Traditional Agriculture and Indigenous Knowledge - Section 3
RIDGING (mounding)
(Land forming)

Definition: Forming soil into raised lines.

PURPOSE OF DRY AREAS

♦ Concentrate topsoil
♦ Give roots greater volume of loosened soil

PURPOSE IN WET/POORLY DRAINED AREAS

♦ Improve drainage
♦ Provide drier, more aerated soil
RIDGED FIELDS in Colombia, built on the natural levees that adjoin abandoned stream channels, are usually situated perpendicular to the course of the stream. The height of the ridges noted in this aerial photograph is from two to five feet above the ground.
CAUSEWAY in the level, seasonally flooded Majus oases of Balsiia runs among a series of ancient ridged fields made more prominent by the play of the late-afternoon shadows.
EXTENSIVE ARRAY of ridged fields lies in the Andean highlands on the poorly drained western shore of Lake Titicaca. Spread over 160 miles, the fields cover 259,000 acres.
¿QUE SON LOS SUKA KOLLUS?
- SON SISTEMAS DE CULTIVO ANDINO EN EL QUE SE ALTERNAN

PROFUNDOS CANALES CON CAMPOS ELEVADOS
EXCAVA LOS CANALES Y ELEVA LAS PLATAFORMAS

- LIMPIA LOS CANALES Y ARROJA LA TIERRA SOBRE LOS SUKA KOLLUS
CORTE DEL SUELO EN LOS SUKA KOLLUS

SUKAUMA  
TEPES

CAPA ARABLE

HORIZONTE-A  
HORIZONTE-B  
HORIZONTE-C

SUBSTRATO  
BASE O ROCA MADRE
PREPARA EL TERRENO DE CULTIVO:

- COLOCA TIERRA ORGANICA (HUANO)
PUEDES PONER PLANTAS Y

CRIAR PECES EN LOS SUKAUMAS
On wet lands, ridging induces drainage.

Earthen up soil on the ridges is drier and more aerated.

The soil which has not been earthed up is more compacted, wetter and less aerated.

Water drained from the ridges flows into furrows and stagnates there.
As a result of land forming, the maize roots are not drowned and the rice plantlets stand in water.

This plot is poor in clay and is not flooded regularly. Rainfed rice and vegetables are grown here.

This plot is rich in clay. Only flooded rice is grown here.
CROSS-SECTION DIAGRAM of chiasemog and orache gives an idea of their construction. Fresh mud from bottom of swale and weeds for compost beneath the mud keep the chiasemog fertile. Trees and stakes hold the sides of the chiasemog firmly in place.