

Systems of production used before the plantation system

Before the plantation system, the Tainos had their own economic system, one based on division of labour. The Tainos used two main systems; the slash and burn and the conuco system. As a result of colonization and enslavement, the Tainos were not able to tend to their farms, so their farming system was destroyed. One of the first economic systems was introduced to the indigenes was the Encomienda system, in which they would work the land and pay tribute to the Spanish, and in return the Spanish would take care of the Tainos based on Christian principles.



The Tainos had their own systems of production

Slash and burn is defined by Britannica online as a method of cultivation in which forest are burned and cleared for planting. For more information on slash and burn, [Click Here](#) and [Here](#). The Tainos also used a more advanced system called Conuco, which was used in particular to grow root based crops. [Click Here](#) for a more detailed analysis of how the Conuco was used by the Tainos.

The videos below look at how Encomienda as a labour system developed.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aEy6xua3gl8&feature=emb_logo

The video is a simple video of the Encomienda system that was introduced by the Spanish.