

Neicheng Coop Farm - operating under the principle of production, ecology, and life to bring the village prosperity

Address: No. 12-6, Longan Rd., Neicheng Village, Zhongliao Township; Tel: (049) 260-1343

The purpose of setting up a coop farm is to integrate resources for joint distribution. Since the 70's, the Neicheng Coop Farm led by Mr. Huang Chi-Qing has been set up at the Longnan Road in Neicheng Village. At the earlier stage, the coop farm started its operation from trading fruits such as Longgan, Lychee, and citrus. With solid quality, the coop farm established a widely-trusted brand name and the scale of this cooperative venture increased to 30 members with 500 acres of production lands covering seven villages of the northern Zhongliao. It was indeed one and the only as well as rock solid organization in the Zhongliao Township.



For 20 years, members of the coop farm continue to improve the quality of their products. Sweet persimmons produced by the coop farm were deemed as good as the famous Wushi products by the National rating. Its pomelos have also won many gold medals from the Nantou County Farmer's Association. The citrus produced



here are of the top quality and the fragrant winter bananas could be the best in the world. In here, there are also dried Longgan, Lychee, pineapple, and Roselle, as well as fruit wines, bamboo shoots, and Chinese yam. You will regret if you come out empty-handed.

During the earthquake, Neicheng was the most severely hit area among all farms near the second Jiufeng Mountains in Nantou. However, encouraged by the organic farming business, economic transformation after the WTO, and back-flow of talented locals, the Coop Organization is preparing to cross the road of reestablishment following the three guiding principles – production, ecology, and life. In the future, the association wishes to feedback to those who love this land by bringing even more prosperity into this area with agricultural consultancy services, recreational farms, tourism, and guesthouse businesses.

Cingcheng Farm - a secluded fairyland

Address: No. 5-5, Longlin Alley, Cingshui Village, Zhongliao Township;

Tel: (049) 260-1463

Fish frolic in misty drizzle

Swallows glide in breezes

Thousands and thousands of roofs crowded into city

Only two or three hiding in the country

This poem, written by Wang Wei, makes a quick sketch of the conception of this secluded 3-acre Cingcheng Farm and tells the owner's unmovable determination to pursue his dreams.

Farm owner, Mr. Wu Ji-Ren, not only knows how to build houses, fix the lights, make furniture, and renovate houses, he cooks, knows how to live healthily, and Hakka culture, too. As he insists that agriculture prospers only if a healthy ecosystem is maintained, he joined in the "Rich Farming Village Program" initiated by the Soil and Water Conservation Bureau. For ten years, he lays trails, plants trees, and builds cement board cabins. "Nice mountains, nice water, really boring?" said the always surprising Mr. Wu. But, "when the time comes, you will fall in love with her."



Community Focus

Temple of the Generals – guardians of the village

In the past, in order to ward off the mobs, thorn bamboos were usually planted around clusters of households, and a circle of the thorn bamboos make



up a village. Due to its geographic location as the pivot point along the sea and inland traffic, Longan Village had always been one of the largest settlements since the Qing Dynasty. The belief central of the village is the Longan Temple, which hosts the Main Commander – "San Shan Lord" and the "Mortified Master". A general each is sent to the four corners, east, west, south, and north, of the village to protect the homes and lands. This is how the four guardian generals of Longan came about.



Engineering

After being through devastations after devastations of earthquakes and typhoons, the slopes and foundations of the river dykes more or less have been eroded to some extent. In the past, the holes were often patched up with cement. Although the problem might have been temporarily solved by mending the problem this way, the ecosystem would most certainly have been destroyed. The so-called ecological engineering is done by using the original stones dug up during construction of the river dyke and inlaying them into the holes in the dyke. With this method, not only the geometric pattern looks stunning; it is firm enough to withstand washing of rainwater during high-water seasons. What's more! Fishes and shrimps now have a place to play hide and seek! These are the advantages of building the dyke with Decological engineering.



Strolling down along the slope, blossoming peach-color Judas flowers, health reflexology walk, subtly fragrant Yulan trees, proudly standing betel nut palms, stone eco-protection river dyke and elegantly curving bridge are the beautiful scenery of the soil and water conservation experiment farm – the Xia Shui Ku Recreation Farm. At dawn when the new light breaks the darkness on top of the hills far away, this place becomes the favorite morning exercise ground for grandpas and grandmas in the neighborhood.



Want to run into some most adorable fireflies, dance with hundreds of red dragonflies, listen to frogs singing, and make your own cakes and be neighbors with the hill people. Many sets of farm life experience activities are available here. For food, you have choices of sweet potato rice + simmered egg + dragon hair vegetable + Hakka meat balls + vegetable soup + fairy-crane tea. An individual set meal costs NT\$ 80 to NT\$ 120. There are also banquet sets named as the Farmer's Banquet and Country Delicacy.

Xia Shui Ku Recreation Farm

- treating the guests to its secret recipe
Address: No. 47-2, Yuetao Alley, Cingshui Village, Zhongliao Township; Tel: (049) 260-2747

Want to have a taste of Showa vegetable, the happiness soup, bread fruit soup, citrus leaf intestine, and azakoakoayo pig knuckles, or you just want to put up your feet with a cup of coffee in hand? Rebuilt after the 921 Earthquake, the Xia Shui Ku Recreation Farm, originally famous for its "Cingcheng Plums", brought out all its secret recipes and serve up tables full of healthy goodies to its guests.

Out of surprise these traditional Hakka health gourmet became high popular! After filling up your stomach, you can take a stroll in the fairyland where human and other creatures live happily in harmony.

Right beside the coffee house, a stone walk in the deep-green shades and slow breezes is vaguely showing its curvy lines. Take a step into the secret place, indeed, a place out of the secular world with a busy water mill and a murmuring creek. Going in further, there is a water lily pond and pergola to rest your feet and mind. It is indeed such an elegant place that will make you helplessly poetic.



Yue Tao Xiang Recreation Farm - healthy – a new age way of enjoyment

Address: No. 81-1, Yuetao Alley, Neicheng Village, Zhongliao Township; Tel: (049) 260-2528

If you enjoy falling asleep in the music of frog singing and having your morning calls made by the chirping birds, well then, there is such a guesthouse on the Yuetao Alley in the Neicheng Mountain Area, that is, the Yue Tao Xiang Recreation Farm.

The owner, Mr. Huang Xi-Jie, said, "The name Yue Tao Xiang is from the name of the alley – Yue Tao Xiang (Xiang being the Chinese pronunciation for alley). Since he was originally a contractor for construction works, he built the main building of the farm by himself as early as 1993 when the government began to promote recreational farming. Rock-solidly built, the structure went through the 921 Earthquake of the century without a scratch.

With 12 acres of land, Yue Tao Xiang still has a large portion of undeveloped woods. After zoning a section for public planning, the scale of the farm is vaguely revealed in its invisible borders. Lily ponds, stone-slab walks, and green patches, lie in one of the cabins filled with snow-pine phytoncide and refresh yourself with clear sweet mountain springs, far away from the hassle and bustle and far away from the light, air, and magnetic field pollutions. This kind of leisure is becoming a new concept of vacationing.

In the garden full of raspberry, Roselle, and plum, the owner will offer you a cup of his secrete raspberry wine. Don't forget to bring home with you a few bottles of this spirit. It will make you healthier.

