

# I. Overview of the 2015 Census of Agriculture and Forestry

## 1. History of Census of Agriculture and Forestry

The Census of Agriculture and Forestry in Japan was first conducted in 1950 in keeping with World Programme for Census of Agriculture 1950, advocated by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The Forestry Census has been conducted since 1960. Thereafter, Japan has conducted the World Census of Agriculture and Forestry every ten years based on International Convention focused on Economic Statistics. Japan has also conducted the Agricultural Census in the interim years between each World Census keeping in mind its original national perspective. From the 2005 Census of Agriculture and Forestry, the Forestry Census has been conducted every five years to ensure a unified and timely grasp of agricultural and forestry management.

2015 Census of Agriculture and Forestry is the fourteenth report for agriculture and the eighth report for forestry. (Refer to Appendix for details.)

## 2. Basic Role of Census of Agriculture and Forestry

### (1) To grasp the basic structure and situation of agriculture, forestry and rural areas

The Census aims to clarify the actual condition of basic structure and changes of agriculture, forestry and rural communities, such as structures of production and employment in agriculture and forestry and land resource in rural areas in Japan in order to prepare and provide statistics, which becomes the basic data for planning, drafting and promoting agricultural/forestry policy.

### (2) Compile small area statistics and promote local agriculture/forestry policy

Prepare and provide statistics of small areas such as municipalities and rural communities in addition to agricultural regions nationwide and prefectures in order to contribute to the promotion of agriculture/forestry policy nationwide, in prefectures and in municipalities.

### (3) Acquire population information for effective use in sampling surveys

The Census enables preparation and provision of population information with the information needed for efficiently conducting various statistical surveys that are necessary to promote agriculture/forestry policy.

### (4) Make statistics available for international comparison

The Census enables the preparation and provision of statistics needed for international comparisons of agriculture and forestry.

## 3. Main Improvement Points of the 2015 Census of Agriculture and Forestry

For the 2015 Census of Agriculture and Forestry, the following survey items have been reviewed before conducting the survey in order to smoothly and efficiently conduct the survey by corresponding to the changes in the situation surrounding agriculture, forestry and rural areas in our country and the trend of agriculture/forestry policy.

#### [Survey on Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities]

- (1) Planted area for industrial crop, vegetables and fruit and nuts was surveyed for the purpose of strengthening a function as the information infrastructure that Census of Agriculture and Forestry should accomplish.
- (2) Sales amount and the percentage of each business in agricultural production related businesses were newly added from the perspective of preparing population information for the Comprehensive Survey on sixth industrialization of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (AFFrinnovation) in the field of agriculture and rural communities.
- (3) Age group related to permanent employment was newly added as a survey item because of a consideration of policy with respect to human resource development and securing resource for the future.
- (4) The situation of participation in management policy decision making was newly comprehended as items for household in order to comprehend the actual condition of women's participation in agriculture and forestry.
- (5) Area of consignment and entrustment is newly comprehended because it is needed for the operation pertaining to concentration of operations for the efficient and stable fostering of forestry management and for a review of the forest inheritance tax payment deferral system.

#### [Survey of Rural Areas]

- (1) Regular means of transportation and a required time to go to facilities related to daily life from rural communities, cooperation condition of a preservation of local resources and activity for revitalization were comprehended for the survey subjected to rural communities because they are needed for a consideration of policy related to a revitalization of rural communities.
- (2) Abolishment of survey items  
Survey items related to facility utilizing the local resources (sites directly selling product) was abolished in the survey subjected to municipality because they are comprehended in other statistics of agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

## 4. Legal Basis

This survey was conducted based on the “Statistics Act”, the “Cabinet Order for Enforcement of the Statistics Act” (Cabinet Order No. 334 of 2008), the “Ordinance on the Census of Agriculture and Forestry” (Ordinance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries No. 39 of 1969) and “Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Notice No. 1071 of May 20, 2004” (subjects stipulating the Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities determined by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries pursuant to the Article 5, paragraph 1 of the Ordinance on the Census of Agriculture and Forestry).

Additionally, in Japan, important statistical surveys including the Census of Agriculture and Forestry that are conducted by administrative agencies must be approved by the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications as a Fundamental Statistical Surveys. Also, for the Fundamental

Statistical Surveys, duty to report is imposed on respondents (survey subjects/recipients) by the Statistics Act in order to prepare reliable statistics.

## **5. Survey System**

### **(1) Types of survey**

The 2015 Census of Agriculture and Forestry is classified into two types of surveys that are “Survey of Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities” to comprehend the subject of the agricultural and forestry activity as an industry and “Survey of Rural Areas” to comprehend the actual condition of the Rural Areas where agriculture and forestry management entities are founded, both which have been conducted respectively with the following survey systems.

