noticeably less plum than YN70 with some percentage of off-center shinpaku

Needed 10 more minutes additional steaming time, even with longer soak

Light and aromatic steamed rice, very sweet

So far, 1 day into fermentation the rice is melting very fast and the mash is very sweet and clean







CYPRESS CREEK MILLING...

Larger Breweries

Increased Demand



OUR ANSWERS

We started this business supplying smaller breweries

We are excited about the larger breweries that have opened

The mill is currently considering adding equipment to increase capacity before demand increases

The farm has plenty of acreage for increased demand

We are here for you! Large and Small... Isbell Farms will do our best to support each and every brewery... supplying premium sake rice to everyone!

THE COA...

We are aware that the Guild and the Association are currently working on a Certificate of Analysis for sake rice varieties.

We are working with them to get the information they've asked for.

We are also working with The University of Arkansas (Scott Lafontaine) on analysis of rice flour, broken and other varieties.

We are always open to research. The more you know...

These things take time. The numbers we need and want will take a few years to culminate.

Knowing what you, the brewers, need to make the best sake is what we want to provide

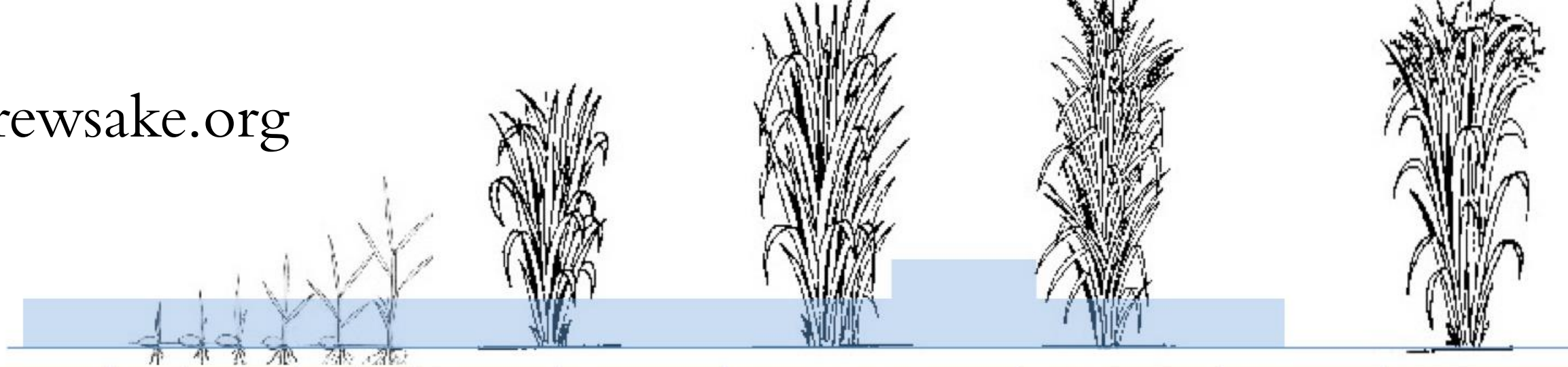


NOW THAT WE'VE
COVERED ALL THE
SERIOUS STUFF, LET'S
TALK ABOUT THE FUN
STUFF..





Brewsake.org



Stage	Plant	Leaf 1	2	3	4	5	Tillering begins	Maximum tillering	Panicle initiation*	Heading	R7	Maturity	
Days**		11	15	20	26	33	Typically begins at the 4 leaf stage		All varieties = 55	E = ≤80 VE = 80-90	E = 100 VE = 105		
Degree Days		107	160	187	246	281			All varieties = 472	E = 796 VE = 864	E = 1007 VE = 1059		
Water	Flood	Water management varies depending on pesticide programs.								Raise water between PI and heading†		Drain	
Fertilizer	Aqua & starter preflood	Apply starter up to 30 DAP†† to reduce algae						Top-dress N if needed (40-55 DAP)					
Insects / Invertebrates	Tadpole shrimp, rice seed midge	Rice water weevil					Rice water weevil	Armyworms			Armyworms, stinkbugs	stinkbugs	
Diseases	Seed rot, seedling						Bakanae ^P	Leaf blast; Aggregate sheath spot; Stem rot			Panicle blast	Kernel smut	



