

II Summary of the World Census for Agriculture and Forestry 2000

[Farm Household Survey Results]

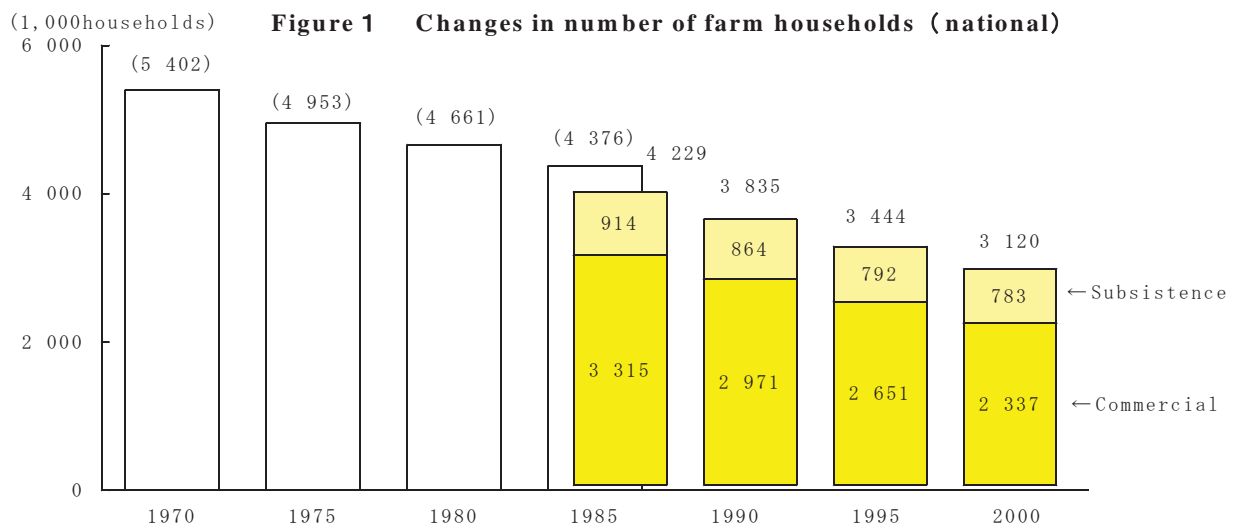
1 The Number of Farm Households

(1) Total Number of Farm Households

- The total number of farm households was 3,120, 000 units -

The total number of farm households in our Country as of February 1, 2000 (December 1, 1999 in Okinawa) was 3,120, 000 units, a reduction of 323,000 (9.4%) in comparison with the previous census (1995 Census under same condition).

This number consisted of 2,337,000 commercial farm households (74.9% of the total), 783,000 subsistence farm households (25.1% of the total), respective reduction of 314,000 units (11.9%) and 9,000 units (1.1%).



5-year change (%)	total	(△ 8.3)	(△ 5.9)	(△ 6.1)	△ 9.3	△ 10.2	△ 9.4
	Commercial	...	...	...	△ 10.4	△ 10.7	△ 11.9
	Subsistence	...	...	...	△ 5.4	△ 8.3	△ 1.1

Note:1 Figures in parentheses for 1970~1985 were those under old definitions

2 1985 total of 4,229,000 is a figure obtained under new definitions.

3 △ indicates reduction throughout this report.

4 ... indicates either unknown or unsurveyed.

