

Agriculture in Hokkaido Japan

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Department of Agriculture Hokkaido
Government

1. Characteristics of Agriculture in Hokkaido

- In Hokkaido, agriculture makes use of a large area of cultivated acreage, which accounts for 25% of Japan's total cultivated area. Hokkaido contributes 13.2% of the total agricultural output of Japan.
- The cultivated land area per farm household in Hokkaido is about 15 times greater than that of any other prefecture. Business farm households account for 73% of the total prefectural farm households, compared with 21% 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	1,147	4,496	25.5%	2015
Commercial Farmers	Thousand households	38	1,330	2.9%	2015
Full-time Farmers		27	443	6.0%	
Part-time Farmers (Class I)		8	165	4.8%	
Part-time Farmers (Class II)		4	722	0.5%	
Agricultural Population	Thousand people	97	2,097	4.6%	2015
Agricultural Output	Hundred million yen	11,110	84,279	13.2%	2014
Crop farming		5,078	53,807	9.4%	
Livestock farming		6,032	29,912	20.2%	

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: 'Business farmer' 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.

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

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	26.5	1.8	14.7	2015
Percentage of Farmers under 65 Years Old (core agricultural workers)	%	64.9	33.9	1.9	2015
Percentage of Business Farmers	%	73.1	20.6	3.5	2015
Number of Milk Cows	head	118.6	52.7	2.3	2015
Number of Beef Cattle (per household)		192.8	38.3	5.0	
Agricultural Gross Income	Thousand yen	25,951	4,400	5.6	2014
Agricultural Income		6,768	1,027	6.6	
Nonagricultural Income		573	1,479	0.4	
Agricultural Dependency (per household)	%	91.9	40.8	2.3	

- Share of food manufacturers in all manufacturing businesses in terms of shipment value

Classification	Japan	Hokkaido
Share (2014)	8.8%	30.7%

2. Status of Agriculture in Hokkaido

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

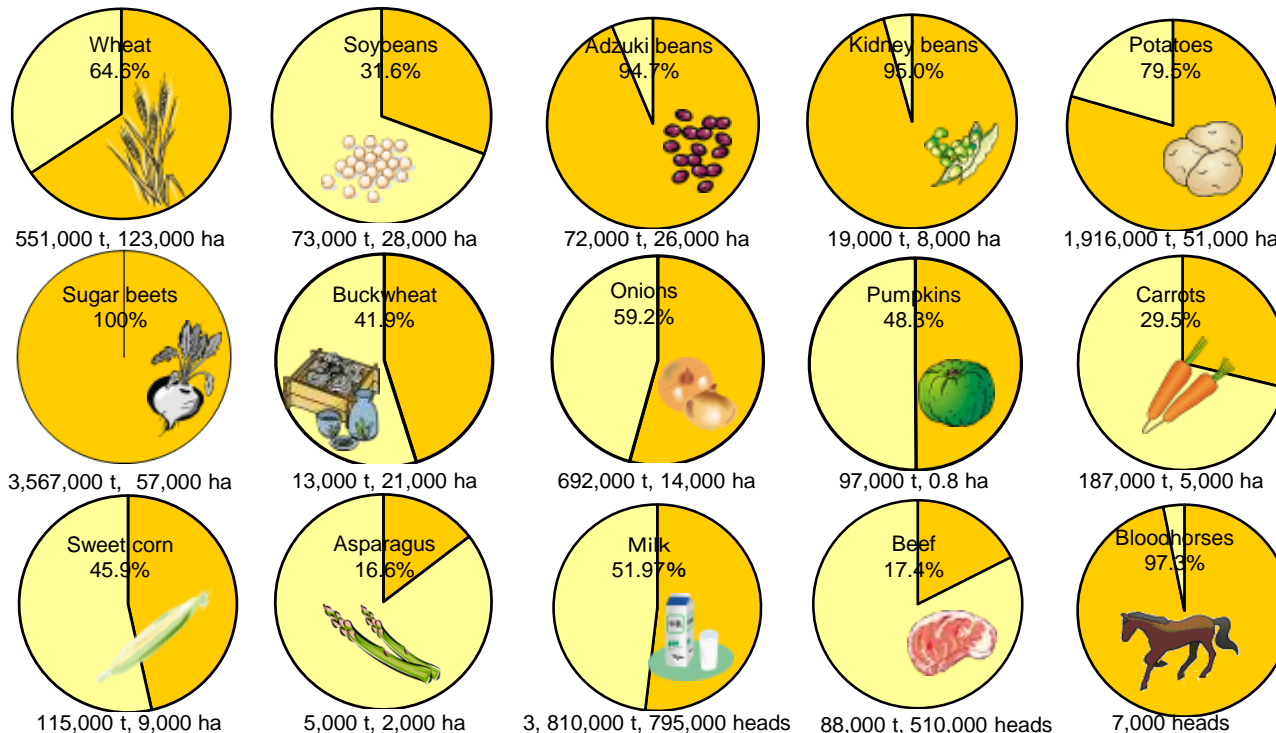
■ Hokkaido's contribution to domestically-supplied calories

