

Masabobu Fukuoka

Fukuoka Masanobu, Japan's great-grandfather of natural farming, has passed away on August 16. He became 95 years old. Many people are probably familiar with his books, that were translated to English, Spanish and many other languages. One-Straw Farming is perhaps the best known of Fukuoka-sensei's many works. In 1988 Fukuoka received the Deshikottam Award, India's most prestigious award, and the Philippines' Ramon Magsaysay Award for Public Service. In 1997 he received the Earth Council Award, which honors politicians, businesspersons, scholars, and non-governmental organizations for their contributions to sustainable development.

Fukuoka explains natural farming in his writings: "We can make healthy rice, healthy and rich soil that requires no fertilizer, and have productive soil without tilling if we just accept the fact that such excessive efforts-tilling, application of either organic, chemical fertilizers, or pesticides-has never been necessary A farming method that develops the conditions under which people do not have to do anything--this is what I have been pursuing. After thirty years I finally came to the point where my natural farm could yield, without any effort, virtually as much rice and wheat as typical scientific farms."

<http://fukuokafarmingol.info/>

<http://www.context.org/ICLIB/IC14/Fukuoka.htm>

<http://www.permaculture.com/drupal/node/140>

<http://www.motherearthnews.com/Sustainable-Farming/1978-07-01/Organic-Farm-Masanobu-Fukuoka.aspx>

[http://www.greenuniversity.net/Ideas_to_Change_the_World/Fukuoka .htm](http://www.greenuniversity.net/Ideas_to_Change_the_World/Fukuoka_.htm)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2aKo6la7J4>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A4-bwW8PWIO>

<http://www.treehugger.com/files/2008/08/natural-farming-fukuoka-masanobu.php>