<Farm Household >

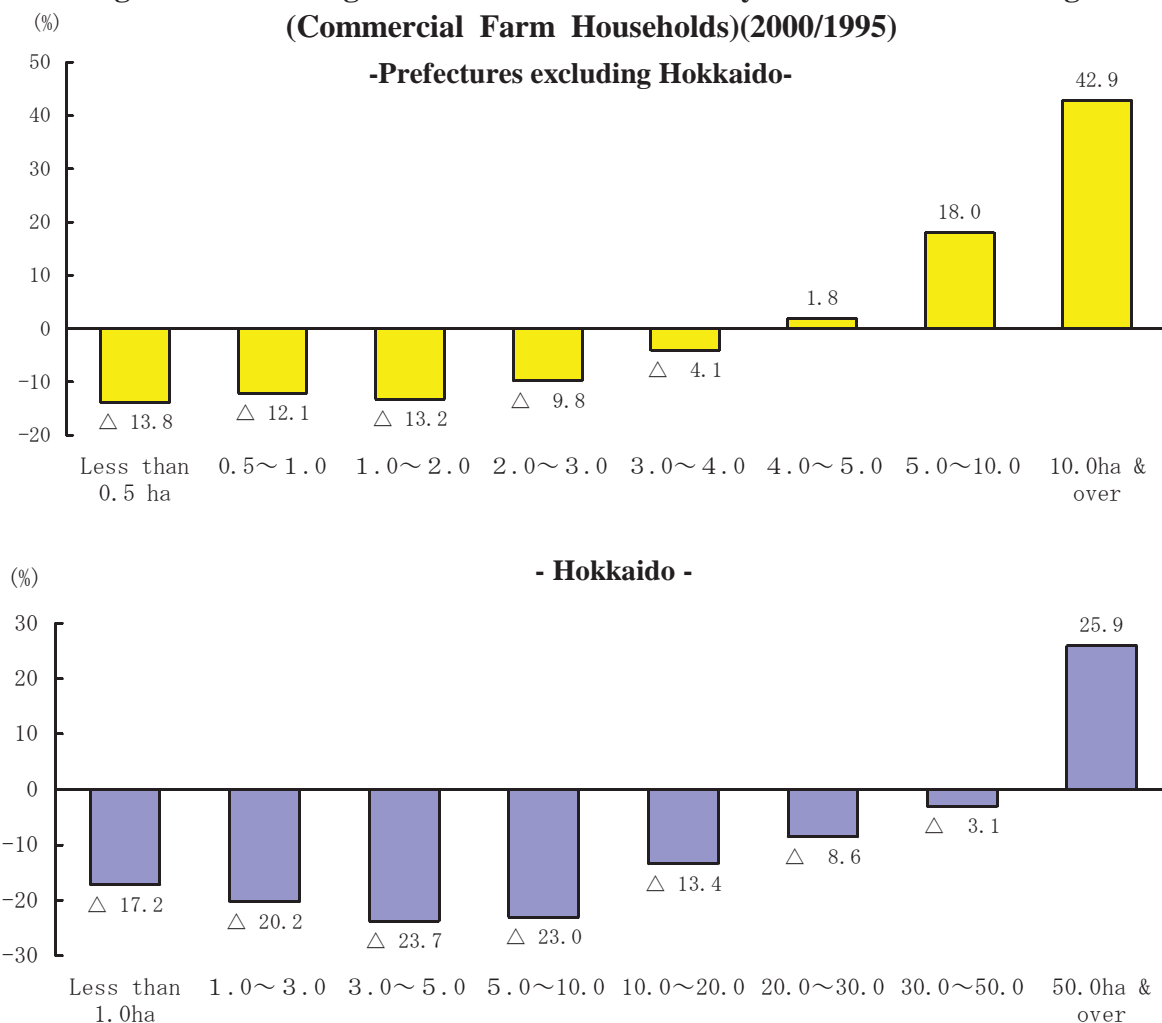
Farm household	....	A household managing excess of 10 a as of the census date or farm income in excess of 150,000 yen during a period of 1 year to the census including those with land holding of less than 1 a.
Commercial farm household	...	Those operating cultivated land in excess of 30 a or farm income in excess of 500,000 yen.
Subsistence farm household	....	Those operating on cultivated land of less than 30 a and Received farm income of less than 500,000 yen.

(2) Stratification of Farm Households by Cultivated Land Holdings
(Commercial Farm Households)

- Increase in the number of large-scale farm household is continuing -

Considering the course of the change the number of farm households the strata of operational scale, they are increasing in Hokkaido in the over 50.0 ha category and in the remaining Prefectures in the over 40.0 ha category as compared to the last Census.

