

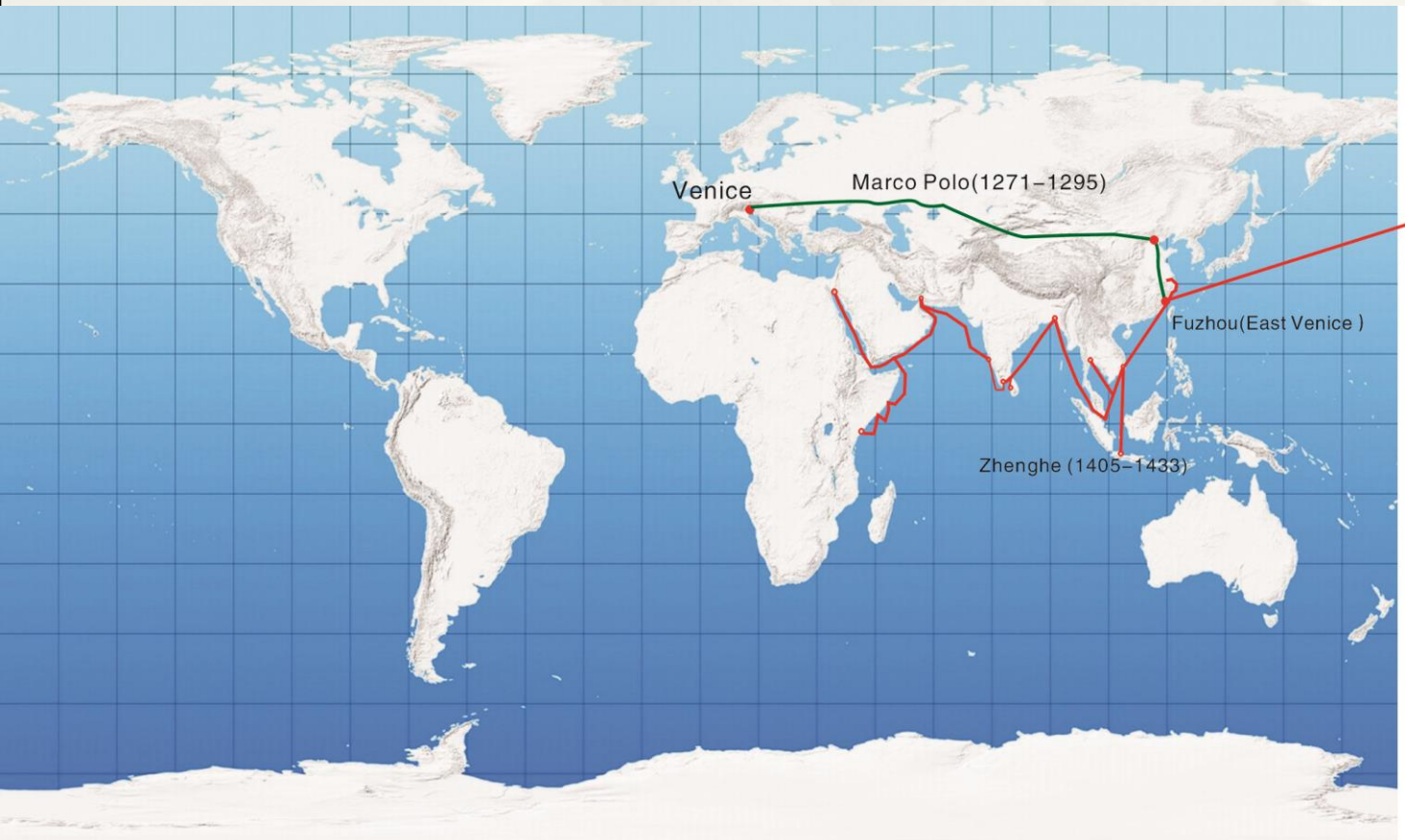
GIAHS Proposal

Jasmine and Tea Culture Systems of Fuzhou City

District: Fuzhou