

Decade from Space Agriculture Concept - Some approaches within the next decade from a perspective of outreach

ARAI, Mayumi^{1*}

¹Miraikan

It's been a decade since the concept of space agriculture began. Now we are looking ahead at the prospect of future Space Agriculture for the next decade. 2015 marks the 10th anniversary of the Space Agriculture task force that projects have been researching; now the established focus is a research goal for space agriculture to establish a system which would sustain 100 people living on the Moon or Mars for 20 years.

Research is proceeding on a variety of topics by space agriculture members, which will lead to new approaches and measures to be taken in the future.

For example, reviewing sustainable human life on earth, reviewing eating habits, change of age-related bodies and taste alteration. There will be discoveries about living organisms' ability to adapt to an extreme environment; etc.

Furthermore, agriculture is a comprehensive field including physics, chemistry, biology and geology in middle school and high school. Thus, instead of focusing only on individual segments of life sciences, the field of space agriculture offers multiple approaches and topics. Targets should be set for achieving goals.

Then, when we consider the next decade of space agriculture research, we believe that is necessary to continue outreach activities and strengthen our space agriculture research more than ever.

At first, I would like to propose the following five points for the expansion of the science community and planning.

1. To delineate and encourage a relationship between space agriculture research and integrated studies with environmental education, our everyday life, in school curricula.

To show middle school and high school students the importance and attractiveness of their research, and to create an opportunity for them to get interested in space agriculture research. Let them know that young people's participation in this study is important.

2. To create an overview of space agriculture research.

3. To create a list of available research laboratories and universities, and post them on a website.

4. To show the goal of space agriculture research clearly, and create a community sense of unity.

5. To organize an outreach team.

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