**Figure 2 The changes in farm household scale by cultivated land holding area
(Commercial Farm Households)(2000/1995)**



(3) Classification of Farm Households by Degree of Member's Devotion to Agriculture (Commercial Farm Households)

- Farm households that include full-time farmers under 65 operate half of active cultivated land -

Regarding farm households in terms of devoted vs. sideline member category, farm household with devoted members numbered 500,000. Of this number, 438,000 farm households included full-time farmers under the age of 65. The numbers of devoted farm member household and those that included full-time farm hand under 65 decreased by 26.1 and 23.6 %, respectively.

The scale of the devoted farm households was on the average larger among commercial farm households, 2.4 and 2.0 times in average operating area and leased cultivated land, respectively.

Among devoted member farm households, the share in the operating area of those with full-time farmer under 65 (proportion of the total operating cultivated land of commercial farm households) was 49.2 %; about half of all cultivated land was managed by commercial farm households with at least 1 member under the age of 65.

Table 1. Course of Changes in the Number of Full- and Sideline farm households (National, Commercial Farm Households)

Unit: { Thousands
 Proportion in %

Classification	Number		% Change	% Composition	
	2000	1995	2000/1995	2000	1995
Commercial Farm Households	2 337	2 651	△ 11.9	100.0	100.0
Devoted Farm Households	500	678	△ 26.1	21.4	25.6
with full-time farmer under 65	438	573	△ 23.6	18.7	21.6
Quasi-Devoted Farm Households	599	695	△ 13.7	25.7	26.2
with full-time farmer under 65	196	218	△ 10.0	8.4	8.2
Sideline Farm Households	1 237	1 279	△ 3.3	52.9	48.3

Table 2 Operational scale and cultivated land area in devoted and sideline farm households (National, Commercial Farm Households)

Classification	Operational scale in devoted and sideline farm households							Share of Cultivated Land under Management
	Full-Time Farm Worker	Area of Cultivated Land	Rented Cultivated Land	Area in Protected Facility	Area in Rice Crop	Heads of Milk Cows	Heads of Beef Cattle	
		a	a	a	a			%
Commercial Farm Households	0.8	160	87	20	84	49	20	100.0
Devoted Farm Households	2.0	391	177	26	168	56	37	52.3
with full-time farmer under 65	2.2	419	185	26	175	56	40	49.2
Quasi-Devoted Farm Households	0.6	123	52	10	82	15	8	19.8
Sideline Farm Households	0.4	84	33	10	57	14	7	27.9

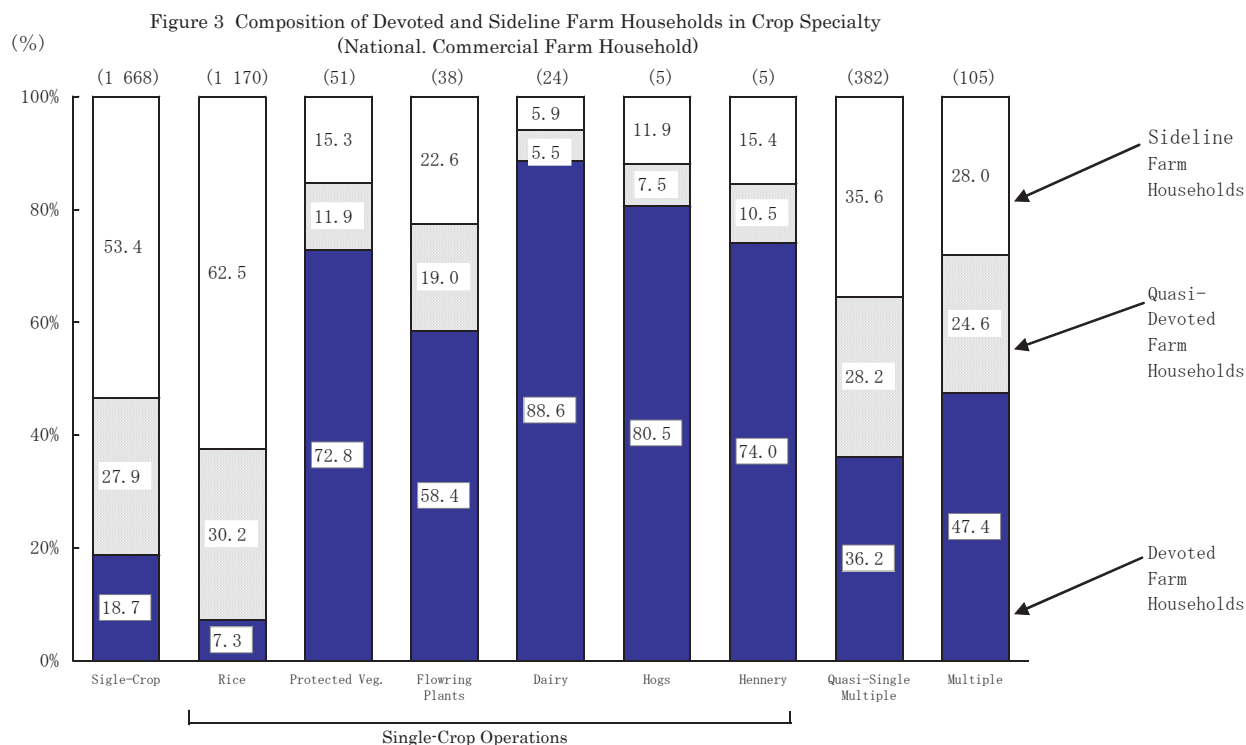
< Classification by degree of devotion to farm operation of its members >