#### **a) Survey of Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities**

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries - Prefectures - Municipalities - Instructor  
- Enumerators

#### **b) Survey of Rural Areas**

##### **(Municipality questionnaire)**

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries —Regional coordination centers —Regional centers

##### **(Rural Communities questionnaire)**

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries - Regional coordination centers - Regional centers  
-Enumerators

### **(2) Survey Date**

The survey was conducted as of February 1, 2015.

### **(3) Subject of the Survey**

#### **a) Survey of Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities**

The subjects of this survey are Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities.

Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities are defined as those engaged in or who have been entrusted to conduct (consigned) agriculture and forestry production activities where the area and number of feed livestock of the production or operation are above a certain size. (Refer to “Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities” on section 8, Definitions).

However, the Areas under Evacuation Orders after the accident of Tokyo Electric Power Company Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station (Areas under Evacuation Orders as of April 1, 2014, which are Narahamachi, Tomiokamachi, Okumamachi, Futabamachi, Namiemachi, the entire area of Katsuraomura and Iidatemura and part of Minamisoma city, Kawamatamachi and Kawauchimura of Fukushima Prefecture) are not included in this survey result.

## **b) Survey on Rural Areas**

All municipalities and rural communities in Japan are subjected to this survey (rural communities where the entire area was designated for urbanization were excluded from this survey).

The rural community is a rural society formed through farming in parts of a municipality. Rural communities are essentially self-generated rural social units formed by families having territorial and blood relationships creating various groups and social relationships.

However, the Areas under Evacuation Orders after the accident of Tokyo Electric Power Company Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station are not included in this survey result.

## **(4) Survey method**

### **a) Survey of Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities**

Enumerators distribute the questionnaires and collect the results. The response to the questionnaire can be reported on-line in certain designated areas.

### **b) Survey on Rural Areas**

#### **(Municipality questionnaire)**

Distribution of the questionnaires and collection of the results on-line or by mail from regional centers, etc.

#### **(Rural community questionnaire)**

Enumerators distribute the questionnaires and collect the results. However, interview surveys may also be conducted when such request is made by an expert of rural communities.

## 6. Budget

The following table provides a breakdown of expenses in conducting the 2015 Census of Agriculture and Forestry for each fiscal year (April to March of the following year)

### Operating budget for the 2015 Census of Agriculture and Forestry

Unit: 1,000 yen

Item	Total	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Trial Survey	12,767	12,767				
Survey of agricultural and forestry management entities	6,302,256			5,431,878	803,286	67,092
Survey of rural areas	411,540			84,865	288,776	37,899
Preparations for machine data calculations	132,511			98,037	34,474	
Census study meetings	6,154	6,154				
PR & advertising	27,051			27,051		
Honorariums	22,632				22,632	
Common expense	12,997	5,546	7,451			
Survey preparation expense	34,702	7,331	27,371			
Preparations for establishing range of agricultural settlement	231,310		231,310			
Common expense (discretionary expense)	10,969	2,058	1,750		2,670	4,491
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,204,889</b>	<b>33,856</b>	<b>267,882</b>	<b>5,641,831</b>	<b>1,151,838</b>	<b>109,482</b>

#### Notes:

Of these, all expenses incurred by the prefectures and municipalities were covered by MAFF in the form of commission fees. The breakdown of that is as follows.

Total of commission fees for prefectures:	5,095,166,000 yen
Of the above, salaries for supervisors:	255,717,000 yen
Salaries for enumerators:	4,153,814,000 yen
Cost for computer tabulation of results at prefectures:	33,699,000 yen
Expenses related to publishing reports:	79,592,000 yen

## **7. Making Survey Results Public**

The approximate value was published on November 27, 2015 and the definitive value was published on March 25, 2016. Details were released through the sequential publications listed below.

Volume 1 Statistics by Prefecture (total of 47 volumes)

Volume 2 Report on the Survey of Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities – Overview

Volume 3 Report on the Survey of Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities  
– Classification of Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities

Volume 4 Report on the Survey of Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities  
– Agricultural Management Category

Volume 5 Report on the Survey of Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities  
– Sample Results

Volume 6 Report on Dynamic Statistics of Agricultural Structures

Volume 7 Report on Survey of Rural Areas

Volume 8 Report on Statistics by Type of Rural Communities

## 8. Definitions

### Survey on Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities

#### 1. Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities

Agriculture and  
Forestry  
Management  
Entities

Refers to those who produce agriculture or forestry products or those who are engaged in agriculture or forestry operations under consignment agreements with the land area/number of heads of livestock for their production/operations conforms to one of the following stipulations.