(per capita per day) (2013)

Total calorie supply	Domestic calorie supply		
	A. Japan	B. Hokkaido	C. Hokkaido's contribution rate (B/A)
2,424 kcal	940 kcal	204 kcal	21.7%

Source:
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Department of Agriculture
Hokkaido Government

■ Major agricultural and livestock products of which Hokkaido produces the largest volume in Japan (2014)



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

3. Food Self-sufficiency Ratio by Prefecture

In FY 2013, the calorie-based food self-sufficiency ratio in Hokkaido was 197%, the highest in Japan. Besides Hokkaido, five prefectures, including Akita, Yamagata, Aomori, Iwate, and Niigata, have a food self-sufficiency ratio of over 100%.

The production based food self-sufficiency ratio in Hokkaido, whose major products include upland field crops, is 201%, lower than in Aomori, Miyazaki, and Kagoshima prefectures whose major products are fruits, vegetables, and beef cattle, where the ratio is over 200%.

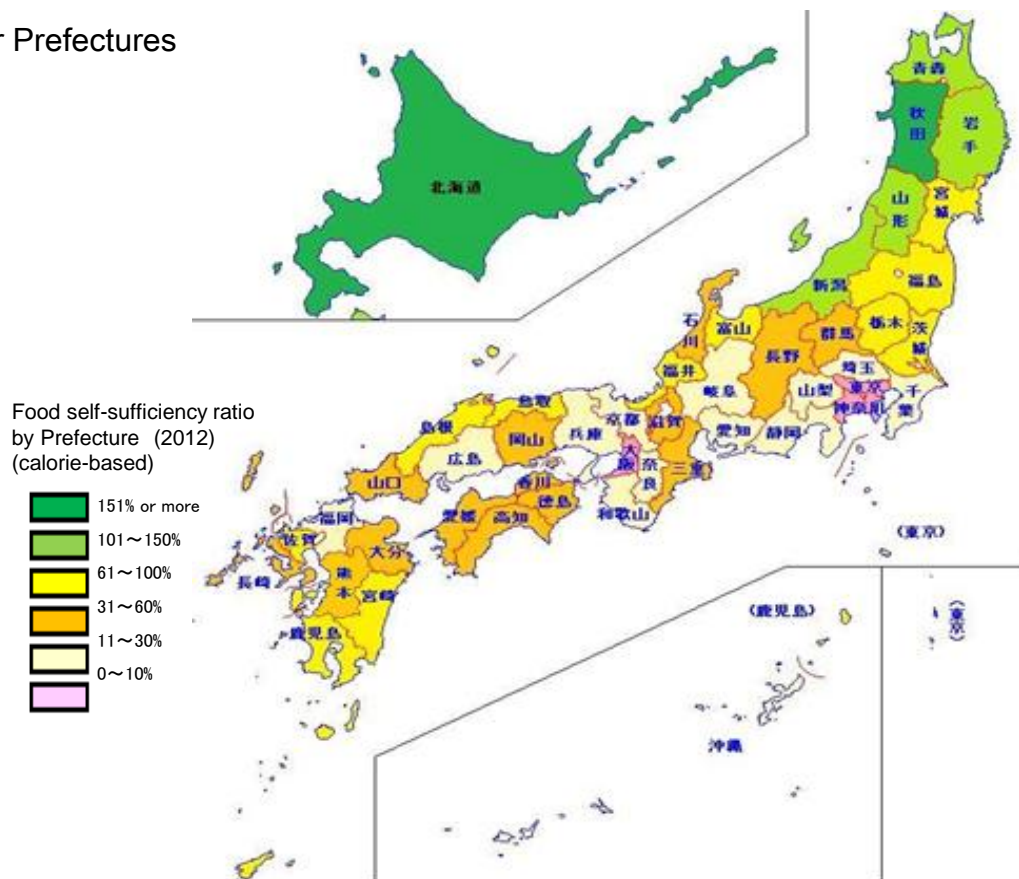
○ Food Self-sufficiency Ratio of Hokkaido and Major Prefectures

(Unit: %, million yen)

	Self-sufficiency ratio		B/A
	Calorie (A)	Production Value (B)	
Japan	39	65	1.67
Hokkaido	197	201	1.02
Aomori	118	213	1.81
Iwate	105	176	1.68
Akita	181	137	0.76
Yamagata	136	168	1.24
Niigata	104	122	1.17
Miyazaki	67	264	3.94
Kagoshima	88	236	2.68

The figures are as of FY2013 (estimate).