This classification was adopted starting with the 1995 Census for Agriculture and is based on an index derived by adding to the proportion of farm and non-farm income of each farm household to a measure of the type of agricultural labor provided by its working member(s). It was devised to identify the principal worker(s) of its farm operation.

Devoted farm household	Farm income constitutes the principal income (in excess of 50 % of the total income of the household) and includes in the household a farmer under 65 who contributes over 60 days of farm labor annually.
Quasi-devoted farm household	Non-farm income constitutes the principal household income and includes in the household a farmer under 65 who contributes over 60 days of farm labor annually non-farm income constitutes the principal household income and includes in the household a farmer under 65 who contributes over 60 days of farm labor annually.
Sideline farm household	A farm household without a farmer under 65 who annually contributes over 60 days of farm labor (non-devoted and non quasi-devoted farm household).

- The proportion of devoted farm household is high among single-crop entities in beef cattle husbandry and protected horticulture of vegetables -

Considering the proportion of devoted and sideline farmers in crop specialties, protected horticulture, vegetables, flowering plants and trees, dairy, hog, and hennerly single-crop households comprises the majority.



Note: Figures in parentheses are actual number (in thousands).

(4) The Number of Devoted and Sideline Farm Households (Commercial Farm Households)

- Number of farm household lacking male members of productive age is on the increase -

In these classes of farm households, the number of devoted farm households is 426,000 units, maintaining the last Census level; however, those without male worker of productive age (individuals of over 15 and below 65 years of age) increased by 20.8%. This increase in the farm households without a male member of productive age raised the proportion in the devoted farm households to exceed 50 %.

Table 3 The course of changes in the number of devoted and sideline farm households

		Unit: { Thousands Proportion in %						
Classifi- cation		Total	Devoted Farm Households			Sideline Farm Households		
			Subtotal	Productive Age Male Present	Procutive Age Male Absent	Subtotal	Class 1 Sideline	Class 2 Sideline
No. of Units	1995	2651	428	240	188	2224	498	1725
	2000	2337	426	200	227	1911	350	1561
% Change 00/99		△ 11.9	△ 0.3	△ 16.8	20.8	△ 14.1	△ 29.8	△ 9.5
% Composition	1995	100.0	16.1	9.1	7.1	83.9	18.8	65.1
	2000	100.0	18.2	8.5	9.7	81.8	15.0	66.8

(5) Stratification by Farm Income (Commercial Farm Households)

- The proportion of income of over 10 million yen was 6.3% -

Focussing on changes in the number of farm households in farm earnings strata, decrease was noted in all except in the no sales, farm income of less than 500,000 yen stratum.

