

SERIES 8

TOHOKU NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Established: 1950

Location: 4 Akahira, Shimo-kuriyagawa, Morioka City, Iwate Prefecture

Director: Mitsuo Mutô

Total Number of Employees: 386 (Research personnel: 168)

Outlines of Work:

Tohoku district is situated in the northeast of the main island of Japan and the central range of mountains which runs through Japan from north to south divides the climate of the district so that the Pacific coast side is rather cool in summer while the Japan Sea coast receives heavy snow in winter.

This district has the largest cultivated land area in the main island with the size of land holding per farm household being much larger than the national average. It is one of the important rice producing regions in Japan which gives this district a high potentiality for further agricultural development.

With these advantages, the research and experiment of the Station are concentrated on the studies to stabilize higher crop yield of both paddy and upland fields, to introduce dairy farming and beef cattle production by better grass growing and to establish the mechanization system for large scale farming.

Recent Principal Research Findings:

Present status of agriculture in the Tohoku district and trend analysis.

Breeding of new varieties of rice, wheat, barley, soybean and white clover.

Practice and technique for paddy rice culture in cool region.

Volcanic ash soil improvement in the Tohoku district.

Cropping system in newly reclaimed volcanic ash fields in changing soil productivity by cultivation.

Ecology and control of serious plant diseases and insect pests.

Mechanization in paddy rice culture and upland farming.

Studies on beef cattle production in grassland of cold districts.

Publications:

Bulletin of the Tohoku National Agricultural Experiment Station. (In Japanese with English summary, irregular, free exchange)

Report of the Tohoku Agricultural Experiment Station. (In Japanese, irregular, free exchange)

Organization and Main Research Themes:

- Research Planning and Coordination Division (3 sections)
- General Administration Divisions (2 sections)
- First Agronomy Division (7 laboratories and 1 section)—Breeding of high disease resistant rice varieties; Improvement of productivity of paddy soil; Paddy rice cultivation designing.
- Second Agronomy Division (7 laboratories)—Improvement of upland crop varieties and upland crop cultivation designing.
- Environment Division (6 laboratories)—Control of crop diseases and insects; Control of bloodsucking insects of livestock; Improvement of productivity of volcanic ash soil; Agricultural meteorology.
- Director—Livestock Division (3 laboratories)—Method of raising dairy and beef cattle suited for cool areas.
- Grassland Division (2 laboratories)—Breeding of forage crops; Improvement and utilization of grassland.
- Farm Mechanization Division (6 laboratories)—Mechanization and large scale farming method.
- Farm Management Division (5 laboratories and 2 sections)—Analysis of agricultural trends of the district; Establishment of viable farms, cooperative farming suitable for new technical system and rural home life improvement.