

# Agriculture in Hokkaido Japan

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Department of Agriculture  
Hokkaido Government

## ■ Characteristics of Agriculture in Hokkaido

- Hokkaido's huge area of land, which accounts for 25% of Japan's total cultivated area, is developed predominantly for rice, field crops, and dairy farming.
- The cultivated land area per farm household in Hokkaido is about 13.1 times greater than that of any other prefecture. Business farm households account for 72.9% of the total prefectural farm households, compared with 20% in other prefectures. Farmers in Hokkaido run their businesses on a large scale, full-time basis.

### ■ Share of Hokkaido Agriculture in Japan

Classification	Unit	Hokkaido	Japan	Share	Year
Cultivated Land Area	Thousand ha	1,145	4,444	25.8%	2017
Commercial Farmers	Thousand households	36	1,164	3.1%	2018
Full-time Farmers		25	375	6.7%	
Part-time Farmers (Class I)		9	182	4.9%	
Part-time Farmers (Class II)		3	608	0.5%	
Agricultural Population	Thousand people	89	1,753	5.1%	2018
Agricultural Output	Hundred million yen	12,115	93,051	13.0%	2016
Crop farming		5,130	60,029	8.5%	
Livestock farming		6,986	32,424	21.5%	

Source: "Survey on Cultivated Land Area", "Survey of Movements in Agriculture Structure", "World Census of Agriculture and Forestry", "Statistics of Agricultural Income Produced", "Statistical Survey on Livestock", and "Statistical Survey on Farm Management and Economy" by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; "Census of Manufactures" by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

Note 1. The figure of "Agricultural Output" is a sum total across all prefectures. The country-wide estimated total of this figure is 9.2025 trillion yen.

2. 'Business farm' indicates a farm household whose principal income source is agriculture and which contains a person under 65 years old who is engaged in farm work for 60 days or more in a year.

3. Agricultural dependency' indicates agricultural income as a percentage of gross income (agricultural income + agricultural production related business income + nonagricultural income).

4. The values for each prefecture in "Farmland Consolidated for Use by Farmers" are based on preliminary calculations conducted by Hokkaido. A "farmer," as defined in this figure, is a licensed individual (or organization), a person meeting a series of designated requirements, a special farming group, or those either overseeing or participating in the agricultural enterprises of farm collectives.

### ■ Farm Households in Hokkaido Compared with other Prefectures

Classification	Unit	Hokkaido (a)	Other prefectures (b)	a/b	Year
Cultivated Land Area Under Management per Household	ha	28.9	2.2	13.1	2018
Farmland Consolidated for Use by Farmers	%	90.6	43.0	2.1	2017
Percentage of Farmers under 65 Years Old (core agricultural workers)	%	58.8	30.0	2.0	2018
Percentage of Business Farms	%	72.9	20.0	3.6	2018
Number of Dairy Cows	head	128.8	56.3	2.3	2018
Number of Beef and Dairy Cows		883.7	204.3	4.3	2017
Number of Beef-only Cattle (per household)		93.4	33.4	2.8	
Agricultural Gross Income	Thousand yen	30,750	5,144	6.0	2016
Agricultural Income		9,304	1,612	5.8	
Nonagricultural Income	%	693	1,425	0.5	
Agricultural Dependency (per household)		93.1	53.0	1.8	

### ■ Share of food manufacturers in all manufacturing businesses in terms of shipment value

Classification	Japan	Hokkaido
Share (2016)	9.0%	33.6%

# Food Self-sufficiency Ratio by Prefecture

○ While the calorie-based food self-sufficiency ratio in the nation hovered at a low level, 38% in FY 2016, Hokkaido's ratio was 185% in FY 2016. Besides Hokkaido, only five other prefectures in the Tohoku region have reached a level of self-sufficiency over 100%.

○ Hokkaido, whose major products are upland field crops, has an output based food self-sufficiency ratio of 207%. However, Aomori, Miyazaki, and Kagoshima, prefectures whose major products (fruits, vegetables, and beef cattle) have a high profitability, have higher ratios than Hokkaido.

○ Agriculture, forestry and fisheries in Hokkaido, which supply approximately 20% of domestically-supplied calories, significantly contribute to a stable food supply in Japan.

## Food Self-sufficiency Ratio

of Hokkaido and Major Prefectures (FY 2016)

(Unit: %,million yen)

	Self-sufficiency ratio	
	Calorie (A)	Output (B)
Japan	38 (38)	66 (67)
Hokkaido	185	207
Aomori	120	257
Iwate	103	184
Akita	192	133
Yamagata	139	168
Niigata	112	104
Miyazaki	66	287
Kagoshima	89	260

Parentetical values in the "Japan" row are from FY 2017.