City, Fujian Province, China
February 29th, 2014

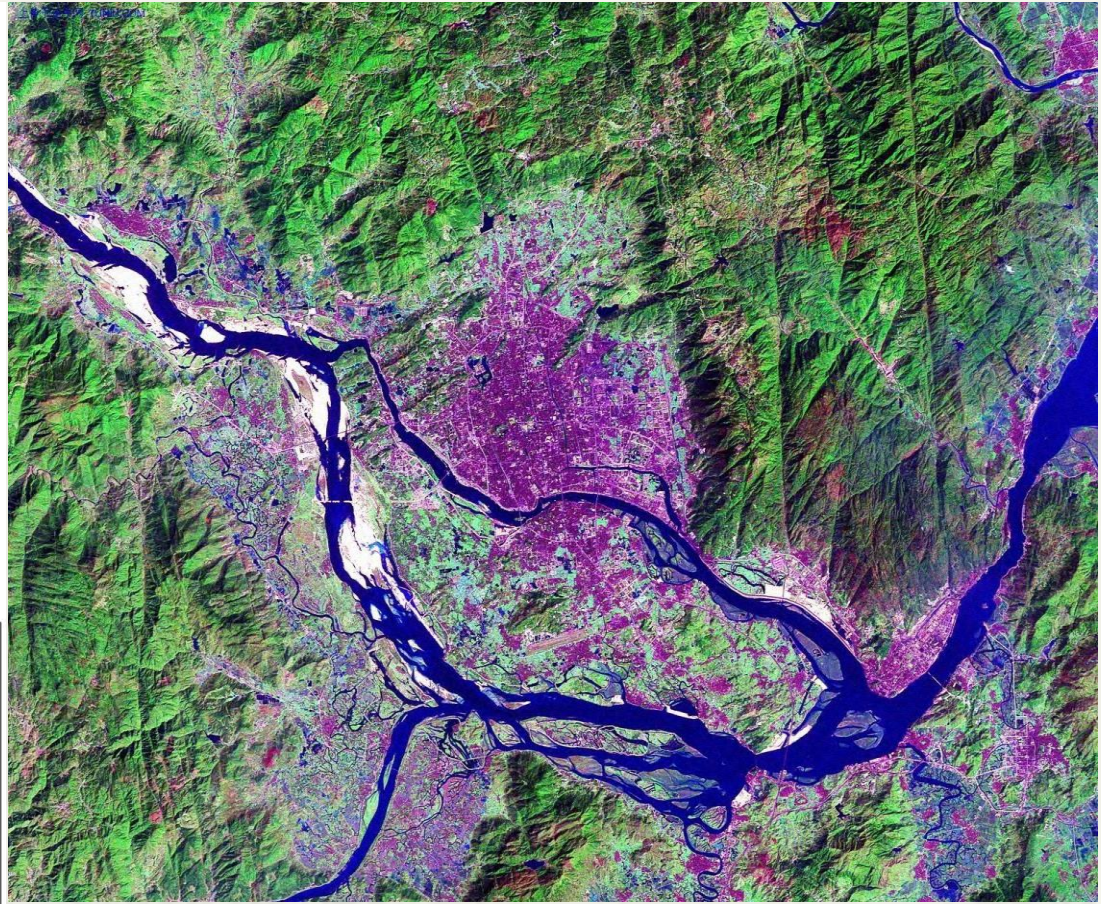
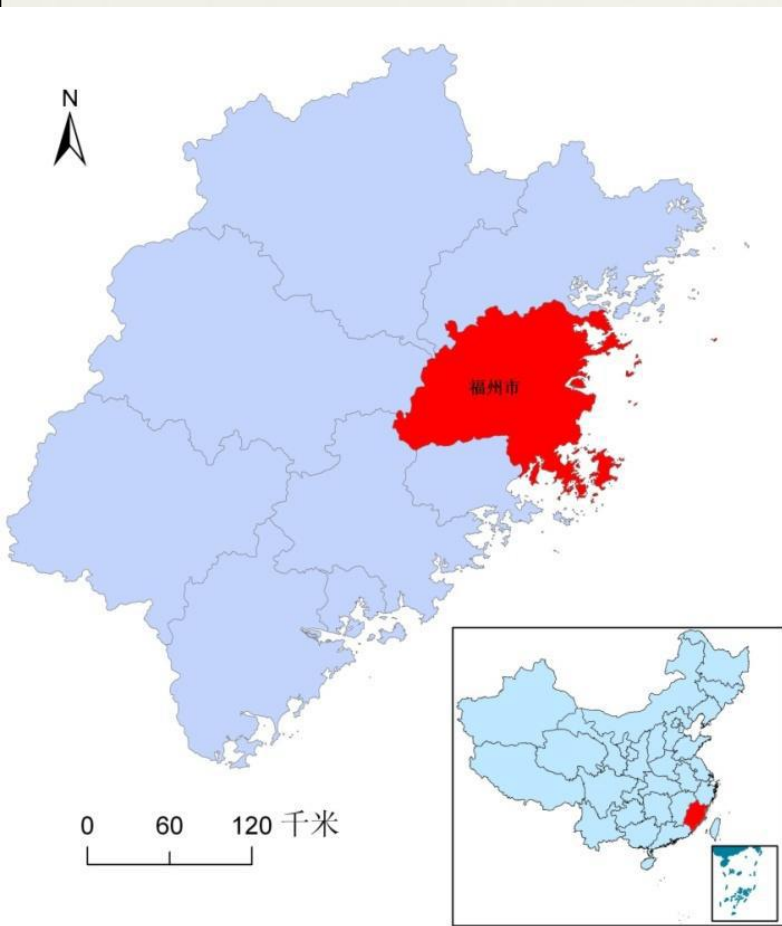