- (1) Farming in which the cultivated land under management is over 30a.
- (2) Farms where the area under cultivation for agricultural product, the number of feeding livestock or shipped poultry, as well as the size of other operations exceed the following overall standards for agriculture and forestry management entities:
  1. Planted area for outdoor grown vegetables: 15a
  2. Cultivated area for greenhouse grown vegetables: 350m<sup>2</sup>
  3. Cultivated area for fruit trees: 10a
  4. Cultivated area for outdoor grown flowers: 10a
  5. Cultivated area for greenhouse grown flowers: 250m<sup>2</sup>
  6. Number of Milking cows: 1head
  7. Number of Fattening cattle: 1head
  8. Number of Pigs: 15heads
  9. Number of Hens: 150heads
  10. Number of Broiler chickens shipped each year: 1,000heads
  11. Others: Total sales of farm products equivalent to 500,000 yen or more during the one-year period up to the day before the survey period.
- (3) The forestry with an operation area of forest land exceeding 3ha that can carry out forestation or deforestation (excluding acquisition for the sole purpose of deforesting standing trees and bamboo) based on rights (hereinafter referred to as "owned forest land") (The use of the term is limited to a management entity, which formulates "Forest management plan" or "Forest operation plan" or that has carried out forestation or deforestation while continually operating forestry for 5 years prior to the date of the survey.)
- (4) Farming operating under a consignment agreement
- (5) Consigned forestation or raw materials production or raw materials productions through the purchase of standing trees (However, for the raw materials production, the use of the term is limited to those who produced over 200 m<sup>3</sup>of material prior to the date of the survey.)

Agriculture management entities	Refers to entities which correspond to either of the above definitions "Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities" of (1), (2) or (4).
Forestry management Entities	Refers to entities which correspond to either of the above definitions "Agriculture and Forestry Management Entities" of (3) or (5).
Family-Owned Farm Management Entities	Refers to those who operate in a single household (regardless of the numbers employed). Furthermore, it includes an incorporated Family-Owned Farm Management Entity, which is a form of an incorporated farm household.
Organized Management Entities	Refers to those who do not operate in households (management entities that are not Family-Owned Farm Management Entities).

## 2. Type of Organization

Incorporation (Incorporated management entity)	"Agriculture and Forest Management Entities" who conduct operation as a corporate entity (including the corporation consisting of one household).
Agricultural producers' cooperative corporation	Refers to corporations established in accordance with the Agricultural Cooperatives Act (Act No. 132 of 1947) for the purpose of increasing common profits through cooperating in agricultural production.
Company	Entities which correspond to following.
Incorporated company	Entities using an incorporated company organizational structure in accordance with the Companies Act (Act No. 86 of 2005). Includes special limited liability companies in accordance with Act on Arrangement of Relevant Acts Incidental to Enforcement of the Companies Act (Act No. 87 of 2005).
Unlimited/limited partnership	Entities using an unlimited or limited partnership organizational structure in accordance with Companies Act.

Limited liability company	Entities using a limited liability company organizational structure in accordance with Companies Act.
Various organizations	Entities which correspond to the following.
Agricultural cooperatives	Organizations formed in accordance with the Agricultural Cooperatives Act and corresponding to agricultural cooperatives or agricultural cooperative associations (Economic Federation of Agricultural Association).
Forestry cooperatives	Organizations formed in accordance with the Forestry Cooperatives Act (Act No. 36 of 1978) and corresponding to forestry cooperative, production forestry cooperatives and federations of forestry cooperatives.
Other organizations	Agricultural mutual benefit associations and agriculture-related organization formed in accordance with the Agricultural Disaster Compensation Act (Act No. 185 of 1947), associations other than forestry cooperatives, forest appreciation associations, forest research groups and others. Forestry public corporations (third sector) are also included here.
Other corporations	Agricultural producers' cooperative corporations and corporations other than companies and the various organizations which correspond to special-status private corporations, general incorporated corporations, general incorporated foundations, religious corporations, medical corporations or others.
Local governments / property wards	Local governments are prefectures and municipalities. Property wards are special wards established in accordance with the Local Autonomy Act (Act No. 67 of 1947) to allow for the ownership of a portion of the property held by the municipality.

## Agriculture Management Entities

### 1. Type of Farm Management Organization

Single farming entities	Entities whose main agricultural product sales account for more than 80% of income from all agriculture product sales.
Multiple farming entities	Entities whose main agricultural product sales account for less than 60% of income from all agriculture product sales (excluding the management entities)

without any sales).

## 2. Land

Cultivated land  
under management

Cultivated land (paddy fields inclusive of dike, land under permanent crops and upland fields) that is managed by agriculture and forestry management entities as of the survey date, which consists of the sum of self-cultivated land with an ownership obtained by the management entities (owned land) and a land rented from others (rented cultivated land). The actual land area is determined as the area by land category regardless of land category and area of the land ledger.