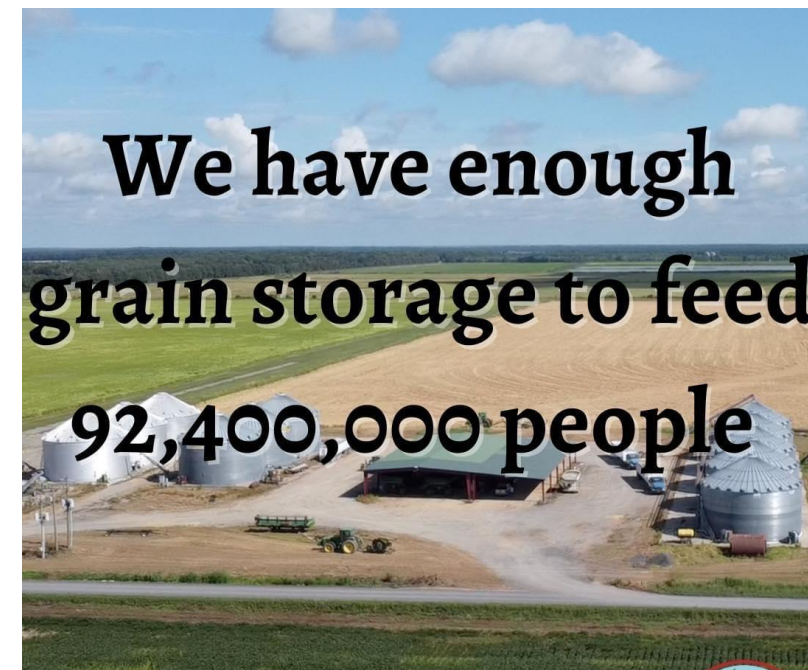
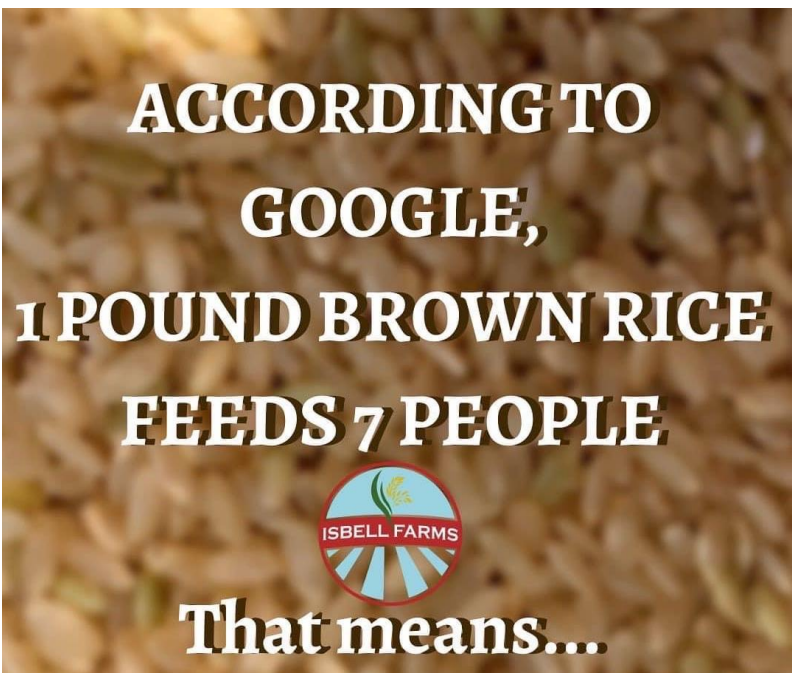


STAGES OF RICE











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