1 Situation of Heritage Site



Pagoda Anchorage
-Fuzhou, China





Fuzhou city (a prefectural-level city), the capital of Fujian Province, is located in the southeast coastal region of China. It is also an important port city in China.

Warm and humid climate and mountainous terrain of Fuzhou City provides an excellent environment for tea trees and jasmine bushes.

2 Heritage Characteristics and Values

Long Historical Development

Endemic Species of Jasmine

Endemic Species of Fuzhou

Various Ecosystem Functions

Beautiful Three-Dimensional Landscape

Traditional Planting Skills and Scenting Crafts

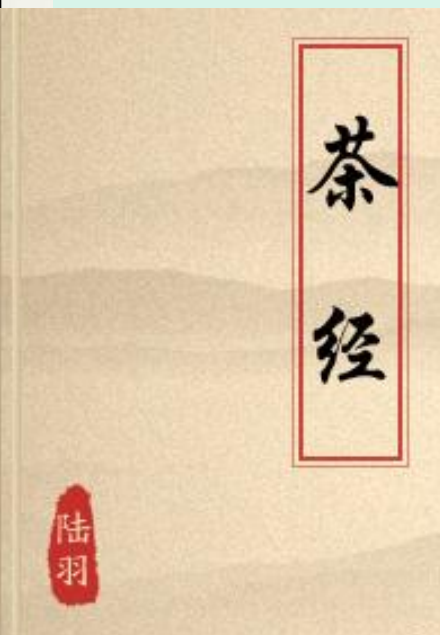
Brilliant Traditional Culture

Important Role for Livelihood Security

2.1 Long Historical Development

Tea Planting History

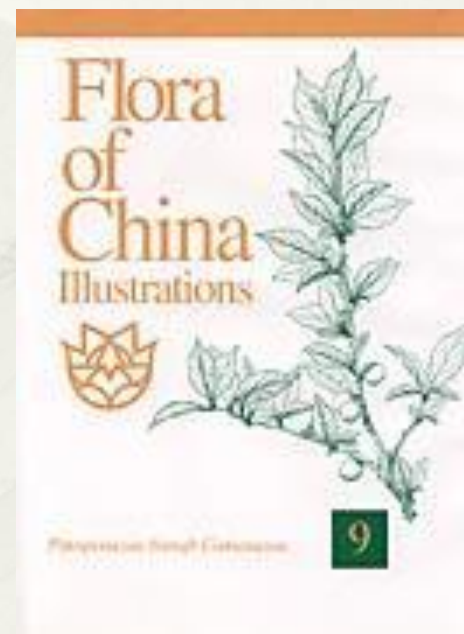
- ◆ Tea planting began in Fuzhou before the Eastern Jin Dynasty (317-420).