Cultivated land under management = Owned land (Paddy field, Upland fields, Land under permanent crops) – Leased cultivated land – Abandoned cultivated land + Rented cultivated land.

### **Classification of cultivated land under management**

- (1) The cultivated land that is rented from others regardless of whether it is notified or not and with a verbal lease agreement is defined as a cultivated land under management of the renter (rented cultivated land).
- (2) In the case where a form of rent is considered same as the rent in general even if the operation is considered as entrusted cultivation or consigned cultivation, the cultivated land under management (rented cultivated land) belongs to a cultivator who rents and cultivates the cultivated land.
- (3) The cultivated land under management belongs to the consignor in the case where each operation including plowing or rice reaping is entrusted as a unit of the operation to the person who undertakes the entrusted work.
- (4) If the consignor entrusts the whole operation of crop cultivation to someone and pays a certain amount of a predetermined cultivation fee to the cultivator under the agreement that all of the cultivated crops are given to the consignor, the cultivated land under management belongs to the consignor.
- (5) If the land, which was cultivated only once in the year prior to the date of the survey was leased to someone for a period of one cultivation, the land is defined as a rented cultivated land (the cultivated land under

management that belongs to the renter) and not the cultivated land of a lender. Furthermore, the cultivated land that is “managed under tenant farming again” is also defined as a cultivated land under management (rented cultivated land) of the “farmer operating again in tenant farming”.

(6) Jointly owned cultivated land that is divided by each household or a cultivated land on riverbed and public land is defined as cultivated land under management (rented cultivated land).

(7) The cultivated land managed in cooperation is defined as a cultivated land under management of cooperative management entity and not as the cultivated land under management of an individual even if the land is owned by an individual.

(8) All of the cultivated land in other municipalities and prefectures that the workers go to cultivate (cultivation trip) is defined as a cultivated land under management of the agriculture and forestry management entity. Therefore, an attention is needed that this is a so-called individual statistics because the summed up area of the cultivated land under management in certain prefectures and municipalities is the area of the cultivated land under management operated by the agriculture and forestry management entity that resides in that prefecture and municipality.

#### Paddy fields

Refers to the cultivated land that has dikes for the purpose of filling the field with water. The natural irrigation of the cultivated land is included in the term “to fill the field with water”. Therefore, the rain-fed paddy fields and the spring water paddy fields are also defined as Paddy fields.

(1) Dry fields (the land which used to be upland fields, but currently paddy fields with dikes to fill the field with water and the fields where a plastic sheet is buried for impounded water to grow rice) are also defined as paddy fields.

(2) However, even if the land used be a paddy field with the dikes still remaining, the cultivated land that is used to grow year-round perennial woody plants including fruit tree, mulberry tree and tea plant is defined as land under permanent crops and not as paddy fields.

Moreover, similarly, if the sugar cane is planted, the cultivated land is defined as an ordinary upland field.

Furthermore, the field without dikes is defined as an upland field even if the field is irrigated to grow rice.

#### Upland field

Cultivated land other than paddy fields and land under permanent crop. In

addition, the unstable land including a burnt field and a shifting field (a field to grow crops by pasteurization without removing the roots in the forest land and a field utilized by shifting between a field and a forest land) is defined as an Upland field.

Land under permanent crops

The land with a complete fertility management where the year-round perennial woody plants are grown systematically or continually, of which the plants including fruit tree, tea plant, mulberry are planted together in the area of 1a or larger. (planted contiguous to each other in all directions with a fixed ridge width and planting distance )

The land where the flowering trees are grown over 5 years is also included in this category.

Furthermore, if intercropping is carried out in the land under permanent crops, the land is calculated separately as a Ordinary upland field and a land under permanent crops depending on the usable area.

### 3. Crops for sale

Crops sale

Crops planted and cultivated for the purpose of sales. Does not include crops planted and cultivated solely to be consumed by the household. However, it includes some part of crops planted/cultivated for the purpose of sales, consumed by the household.

### 4. Livestock for sale

Dairy cows

Currently milking dairy cows including cattle in non-lactating period, cows bred to become dairy cows, stud bulls including candidate stud bulls) and non-milking cows being temporarily fattened before slaughter.

This category does not include virgin heifers and bulls being fattened as beef cattle and cows to be sold soon after birth (about one week) as beef cattle.

Such cows are included in the "beef cattle" category.

Beef cattle

Cattle other than dairy cows bred for the purpose of selling beef. The classifications of "dairy cow" and "beef cattle" are not based on species, but on the utilization. A Beef cattle is not only the male bovine, but also female breeding cows and virgin heifers for the purpose of fattening.

Pig

Refers to pigs that are fattened for the purpose of selling the meat of and female pigs that are older than six months raised for the purpose of breeding.