The farm households earning over 10 million yen in farm products constituted 6.3%, maintaining the level seen in the last Census.

**Table 4 Changes in the Farm Earnings by Income Strata
(National, Commercial Farm Households)**

Unit: { Thousands
Proportion in %

Classification		Total	No Sales	Bellow ¥0.5 Million	¥0.5~1.0 Million	¥1.0~3.0 Million	¥3.0~5.0 Million	¥5.0~10.0 Million	10 Million & over
Number	1990	2 971	177	878	558	799	227	199	133
	1995	2 651	164	746	523	653	204	198	164
	2000	2 337	182	751	441	506	150	159	148
% Change	1995/1990	△ 10.7	△ 7.6	△ 15.0	△ 6.2	△ 18.2	△ 10.3	△ 0.5	23.4
	2000/1995	△ 11.9	11.0	0.8	△ 15.8	△ 22.5	△ 26.3	△ 19.4	△ 10.1
% Composition	1990	100.0	6.0	29.5	18.8	26.9	7.6	6.7	4.5
	1995	100.0	6.2	28.1	19.7	24.6	7.7	7.5	6.2
	2000	100.0	7.8	32.1	18.9	21.7	6.4	6.8	6.3

Reference: Change in farm price index (National)

Unit: %

1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
100.0	96.6	96.1	90.2	96.7	89.8

Note: Base year set at 1994.

(6) Classification of Farm Household by Crop Specialty

(Commercial Farm Households)

- Single-crop farm household in was declining, while protected horticulture and beef cattle were on the increase -

Looking at the number of farm household in various crop specialties, total number of single-crop farm households declined since the last Census; however, gains were seen in protected vegetable horticulture, wheats growing and beef cattle husbandry.

**Table 5 Changes in the Number Farm Households in Crop Specialties
(National, Commercial Farm Households)**

Classification		Farm Households with Sales	Single-Crop Operation							Unit: { Thousands Proportion in %	
				Rice	Wheats	Protected Veg.	Flowering Plants	Dairy	Beef Cattle	Quasi-Single- Crop Multiple	Multiple Operation
Number	1990	2 793	1 965	1 365	14	...	...	37	35	630	198
	1995	2 488	1 903	1 376	4	44	40	29	27	461	124
	2000	2 155	1 668	1 170	5	51	38	24	28	382	105
% Change	1995/1990	△ 10.9	△ 3.2	0.8	△ 69.3	...	...	△ 21.1	△ 22.3	△ 26.9	△ 37.3
	2000/1995	△ 13.4	△ 12.3	△ 15.0	13.1	15.5	△ 4.8	△ 17.0	4.0	△ 17.2	△ 15.4
% Composition	1990	100.0	70.4	48.9	0.5	...	...	1.3	1.2	22.6	7.1
	1995	100.0	76.5	55.3	0.2	1.8	1.6	1.2	1.1	18.5	5.0
	2000	100.0	77.4	54.3	0.2	2.4	1.8	1.1	1.3	17.7	4.9

< Crop Specialty >

Single-crop	....	Sale of a single crop constitutes over 80 % of farm income
Quasi-single crop	...	Sale of a single crop constitutes under 80 % but over 60 % of farm income
Multiple-crop	....	Sale of any single crops constitutes under 60 % of farm income