- ◆ According to the “*Classic of Tea*”, the Dew Buds of Fangshan Mountain and Half-Rock Tea of Gushan Mountain had been royal tributes in the Tang Dynasty (618-907) .

Planting History of Jasmine

- ◆ According to “*Flora of China*”, jasmine was introduced into China from India and planted in Fuzhou in the Western Han Dynasty (206 BC - 9 AD).



- ◆ In the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127), Fuzhou became the Capital of Jasmine in China.

2.1 Long Historical Development

Developmental History of Jasmine Tea

- ◆ **Jasmine tea originated in the Northern Song Dynasty (960—1127) in Fuzhou.**
- ◆ **In the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), Jasmine tea scenting technology became more matured in this later period.**
- ◆ **In the Qing Dynasty (1636–1912) , Jasmine tea became the most welcomed variety of herbal tea in the domestic market as well as European, American and Southeast Asian markets .**
- ◆ **Many ups and downs occurred in the development of Fuzhou jasmine tea from the 20th to 21st Centuries.**

2.2 Endemic Species of Jasmine

◆ In China alone there are over 60 varieties of jasmines, but single-petaled jasmine is the Endemic Species of Fuzhou.



single-petaled jasmines



double-petaled jasmines

2.3 Endemic Species of Fuzhou



Single Clam

◆ An endemic species of Fuzhou first discovered in the wetlands near a jasmine plantation in 1979.

◆ The shell of Asian Clams in the jasmine growth environment is yellow, but in other areas where water is polluted it becomes black .



Asian Clam



2.3 Endemic Species of Fuzhou



Calidris pygmeus (Extremely endangered , worldwide only 200 exist)

2.3 Endemic Species of Fuzhou



Thalasseus zimmermanni

(Extremely endangered , Total pop. 100)

Plataleam minor

(Globally endangered, Total global pop. 600)



2.4 Various Ecosystem Functions

The Protection of Biodiversity and Water and Soil Conservation



◆ Jasmine Ecosystem—provide habitats and food for birds.

◆ jasmine trees are mostly planted on the riverside plains and shoals. They can prevent the rain from directly scouring the riverside, mitigating soil and water erosion.