Hens	Refers to Chickens raised for the purpose of selling eggs, including chicks. This category does not include breeding chickens, broiler chickens, pet breeds such as <i>Totenko</i> , long-tailed fowl and bantams. For the sake of convenience, culled chickens were also included if they were still being raised as of the survey date.
Broiler	Refers to Chickens bred initially for the purpose of meat. In principle, these chickens are shipped within three months from hatching. This category includes chickens raised both for meat and eggs.

## 5. Agricultural product sales amount

Agricultural product sales amount	Refers to the sales amount (inclusive of the sales tax) before subtracting the overhead expenses including the expenses for fertilizers, pesticides and livestock feed.
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## 6. Farming Workforce

Employees	Refers to a total number of "permanently hired worker on farm" and "Temporary hired workers on farm" (including mutual help among farm households (labor exchange) and voluntary help on a farm (labor accepted for free)) engaged in farm management.
Permanently hired worker on farm	Refers to workers hired mainly for farm management with an employment agreement (including verbal agreement) covering a period of seven months or more (including the workers hired regardless of an employment period).
Temporary hired worker on farm	Refers to Day and/or seasonal workers hired on a temporary basis for farm management (including mutual help among farm households (labor exchange) and assistants (labor accepted for free)), but not including the laborers employed under a partial farm work contract. It includes cases in which workers are hired mainly for non-farm management work but engaged in farm management during the busy season, as well as those who had an employment agreement for longer than seven months but quit before reaching seven months.

## 7. Farm Management Activities

Business related to agricultural production	Refers to businesses that are related to agricultural production including "farm product processing", "tourist farm" and "farm inn".
Farm product processing	Processing farm products produced by the farm for the purpose of sales regardless of the proportion of owned production.
Direct sales	Direct sales to consumers of farm products and processed farm products (including Internet sales), or direct delivery to consumers based on a sales agreement.
Rental farm/farming experience	To let non-farmers use farmland which is owned by or rented from others and obtain a fee directly through methods for utilizing the farmland. It does not include cases in which owned cultivated land is lent for a fee to citizen gardens managed by local governments or agricultural cooperatives.
Tourist farms	Refers to a business in which Farm managers prepare fields where tourists can admire the farms and experience some farming operations such as picking the product themselves.
Farm inns	Refers to a business in which Farm managers provide lodging to tourists and meals using products grown on the farm and/or regional ingredients regardless of the proportion of their products in the meal mix to obtain the lodging fee with approval of the prefectural governor in accordance with the Hotel Business Act (No. 138 of 1948).
Farm restaurant	Refers to a business in which farm managers provide unspecified customers, such as tourists, with meals using their own farm-grown products, regardless of the proportion of these, and/or regional ingredients, to obtain the fee and with the approval of the prefectural governor in accordance with the Food Hygiene Law (No. 233 of 1947).
Overseas exports	Refers to exports of agricultural products by the farm manager.
Sustainable agriculture	It is environment-conscious agriculture that reduces the use of agricultural chemicals and chemical fertilizers to less than the local practice (the method

utilized in the region from the past) and ensures enriched soil through the use of compost.

## Commercial farm

### 1. Commercial farm

Commercial farm household	Refers to farms with cultivated land under management of at least 30a or those that had an income of 500,000 yen or more by selling agricultural products during the year prior to the survey period.
Business farm households	Refers to the households which main income is from farming (over 50% of the farm household income is the agricultural income) with existence of one or more persons who are under 65 years old and who work in the farming for sixty days or more in the year prior to the survey date.
Semi-business farm households	The households which main income is from non-farming (less than 50% of the farm household income is the agricultural income) with existence of one or more farmers who are under 65 years old and work in the farming for sixty days or more in the year prior to the survey date.
Side business farm households	Refers to households in which there is not a person who is under 65 years old and working the farming for sixty days or more in the year prior to the survey date (farm households other than business farm households and Semi-business farm households).
Household members	Those who basically live together. Members include those who are migrant workers but do not include those who live away from household for educational and occupational reasons. This category also excludes hired live-in workers.
Population mainly engaged in farming	Refers to the population of the household members who are over 15 years old that engaged only in the farming operated by household and members who engaged in both farming and jobs other than farming that mainly engaged in farming operated by household in the year prior to the survey date.

