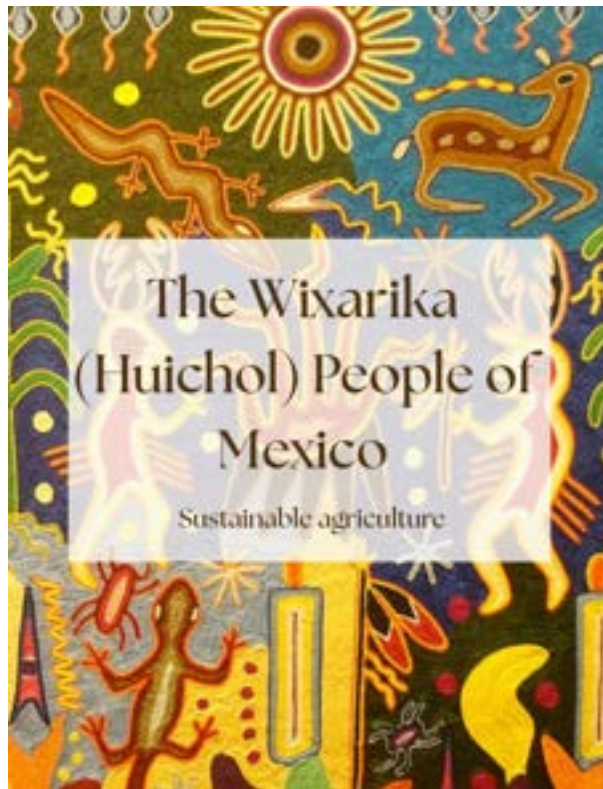




What they do:

- The Wixarika people practice subsistence farming and implement reforestation efforts throughout the process
- They cultivate maize, beans, squash, and other crops in ways that maintains soil fertility and biodiversity
- Their agricultural practices are linked to the ceremonial pilgrimages they perform, where they honor the land and the spirits of the mountains, rivers, and forests.

What it teaches us:

- The Wixarika people show us that farming can be done in harmony with the natural land and its cycles; pesticides and soil degradation are not necessary
- Spiritual and cultural connection to the land you farm on strengthens environmental stewardship and long term sustainability; you are more inclined to give back to the land in the same way it has provided for you

Relevance Today:

- The Wixarika people's practices offer insights for regenerative agriculture, permaculture, and sustainable food systems worldwide. Additionally, protecting sacred lands and traditional farming practices preserves biodiversity, local ecosystems, and generations of culture..

This spotlight honors the Wixarika (Huichol) people, whose generations of environmental knowledge and sacred agricultural practices have sustained both their land and their communities. This work is inspired by their stewardship, and all visual representations were used with respect to their culture and knowledge.

The Wixarika show that farming can nurture both people and the land. They offer lessons anyone can follow when creating resilient, sustainable food systems in the face of climate change. They have been able to continue farming because they have treated their lands naturally (e.g., no pesticides) and with care, something we can hopefully start to implement in our own agriculture industries.

Sources:

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