

## New Progress in Rice Exploitation Research: Evidence from East China

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As a worldwide staple, rice plays a very important role in modern life. Archaeologists, biologists, climatologists, and other scientists are interested in the origins and early development of rice agriculture. The origins and domestication of rice cultivation are hotly debated among scholars, including debate over where, when, how and under what circumstances did cultivation or domestication happen. Systematic archaeobotanical work around the Shandong highlands in eastern China provides interesting and critical evidence for understanding Neolithic rice exploitation and contributes to the knowledge of its agricultural origins not only by providing new data, but also by raising additional questions.



Jin Guiyun (Professor of Archaeology, Shandong University) obtained her Ph.D. in Quaternary Geology from the Chinese Academy of Sciences in 1999. Over the past ten years, she and her academic team have focused on prehistoric subsistence strategy and social development in China. During her stay at HYI, she hopes to complete her study on the late Neolithic Age and to finish a paper on "Neolithic agriculture and the development of a complex society around the Shandong Highlands, Eastern China".