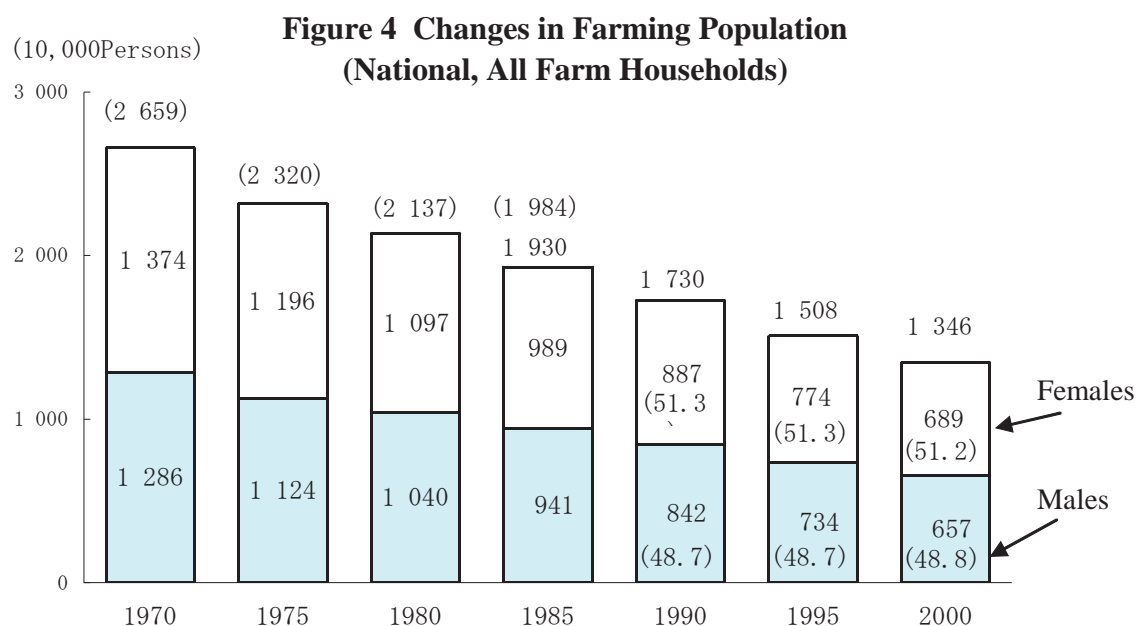
2 Farm Household Population and Employment Structure

(1) Farm Population

- Farm population numbered 13,460,000 --

Farm population (members of farm households) was 13,460,000; a decrease of 1,630,000 (10.8 %) since the last Census.

Farm population constituted 10.6 % of the population of Japan (estimate as of October 1, 1999; Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Post and Telecommunications), a decrease of 1.4 % in comparison with the last Census.



% Change in 5 Years	Total	(△ 12.8)	(△ 7.9)	(△ 7.1)	△ 10.4	△ 12.8	△ 10.8
	Males	(△ 12.5)	(△ 7.5)	(△ 7.1)	△ 10.5	△ 12.8	△ 10.5
	Females	(△ 13.0)	(△ 8.3)	(△ 7.2)	△ 10.3	△ 12.8	△ 11.0

Notes: 1 1970-85 figures (in parentheses) are based on the old definition of farm household

2 1985 farm population of 19,300,000 is based on new definition of farm household

3 Figures in parentheses after 1990 are proportions of males to females

Reference: Age Composition of the Population of Japan (Oct. 1, 1999)

Unit: %						
1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000
25.9	21.0	18.4	16.0	14.0	12.0	10.6

Note: All proportions are based on estimated population as of October 1 of the year preceding the census.