## Forestry management entities

### 1. Condition of the owned forest land

Belonging forest	<p>Forests that actually belong to the household.</p> <p>This includes forestland that has been inherited and purchased forestland, even of registration has not been completed. Furthermore, this category also includes forestry where semi-permanent usage is possible among rational forest permit to use local dwellers.</p>
Forest lent to others	<p>Refers to a land with the surface rights established by others or a profit sharing forest (land owner and afforester are different and profits are shared between the two parties) lent to others as a forest among the belonging forest.</p>
Forest rented from others	<p>Forest of others with the surface rights established in order to independently use the forest as a forest and forest rented from others or the profit sharing forest. The forest owned in common with a divided land that is to be divided is also included.</p>
Owned forest	<p>Owned forest = a belonging forest – forest land lent to others + forestland rented from others</p>

## 2. Material production

Material production amount	<p>Material is a log and it is also called a raw wood.</p> <p>It represents the volume of a log and the unit of cubic centimeter (m<sup>3</sup>) is displayed in general.</p> <p>Furthermore, it includes the amount of material production by purchasing standing trees.</p>
Material production by standing tree purchase	<p>Refers to an operation of purchasing the standing tree and selling it as it is in the material state after felling.</p>

## Survey on Rural Areas

Total land area	<p>Refers to an area of all prefectures.</p> <p>In principle, total land area is based on the “National Land Area Survey by Municipality” conducted by the Geographical Survey Institute.</p>
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Forest and grazing land area	Refers to a total area of current forest land area and the area of grazing land other than forest area, which is equivalent to the total area of the forest wood area and moor in the land category specified in Article 99 of the Ordinance on Real Property Registration (Ordinance of the Ministry of Justice No. 18 of 2005).
Forest area	<p>Refers to the area of forest specified by Article 2, Paragraph 1 of the Forest Act (Act No. 249 of 1951) and specifically, the forest that corresponds to the following standard.</p> <p>(1) Forest refers to the land where the timbers are growing collectively and the land provided on top of the aforementioned land for the collective growth of standing trees and bamboos and trees and bamboos.</p> <p>(2) Forests with a restriction of forest operation such as the conservation forest and the district equipped with conservation facility and etc. are also included in forest.</p> <p>(3) The land other than the forest land of national forest land (land that does not belong to any categories (denuded land, rocky land, grass field, alpine zone, etc.), attached land (seedbed, forest road bed, strip road bed, recreational facility bed, etc.) and leased land (roadway, site for electricity business, grazing land)) is excluded from the forest.</p>
Present forest area	Refers to the forest area as of the date of the survey that is calculated by adding the forest area other than the forest plan to the adjusted area of migrated forest after the establishment of the plan while setting Regional Forest Plan and the forest plan at the time of the establishment of the forest plan of national forest classified by region as the standard.
Grazing land other than forest	<p>Refers to the land other than forest where wild grass and shrubs grow.</p> <p>(1) Riverbed, dikes, embankment, roadway, golf course are excluded even if they are grassed.</p> <p>(2) Leased grazing land is included in Forestry Agency.</p> <p>(3) Government agencies other than Forestry Agency include undeveloped land under the jurisdiction of Ministry of finance and the training grounds of the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Defense.</p> <p>(4) Private forest includes the land of which the current condition is native grassland (including permanent meadow, retrogressed meadow, abandoned cultivated land that turned into native grassland).</p>
Forest and grazing land rate	Refers to the rate of forest and grazing land area against the total land area. When calculations are made by the nation, by agricultural regions and by

	<p>prefectures, the land area for the four northern islands (500,305ha) and for Takeshima (20ha) are excluded from the total land area.</p>
National forest	Refers to the land under the jurisdiction of the Forestry Agency or another government agency.
By Forestry Agency	Refers to the national forest under the jurisdiction of Forestry Agency and afforested land by government sharing agreement
By government institutions other than Forestry Agency	Refers to the land under the jurisdiction of national administrative institution other than Forestry Agency.
Non-national forest	Land other than the national land. Ownership can be classified as "independent administrative agency", "public" and "private".
By independent administrative agency	Refers to the land owned by independent administrative agency, national university and special corporation.
By public (forest)	Land under the jurisdiction of prefectures, forest management corporations, municipality and property ward.
By prefectures	<p>Refers to the land under the jurisdiction of prefecture.</p> <p>Refers to the forest under the jurisdiction of the waterworks bureau, the board of education, public development enterprise bureau in addition to the forest under the Forest Development Company (Forestry and forestation public corporation) jurisdiction of the department in charge of forestry and the prefectural forestation area and the school forest of the prefectural high school, etc. are also included.</p>
By Forest management corporations (Forestry / afforestation public corporations)	Refers to the land under the jurisdiction of forest development corporations (forestry and afforestation public corporation) specified in Article 9, item (ii) of the Act on Special Measures concerning Shared Forest (Act No. 57 of 1958).

