

Introduction of the Sweet Potato into China

-Anlin Yang-



Chinese Yam (山药)

VS

Sweet Potato (甘薯)



- The confusion of the Chinese yam and sweet potato: *Yi wu zhi* (《异物志》) and *Qi min yao shu* (《齐民要术》).
- The discernment of the Chinese yam and sweet potato: *Ben cao gang mu* (《本草纲目》), *Wu za zu* (《五杂俎》) and *Su shi bu zhu* (《苏诗补注》).

Two Figures

- Lin Huailan (林怀兰)
- Chen Yi (陈益)

Lin Huailan (林怀兰)

- His record is in local gazetteers: *Dianbai Xian zhi* (《电白县志》) & *Wuchuan Xian zhi* (《吴川县志》) in Qing Dynasty.
- He violated Vietnam rules and took the sweet potato back to China.
- It is recorded in these two local gazetteers that a temple in Lin's honor, which disappeared in later times.

Chen Yi (陈益)

- His record is in local gazetteer: *Dongguan Xian zhi* (《东莞县志》).
- He violated Vietnam rules and took the sweet potato back to China.
- All of his record is in local gazetteer, which copy from His genealogy.

Other Discussion

- The sweet potato is valuable for survival.
- The sweet potato is imported from other countries.
- The theory of land route from Vietnam is likely to be doubtful, although some clues have been recorded into local gazetteers and genealogies.

AND
THANK YOU