

Farmer in rice field applies nitrogen fertilizer carried in a green pail

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A lone farmer standing mid-distance in a large rice field applies nitrogen fertilizer carried in a green pail. The rice is tall and green, not yet bearing golden rice grains. Another farmer and some thatch-roofed buildings are visible in the background. Indonesia's second president, Suharto, who ruled 1966-1998, was oriented towards national economic development. In the 1980s, when this photograph was made, farmers were encouraged to utilize "Green Revolution" hybrid seeds, pesticides, and chemical fertilizers. Since that time, uneven results and new research has suggested that many traditional Balinese rice varieties and farming methods, which are chronologically regulated by Hindu temple festivals, give excellent results overall with fewer negative impacts such as environmental hazards, pest blights, and diseased crops.



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