

*SERIES 9***HOKURIKU NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION****Established :** 1944**Location :** Kamiinada, Takada City, Niigata Prefecture**Director :** Tatsuzo HOSHINO**Total Number of Employees :** 128 (Research personnel: 66)**Outlines of Work :**

Hokuriku district is located in the center of the main island of Japan facing the Japan Sea. It has a warm climate in spring and summer while there is much rainfall in autumn and snow in winter under the influence of the wind blowing from Siberia.

Most of cultivated land in the district consists of alluvial fans and deltas and is equipped with irrigation facilities that are favored with an ample supply of water. This, together with good climatic condition, has given rice culture the most important position not only in the regional agricultural production but also in the national one, making the district one of the major rice producing areas in the country. Nevertheless, a large proportion of ill-drained paddy fields and excessive rain falls in autumn bring considerably on lowering the labor productivity.

Under the situation, this station performs various studies and experiments such as the breeding and cultivation of rice and forage crops, protection of these crop plants from injurious insects and diseases, and the improvement of farm management including mechanization of rice growing.

Recent Principal Research Findings :

Breeding of new varieties of rice, Italian ryegrass and forage turnip.

Influence of water control on soil conditions and plant growth in ill-drained paddy fields.

Forecasting of outbreak and control of serious plant diseases and insect pests (rice blast, green rice leafhopper, and rice stem borer).

Elucidation of snow damage mechanism and improvement of thawing technique.

Publications :

Bulletin of the Hokuriku Agricultural Experiment Station. (In Japanese with English summary, annual or semi-annual, free exchange)

Organization and Main Research Themes :

- Research Planning and Coordination Division (3 sections)
 - General Administration Division (2 sections)
 - Crops Division (7 laboratories and 1 section)—Breeding of crops and improvement of crop culture, mechanization of rice growing; Farm management.
 - Environment Division (6 laboratories)—Improvement of ill-drained paddy fields; Use of fertilizers; Ecology and control of insect pests; Resistance of rice to diseases; Forecasting of outbreaks of plant diseases; Agricultural meteorology.
- Director —