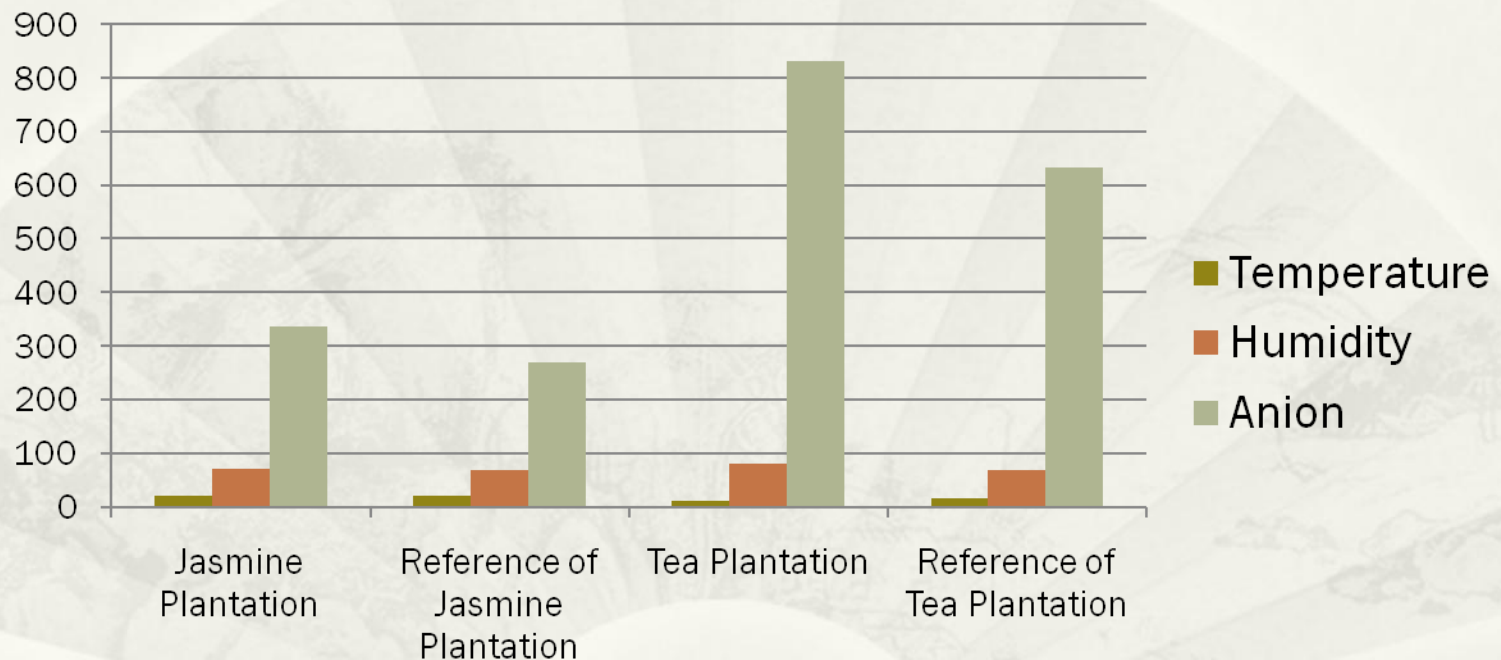


◆ Tea Ecosystem—provide habitats for diversified beneficial insects.

◆ Tea trees are planted in terrace fields. They can lower surface water runoff speed, enhance infiltration, reduce slope surface runoff.

2.4 Various Ecosystem Functions

Climate and Atmosphere Conditioning, Air Purification



◆ The air temperatures are lower in the jasmine and tea plantations than nearby unvegetated areas respectively, but their air humidity and anion content are higher than unvegetated areas.

2.5 Beautiful Three-Dimensional Landscape



Traditional Vertical Arrangement of Jasmine and Tea in Fuzhou

◆ Tea and jasmine trees grow in different environments, which together with the complex topography, have shaped vertical landscapes from mountaintops to rivers.

2.6 Traditional Planting Skills and Scenting Crafts

Knowledge of Jasmine Cultivation



◆ **Fertilizing:** As a kind of organic fertilizer, the waste culture medium of mushrooms is used to nurture jasmine bushes.

◆ **Trimming:** According to the density of the plants, jasmines are trimmed into high stubble ranks and low stubble ranks interphase so as to distribute staggered plucking times. Such a procedure scientifically arranges labor. In addition, it can also lower the probability of insect pests.



2.6 Traditional Planting Skills and Scenting Crafts



Knowledge of Jasmine Cultivation

◆ **Plucking:** Only the buds which will bloom during that night can be used to scent jasmine tea. Thus, the plucking farmers need experience to judge whether the buds will bloom or not. They can't be plucked if the buds will not bloom, and jasmine flowers already in full bloom are also unsuitable.



In the left picture, only the middle three buds can be plucked, the leftmost one (opened) is suitable for scenting jasmine tea right now.

2.6 Traditional Planting Skills and Scenting Crafts



- ◆ **Equipment for holding jasmine buds:**
The containers to hold fish and fishing nets are used to hold jasmine buds to allow the buds to breathe and ensure freshness of the jasmine.

2.6 Traditional Planting Skills and Scenting Crafts

Knowledge of Tea Cultivation



- ◆ The environmental conditions above an altitude of 200 meters are suitable for tea growing; of which, the eastern slopes and northern slopes of mountains are better than other slopes.
- ◆ Spring tea is better than tea plucked during other seasons. Trimming diseased branches of tea trees before winter prevent pests for the next year.

2.6 Traditional Planting Skills and Scenting Crafts

Processing of Jasmine Tea



Baked Green Tea
Base for Scenting



Flower Preparation:
aeration



Blending of Tea
and Flowers



Spreading,
Cooling, and Re-
piling



Removing the
Flowers

2.7 Brilliant Traditional Culture



◆ On boats, people throw jasmine flowers into the river or towards the banks, praying that lovers would never separate.