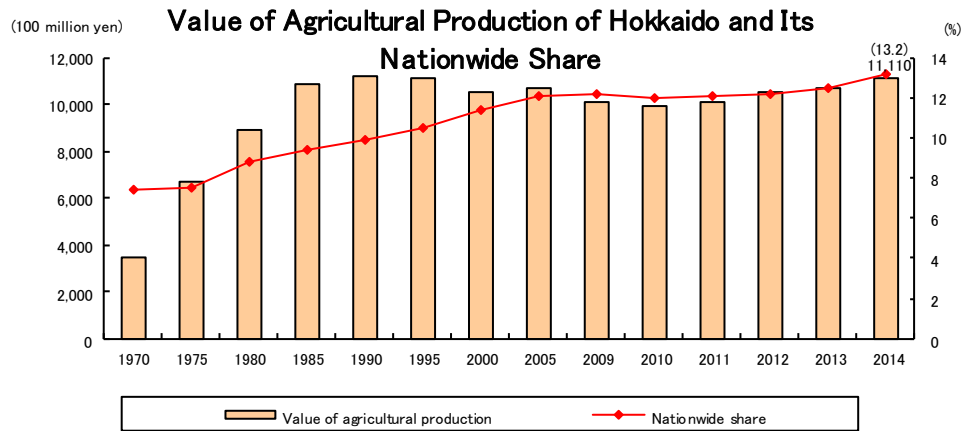
Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries



4. Value of Agricultural Production: Changes and Component Ratio

While the value of agricultural production is declining throughout the country, the value of agricultural production in Hokkaido has remained at nearly one trillion yen since 1984.

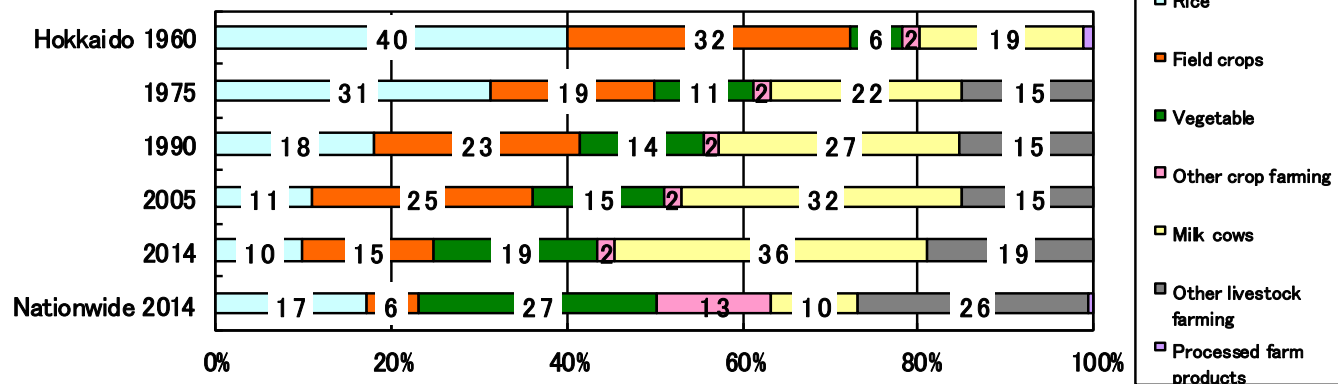
The component ratio of the value of production throughout Hokkaido is greater than other prefectures for dairy cattle, vegetables and field crops.



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. Those grants 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.

Component Ratio of the Value of Agricultural Production



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

5. Agricultural Characteristics in Each Area

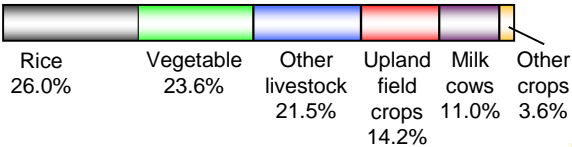
Hokkaido has a very large land area, and the weather and geographical conditions vary between regions. For this reason, the different regions of Hokkaido have unique agricultural practices.