Source: The figures are current as of FY 2016 (estimate)  
 "Supply and Demand of Food"  
 Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

## Hokkaido's contribution to domestically-supplied calories

(per capita per day) (2016)

Total calorie supply	Domestic calorie supply		
	A. Japan	B. Hokkaido	C. Hokkaido's contribution rate (B/A)
2,430 kcal	923 kcal	189 kcal	20 %

Source:  
 "Supply and Demand of Food"  
 Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
 Department of Agriculture Hokkaido Government

The figures for "Domestic Calorie Supply," and "Hokkaido's Contribution Rate" are based on preliminary calculations conducted by the Hokkaido Government.

Calculations for "Domestic Calorie Supply"

A. Japan = "Total Calorie Supply" x "Countrywide Food Self-Sufficiency Ratio"

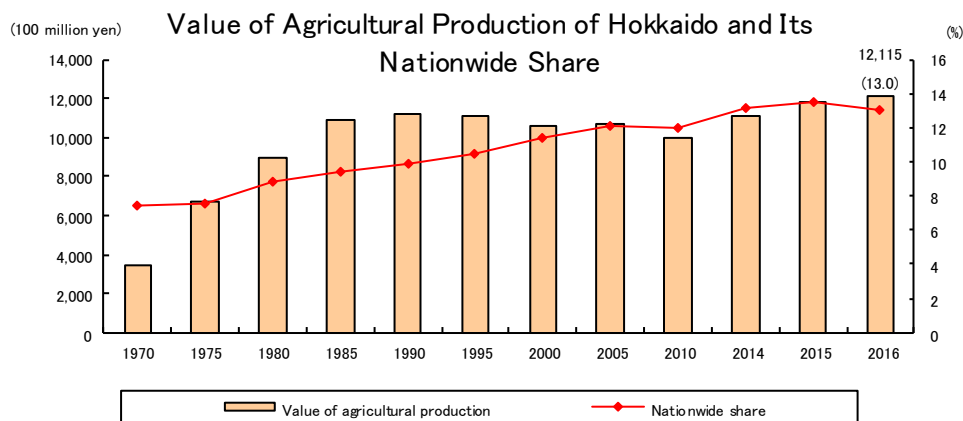
B. Hokkaido = ①Hokkaido-produced Calorie Supply x ②Hokkaido total population ÷ ③Country Total Population

①: Total calorie supply x Hokkaido Self-produced calorie ratio

②, ③: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications "Population Figures" (Current as of October 1)

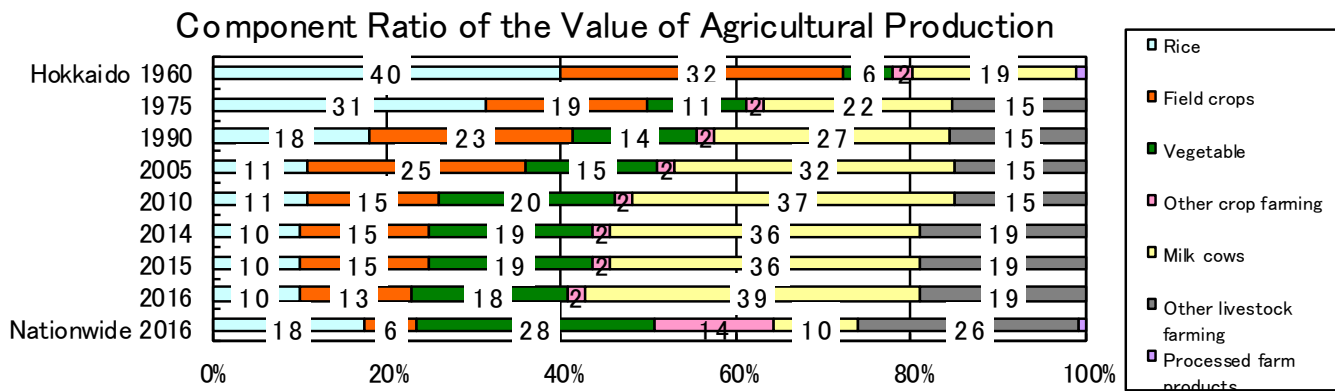
# Value of Agricultural Production: Changes and Component Ratio

- Hokkaido's agricultural output, valued at 1.211 trillion yen, comprises 13% of Japan's total output. The prefecture's total output has remained above 1 trillion yen since 1984, and reached a record high in 2016.
- The component ratio of the value of production throughout Hokkaido is greater for dairy cattle, vegetables and field crops than other prefectures.