By municipalities	<p>Refers to the land under the jurisdiction of local municipalities.</p> <p>The forest under the jurisdiction of an association of municipality (also generally called “town and village union”, of which more than two municipalities establish in order to operate for instance the clerical work of the municipalities and the clerical work concerning the forest of municipalities) specified in Article 284, Paragraph 1 of the Local Autonomy Act (Act No. 67 of 1947) is included.</p> <p>Furthermore, it also includes the shared forest, of which a municipality takes the main part in forestation.</p>
By property wards	<p>Refers to the property ward specified in Article 294, Paragraph 1 of the Local Autonomy Act that is created with the land owned by settlement and former municipality during the municipal mergers, which the local residents use and make profit of.</p> <p>Furthermore, the property ward is defined as private if the property ward has turned into a production forest owner’s cooperative.</p>
By private (forest)	<p>Refers to the land owned by an individual, a company, shrine and temple, cooperation (joint ownership), various organizations and unions, etc.</p>
Rural community	<p>Refers to a rural society within the municipal area based on agriculture. Rural community is a fundamental unit of social life that formed various groups and social relationships, which originally was a spontaneously established local community with ties in the territorial and blood connections.</p>
Community function	<p>Refers to the function of maintaining and managing the local resources such as farm land and forest land, the complementary function in the agricultural production such as cooperative work during harvest and the function that maintains and enhances the living condition while the local residents are mutually helping each other in the occasions such as ceremonies.</p> <p>This survey determined that the community has a “community function” if it falls under the any of the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Holding a meeting.</li> <li>- Having an agricultural producer’s union.</li> <li>- Preserving the local resources.</li> <li>- Carrying out activities for revitalization.</li> </ul>
Community meetings	<p>Basically, meetings to be held by members of the rural community, discussing concerned to the regional society or agriculture production.</p>

Furthermore, even if the meeting is not subjected to all farm households or all of the farmers in the rural community, the meetings are defined as the meetings specified in this category if they are subjected to delegates and officials in each group of the rural community and had reached decisions regarding local society and local agricultural production.

However, club activities such as women's association, children's association, young men's association and Four-H club are excluded.

Matters concerned to agriculture production

Refers to matters related to agricultural production such as production adjustments and crop rotation, pest control and shipment carried out jointly, bird or animal damage control, adjustment of agricultural labor force.

Maintenance of farm roads, agricultural irrigation and drainage canal and reservoir

Refers to matters related to the maintenance of farm roads, agricultural irrigation and drainage canal and reservoir such as the repair of agricultural road, agricultural irrigation and drainage canal and reservoir, grass cutting, mud removal and cleaning.

Maintenance of the common assets and facilities

Refers to matters related to the maintenance of common assets such as farming equipment, facilities, the forest owned in common and common facilities supporting lifestyles in the rural community.

Environment beautification and the preservation of natural environment

Refers to matters related to environment beautification such as cleaning, litter pick-up drives, grass cutting and flower planting in the rural community and the conservation of natural resources, etc.

Planning and promotion of events (festival, event, etc.) of rural community

Refers to matters related to planning and promotion of events in the rural community such as the festival in the temple and shrine (festival, grand festival, annual festival, etc.), athletic festival and various types of events, etc.

Rural

Services for the elderly and children in the rural community (nursing, children's

Community Welfare	associations), trash disposal, recycling, joint pest control.
Efforts in the development of renewable energy	Refers to matters related to the efforts in the development of renewable energy (solar power generation, small hydropower generation, wind power generation, geothermal power generation, biomass power generation, etc.) utilizing the local resources.
Local resources	In this survey, it refers to agricultural land, forests, reservoirs, lakes and marshes, river and canal, agricultural irrigation and drainage canal in the rural community.
Local resource preservation	Activities to preserve, maintain and improve local resources as local shared resources mainly by local residents. Furthermore, the resources jointly preserved by the several households of the local residents are included, but the resources maintained for the sole purpose of an individual's own agricultural production activity are excluded.
Farm land	Refers to the land provided for the purpose of cultivation that is specified in Article 2, Paragraph 1 of the Agricultural Land Act (Act No. 229 of 1952).
Forest	Refers to the forest specified in Article 2, Paragraph 1 of the Forest Act.
Reservoir and lakes	Refers to the matter falls under any of the following. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Man-made or natural reservoir to store irrigated water.</li> <li>(2) Dammed river and valley created by various factors.</li> <li>(3) The land collapsed to create a pot-shaped basin, of which the water is filled inside.</li> <li>(4) The land in a crater or a crater basin, of which the water is filled inside.</li> <li>(5) The lake, which was part of the ocean in the ancient days.</li> <li>(6) Other than the above, the basin filled with water because it is surrounded by land in all directions.</li> </ol>
Rivers and watercourses	Watercourses, canals and small rivers other than class A and class B rivers. Furthermore, irrigation and drainage canal for agriculture or daily use are excluded.
Agricultural irrigation and drainage canal	Refers to the facility for irrigation and drainage located around the cultivated field in the rural community and it includes the canal that is also used as daily life irrigation and drainage canal. Furthermore, the irrigation or drainage facility managed mainly by public institution

(prefecture, municipality and land improvement district) is excluded.

