The Indigo Extraction Process

The indigo plant growing in the field





Indigo extraction site

Equipment is set up at the plant site



Cutting the indigo plant







Carrying the indigo plant from the field to the van





Loading the indigo plant on the van





Moving the indigo to the extraction site Weighing the indigo after it is brought in from the field





Carrying the indigo plant to the first soaking drum

Putting the indigo into the soaking drum



The soaking drum is filled to the top with indigo plants





Inside the soaking drum, the indigo plants are submersed in water and soaked for 18-24 hours

After soaking the indigo sticks and leaves are removed and the indigo water remains







These are the indigo sticks and leaves that have been removed from the soaking drum and will be used for firewood The indigo water is released from the first tank and put into another soaking tank







For three hours the indigo water is stirred, then caustic is added, and the stirring continues for another 1-2 hours After the stirring and caustic, the indigo water is transferred from the tank to a basket lined with cloth





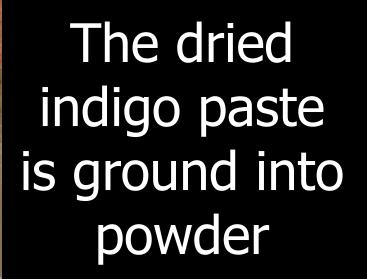
After 4-5 hours, the water has drained, and indigo paste remains in the cloth-lined basket

The indigo paste is spread in the sun



The indigo paste sits in the sun until it is dry







Weighing and packaging the indigo dye

Labeling the packaged indigo dye