Main characteristics/features

Nga Son sedge is a grassy, rushlike plant characterised by its fresh green shiny stems. After harvesting, the dry stems are white, tough and durable. Products made from sedge fibres are strong — the fibres are thin and pliant and equal in size. Nga Son has been well-known for its sedge mats for many years.

Production/processing

Selection of plants: the roots of other mature sedges with large, strong stems are selected (dense nodes, with at least three years of growth).

Cultivation: Depending on topography, they are planted 25-30 cm deep in high land and 15-17 cm deep in flat land. Soil must be fine and porous; transplanting takes place in clusters, 4–5 cm deep. After transplanting (20-30 days), initial elimination of weeds takes place, then weeds are removed monthly.

Harvest: The fresh sedge plants are cut in the field, thinly split and chopped into longitudinal sections, then dried on the sand dunes.

Geographical area

The Nga Son sedge production area is located in the communes of Nga Lien, Nga Tan, Nga Thanh and Nga Thuy in the Nga Son district, Thanh Hoa province, Vietnam.

Link between product and territory

The Nga Son district is surrounded by many rivers. During the dry season, the flow of water from upstream is poor — the rivers are almost dry. This leads to salt water intrusion and causes soil salinity in Nga Son. In the rainy season, the flow is not sufficient to wash the salt from the water, there is only enough for irrigation. In addition, the groundwater level in the sedge planted in Nga Son is usually very high, which affects soil salinity. Soil properties have a great impact on the height of the sedge plants, and this has great effects on sedge. In addition to the geographical conditions, cultivation practices also have a great effect on the quality of products.