Central Hokkaido area

Agriculture that makes use of the region's distinctive character, mainly based on rice cultivation, as well as vegetable, bloodhorse, and beef cattle production.



Agricultural output 399.5 billion yen (2006)

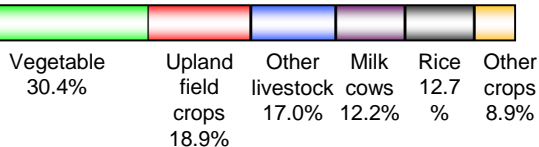


South Hokkaido area

Intensive agriculture based on rice, cultivation, including greenhouse horticulture, upland farming, and fruit cultivation



Agricultural output 89.6 billion yen (2006)

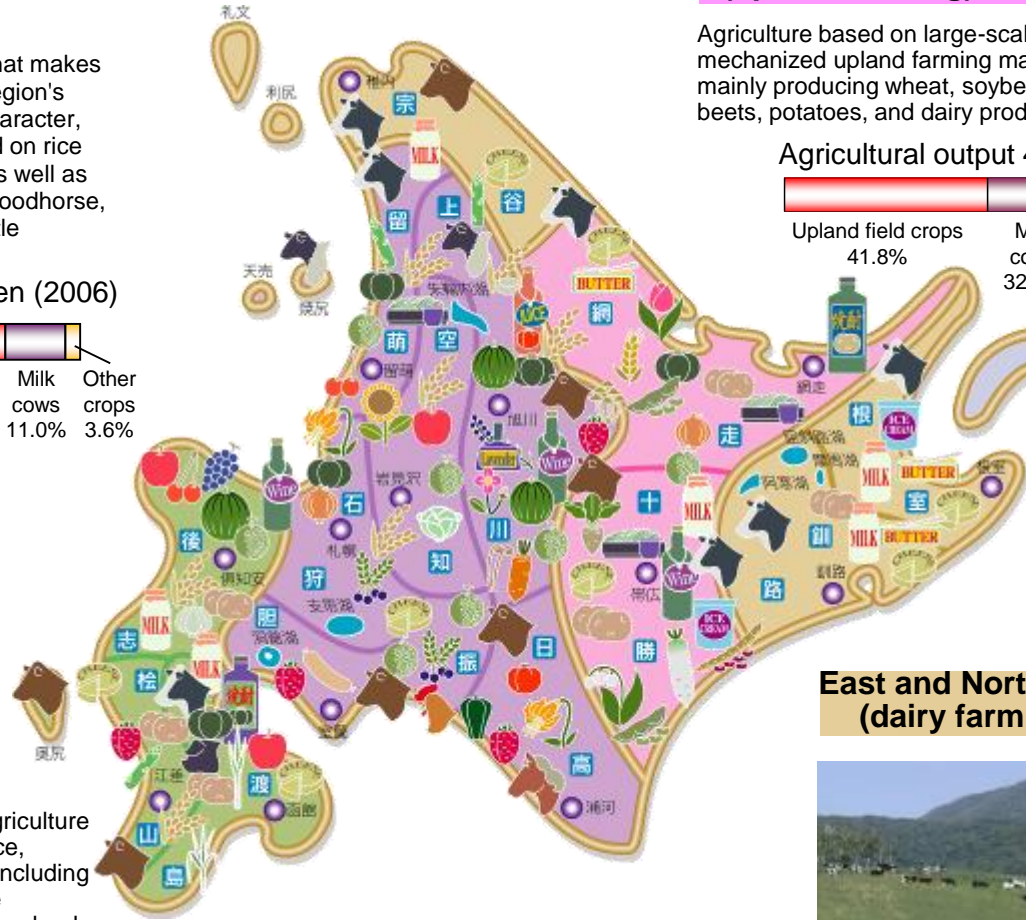
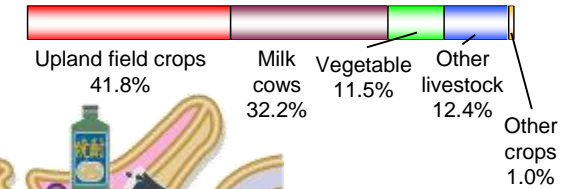


East and North Hokkaido (upland farming) area

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



Agricultural output 411.3 billion yen (2006)



East and North Hokkaido (dairy farming) area

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



Agricultural output 152.4 billion yen (2006)

