

• Nobuyoshi Kuraoka



Gender: Male

Country/region: New York, USA

Current position: President, Wako International Corporation

Achievements:

He opened the first authentic sushi restaurant in the U.S. in 1963.

He was the first person to import the delicacy “tora-fugu” (blowfish) into the U.S. from Japan at a time when the fish was not recognized in the U.S. He obtained an import permit from the Food and Drug Administration after a five-year effort in 1989. He was recognized by the New York City Mayor in 1991, receiving an official letter praising his effort to bring tora-fugu to New York City restaurants.

He has started his own buckwheat farm in Montreal, Canada in 1988.

He received the patent rights for frozen product of boiled noodles of Japanese buckwheat (soba) in the U.S. in 2006.