Source: "Statistics on Agricultural Income Produced" by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Note) The policy for ensuring consistency in the operating income of rice paddies and field farming was introduced in 2007. This led to some of the grants that had been previously included in the value of production of wheat, soybeans, beets and potatoes for starch materials being given to management bodies in a lump sum as grants based on past records of production. They are not included in the value of production of the relevant crops. In the past, each municipality was considered to be a unit when estimating the figures. Instead, a prefecture is now considered to be a unit when estimating the figures. For this reason, intermediate products that are sold/purchased between municipalities within the same prefecture are not included in the value of production.

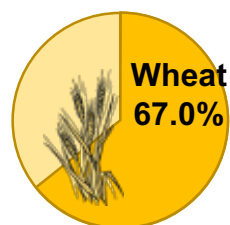


Source: "Statistics on Agricultural Income Produced" by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

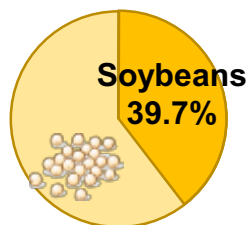
# ■ Status of Agriculture in Hokkaido

○ Hokkaido makes significant contributions to a stable food supply in Japan, and produces the largest volume in major agricultural and livestock products in Japan.

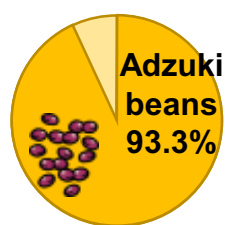
## ■ Major agricultural and livestock products of which Hokkaido produces the largest volume in Japan (2017)



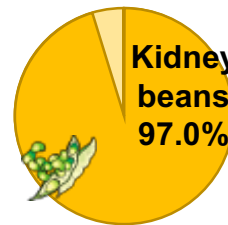
608,000 t, 122,000 ha



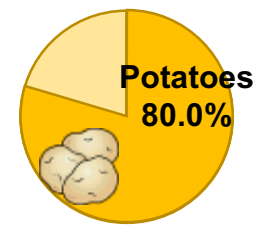
101,000 t, 41,000 ha



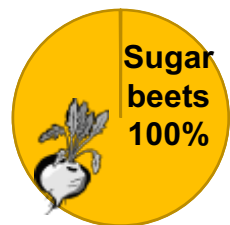
50,000 t, 18,000 ha



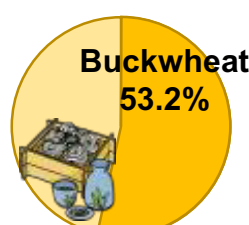
16,000 t, 8,000 ha



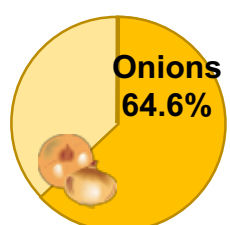
1,879,000 t, 51,000 ha



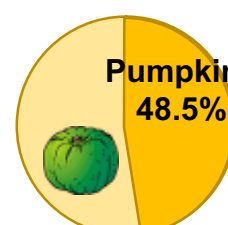
3,901,000 t, 58,000 ha



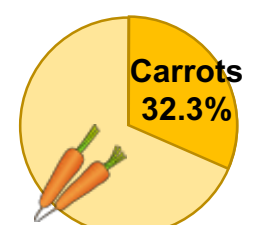
18,000 t, 23,000 ha



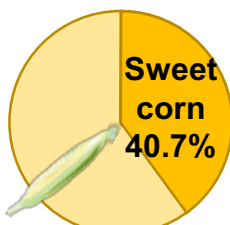
784,000 t, 15,000 ha



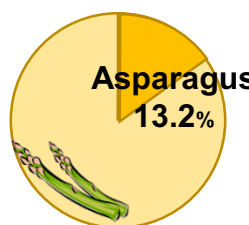
98,000 t, 7,000 ha



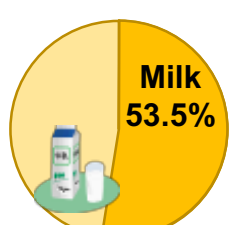
193,000 t, 5,000 ha



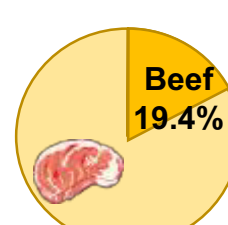
94,000 t, 8,000 ha



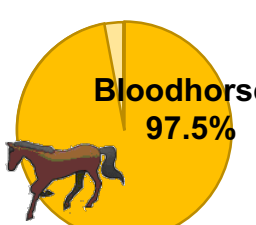
3,000 t, 1,000 ha



3,893,000 t, 791,000 heads



91,000 t, 517,000 heads



7,000 heads

Source: "Crop Survey", "Survey on Production of Milk and Milk Products", and "Statistical Survey on Livestock" and "Survey on Fishery Production and Aquaculture Production" by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

# ■ Agricultural Characteristics in Each Area

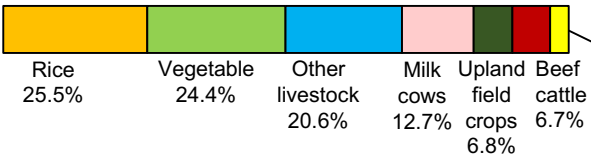
○ Hokkaido contains a large area of Japan, and its weather and geographical conditions vary between regions. For this reason, many regions of Hokkaido have unique agricultural practices.