◆ Jasmine flowers as decoration and as an agent for Buddhist cultural inheritance

◆ the marriage customs of “three cups of tea and six rituals”

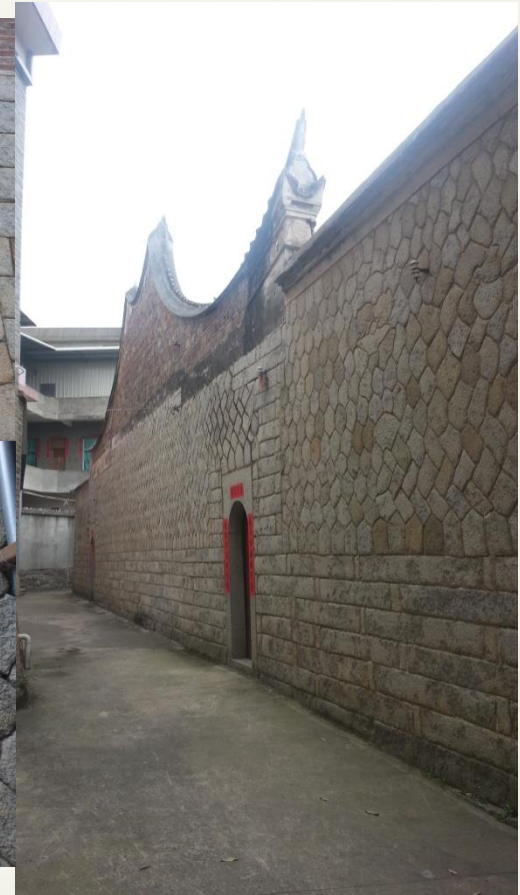
2.7 Brilliant Traditional Culture



Ancient production method
of jasmine essential oil



As a feeling of gratitude to jasmine, for they bring so much fortune, Fuzhou people jointed some jasmine patterns on walls with stones



2.7 Brilliant Traditional Culture

In the Fuzhou dialect, tea and medicine are both pronounced as “DA”. It shows that, in the past, people in Fuzhou considered tea as antidote to many poisons.



In 1895, the World's First Sports Stamps were born in Fuzhou: a dragon boat heavily loaded with Fuzhou Jasmine Tea was used as the background image of this very first stamp, indicating that Fuzhou was already the leading source of maritime trade of tea to Europe during this time.

2.7 Brilliant Traditional Culture

Tea Culture



Taking tea leaves out



Admiring the tea leaves



Filling the teapot with tea leaves



Pouring water into the teapot



Steeping the tea leaves



Pouring tea into the tea pitcher



Serving tea



Tasting tea



Being thankful for the tea

2.8 Important Role for Livelihood Security



◆ “Three White, One Green,” recycling agriculture means the agro-ecosystem produces jasmine blossoms, mushrooms, milk, and jasmine tea.

2.8 Important Role for Livelihood Security

- ◆ Jasmine tea has calming and pain-killing effects; moreover, it stimulates metabolism, fends off radiation damage, and increases immunity.
- ◆ Cooperation between tea enterprises and farmers reduces market risks. Large scale planting is common now. Each mu (0.0667 hectares) of jasmine bushes, according to surveys, yields a yearly net income of over RMB 10,000 (USD \$1,633).



3 Global Importance

- **Unique Species**
- **Origin of Jasmine Tea**
- **Unique Tea Scenting Technology**
- **Jasmine Tea is the Witness of the Cultural Exchange Between the West and the East**



4 Threats and Challenges

- ◆ **Aging of jasmine and tea industry workers**
- ◆ **Urbanization leading to drastic drops in jasmine plantation areas**
- ◆ **Lack of in-depth research and development of jasmine-related products**
- ◆ **Local farmers have low recognition of the rich agricultural heritage**



5 Adaptive Protective Measures

- **Enacting laws for protecting jasmine and tea cultural systems, such as designating them as a core area of agricultural heritage.**
- **Formulating and implementing support policies for jasmine and tea industries.**
- **Protecting traditional crafts and identifying and designating inheritors of jasmine tea cultural heritage.**
- **Building quality products and famous brands; establishing cooperative associations, family farms and integration of services for enterprise.**
- **Enhancing brand publicity and promotion. Making jasmine become an emblem of Fuzhou**

Welcome to the Birthplace of Jasmine Tea - Fuzhou, China.