Activity for  
revitalization

Refers to activities carried out mainly by the local residents that are consulted or approved in the region.

Furthermore, in this survey, it refers to a preservation of traditional festival, culture and entertainment, holding various events, a welfare activity provided to elderly people, an environment beautification and natural environment preservation, an effort on green tourism, the sixth sector industrialization, a settlement promotion and the renewable energy development.

Preservation of  
traditional festival,  
culture and  
entertainment

Refers to activities to preserve festivals (festival, grand festival and annual festival) that are passed down from the ancient days, industrial art and local performing arts.

Furthermore, in general, it is subjected to the traditional matters passed down from the pre-WWII period, but culture and entertainment that were created after the WWII are included in the activity subject if preservation activities are carried out for them.

Holding various  
events

Refers to planning and holding of the regularly held social event for the residents of rural community.

Specifically, it refers to athletic festival and Bon festival dance.

Welfare activity  
provided to  
elderly people

Refers to an activity for welfare provided to the elderly people.

Specifically, it refers to nursing activity, consolidation to the nursing homes and shopping assistance.

Environment  
beautification and  
natural  
environment  
preservation

Refers to an activity aimed at a preservation of the overall landscape including natural landscape and man-made landscape such as settlement and architecture.

Flower planting on the roadside strip and park and a cleaning activity for the purpose of landscape preservation are also subjected to this category.

Green tourism

Refers to a leisure activity to experience and enjoy the nature, culture and the interaction with people in the rural area.

Specifically, it refers to an effort to accept a leisure activity regardless of the duration of stay, which utilizes farmers' market, tourist farm and farm-inn and the tourism that adopts an agricultural experience and a volunteer activity.

Development of sixth sector industrialization	<p>Refers to an effort to increase an income by creating employment utilizing the local resources, which uses and integrally processes and sells the agricultural, forest and fishery products and the by-product thereof (biomass, etc.).</p> <p>Specifically, it refers to diversified and composite management such as direct sales, processing, export of local agricultural product, supply of local agricultural product in cooperation with second and third industry, facility food service that supply food to schools and hospitals, cooperative activity of medicine, welfare, food and agriculture that supplies raw material for the functional food and care food and ICT utilization such as online sales and logistic cooperation.</p>
Promotion of settlement	<p>Refers to an effort to lead people who are willing to live in local communities to settle in the local community.</p> <p>Specifically, it refers to a recruitment of applicants for a settlement and preparation of vacant house and closed school building to develop a preparation of acceptance.</p>
Effort in the development of renewable energy	<p>Refers to an effort in the development of renewable energy (solar power generation, small hydropower generation, wind power generation, geothermal power generation, biomass power generation, etc.) utilizing local resources.</p> <p>Specifically, it refers to an effort in placing solar power generation panel in the diverted land of agricultural land and forest land and placing a power generation facility in the agricultural irrigation and drainage canal.</p>
DID (Densely Inhabited District)	<p>It refers to a region that several national census basic unit districts with population density exceeding 4,000 people per 1 km<sup>2</sup> adjoin and that the population exceeds 5,000 in total, which is a regional unit that is determined as the statistical regional unit that reveals the characteristic of urban regions in the national census.</p>
Required time	<p>It refers to a time required to go to the facility in the center of the DID that is closest to the rural community from the center of the rural community in the case where the major transportation method is used.</p>

## Classification of national agricultural region

Classification of national agricultural region is as follows and prefectures other than Hokkaido are all the regions of Japan except for Hokkaido.

Name of national agricultural region	Name of the affiliated prefecture
Hokkaido	Hokkaido
Tohoku	Aomori, Iwate, Miyagi, Akita, Yamagata, Fukushima
Hokuriku	Niigata, Toyama, Ishikawa, Fukui
Kanto / Tozan	(Northern Kanto, Southern Kanto, Tozan)
Northern Kanto	Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma
Southern Kanto	Saitama, Chiba, Tokyo, Kanagawa
Tozan	Yamanashi, Nagano
Tokai	Gifu, Shizuoka, Aichi, Mie
Kinki	Shiga, Kyoto, Osaka, Hyogo, Nara, Wakayama
Chugoku	(Sanin, Sanyo)
Sanin	Tottori, Shimane
Sanyo	Okayama, Hiroshima, Yamaguchi
Shikoku	Tokushima, Kagawa, Ehime, Kochi
Kyushu	(Northern Kyushu, Southern Kyushu)
Northern Kyushu	Fukuoka, Saga, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, Oita
Southern Kyushu	Miyazaki, Kagoshima
Okinawa	Okinawa

# (Appendix) History of Census of Agriculture and Forestry