## Central Hokkaido area



Agriculture based mainly on rice cultivation, but each region makes use of its unique characteristics, with some growing vegetables and others raising beef cattle or bloodhorses.

Agricultural output 407.7 billion yen (2016)

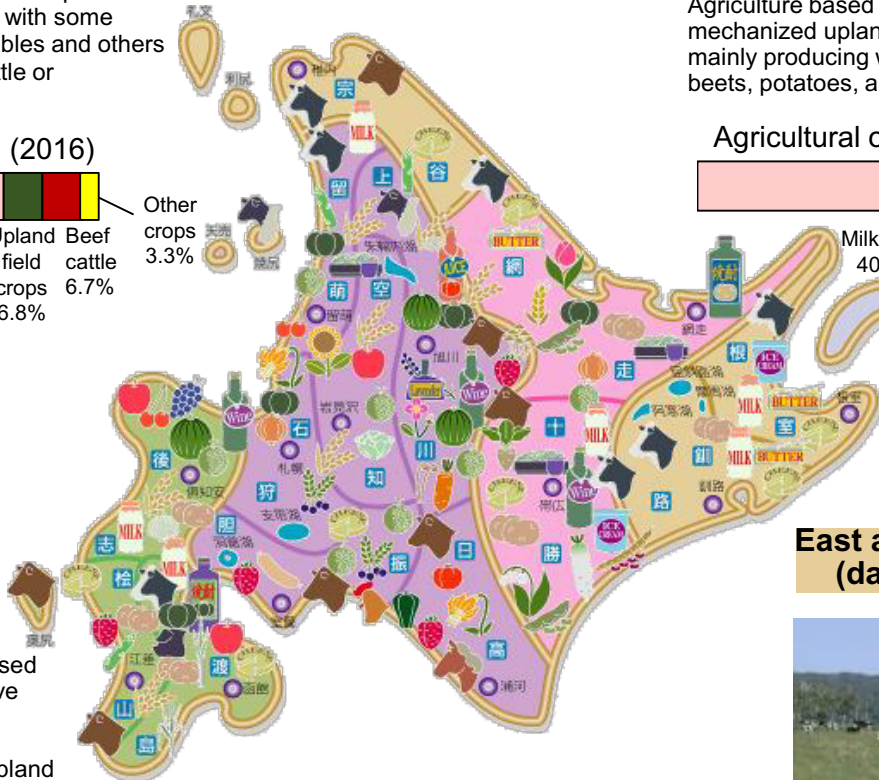
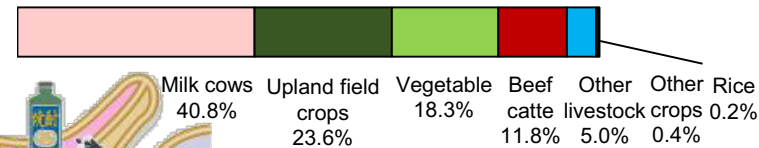


## East and North Hokkaido (upland farming) area



Agriculture based on large-scale and mechanized upland farming management, mainly producing wheat, soybeans, sugar beets, potatoes, and dairy products

Agricultural output 476.8 billion yen (2016)

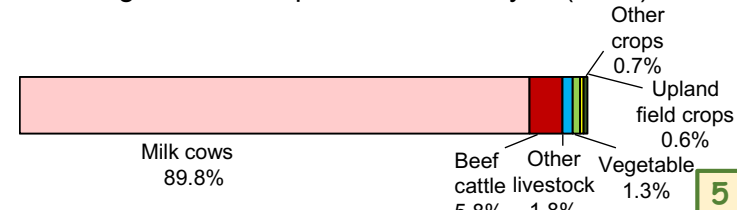


## East and North Hokkaido (dairy farming) area



Agriculture based on large-scale dairy farming at EU level making use of vast meadows

Agricultural output 234.2 billion yen (2016)



## South Hokkaido area



Agriculture based on the intensive cultivation of greenhouse horticulture, upland farms, and fruit as well as rice cultivation.

Agricultural output 92.7 billion yen (2016)

