

## BOOK REVIEW

**Le Rizen en Asia du Sud-est. Atlas du Vocabulaire de la Plante.** Nicole Revel with the collaboration of Alexandra Laclau, Marie-Claude Lortic, Catherine Zacharoupoulou. Editions de L'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris. 1988. Fr. 550.

This monumental contribution to our knowledge of the world's most important grain—rice—will be of extraordinary interest to ethnobotanists working in southeast Asia, and it is destined to be a valuable tool for the Rice Institute of the Philippines. The great amount of field and literature research represented in this publication is difficult even to envisage.

In tabular form, the various terms connected with rice are set forth for 21 groups of languages with numerous languages and dialects in these linguistic or geographic groups. For each linguistic entry there are terms applied to rice in various forms: the plant itself; unhusked rice; husked rice; the cultivated plant; rice soup; glutinous rice; non-glutinous rice. The main volume of this publication consists of 53 pages of tables with these terms.

This volume is accompanied by 78 supplementary maps indicating the areas of use of the many terms outlined in the principal tabular offering, including the several terms for the seven aspects of rice and its characteristic uses.

It would be difficult to point out any similar study on any economic plant for any other part of the world. The many researchers must be congratulated for producing a highly praiseworthy contribution to science.

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