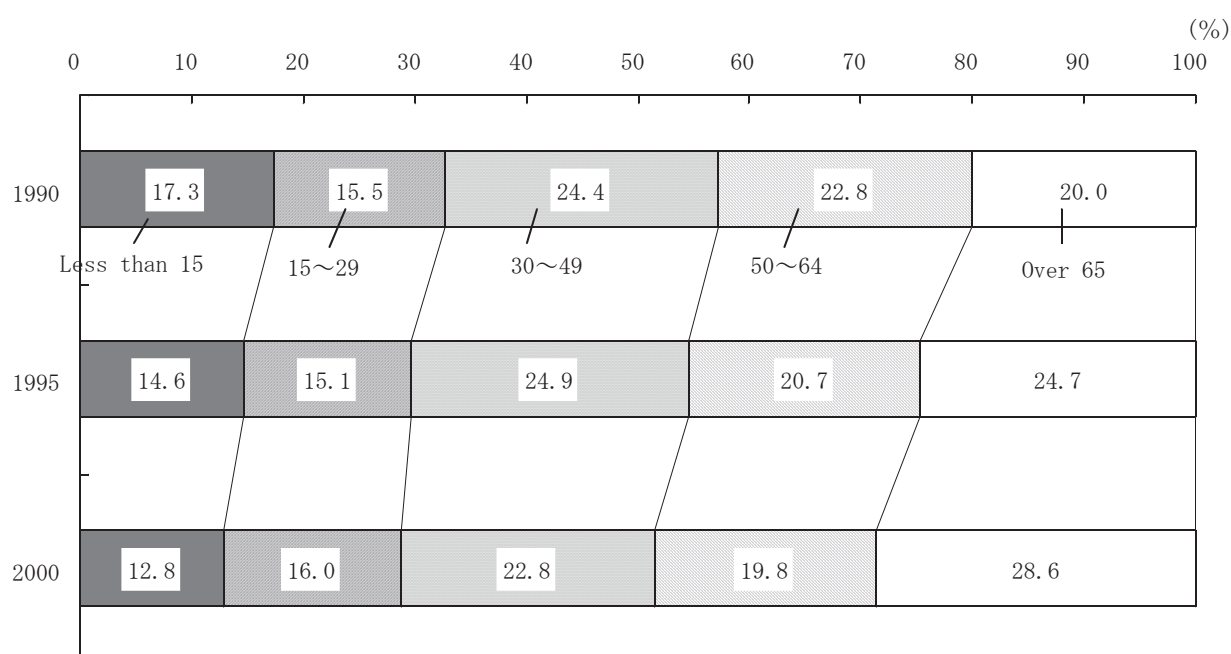
- Farming population is aging -

Considering the age composition of the farming population, the proportion of those who are passed the age of 65 has increased 3.9 % from 24.7% in the last Census to 28.6 % in the World Census 2000.

In terms of sex of the 65 or older strata, males constituted 25.9 % and females 31.2 %, showing increase of 3.7 % and 4.2 %, respectively.

In comparison with the proportion of those over 65 in the total population of Japan (17%, of which males constitute 14 % and females 19 %), aging in the segment of the population in farming was pronounced.

**Figure 5. Changes in Constitution of Age Strata in the Farming Population
(National, All Farm Households)**
— Total —



Reference: Proportion of farmers in the population of Japan (National)

Unit: %				
Less than 15	15~29	30~49	50~64	Over 65
14.8	20.9	26.8	20.8	16.7

Reference: Annual Report of Estimated Population (Statistics Bureau,
Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Post
and Telecommunications)

(2) Employment Status (Commercial Farm Households)

- Agricultural labor force is decreasing -

Of farm household members over 15 years of age, those who participated in farm operation (agricultural participants) numbered 6,860,000, a decrease of 7.3 % since the last Census.

Of these, the farm family members who were over 15, those who worked principally as farm hands (farm workers) numbered 3,890,000, declining by 6.0 % in comparison with the last Census, and the number of those who primarily worked on agricultural tasks (core farm workers) numbered 2,400,000, a decrease of 6.3 %.

Table 6 Changes in the Number of Agricultural Participants, Farm Workers and Core Farm Workers (National, Commercial Farm Households)

Classification		Agricultural Participants			Farm Workers			Core Farm Workers		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Number	1990	8 493	4 441	4 052	4 819	1 978	2 841	2 927	1 522	1 405
	1995	7 398	3 960	3 438	4 140	1 767	2 372	2 560	1 372	1 188
	2000	6 856	3 638	3 219	3 891	1 721	2 171	2 400	1 260	1 140
%	1995/1990	△ 12.9	△ 10.8	△ 15.2	△ 14.1	△ 10.6	△ 16.5	△ 12.5	△ 9.9	△ 15.4
Change	2000/1995	△ 7.3	△ 8.1	△ 6.4	△ 6.0	△ 2.6	△ 8.5	△ 6.3	△ 8.2	△ 4.1

Unit { Thousands
Proportion in %

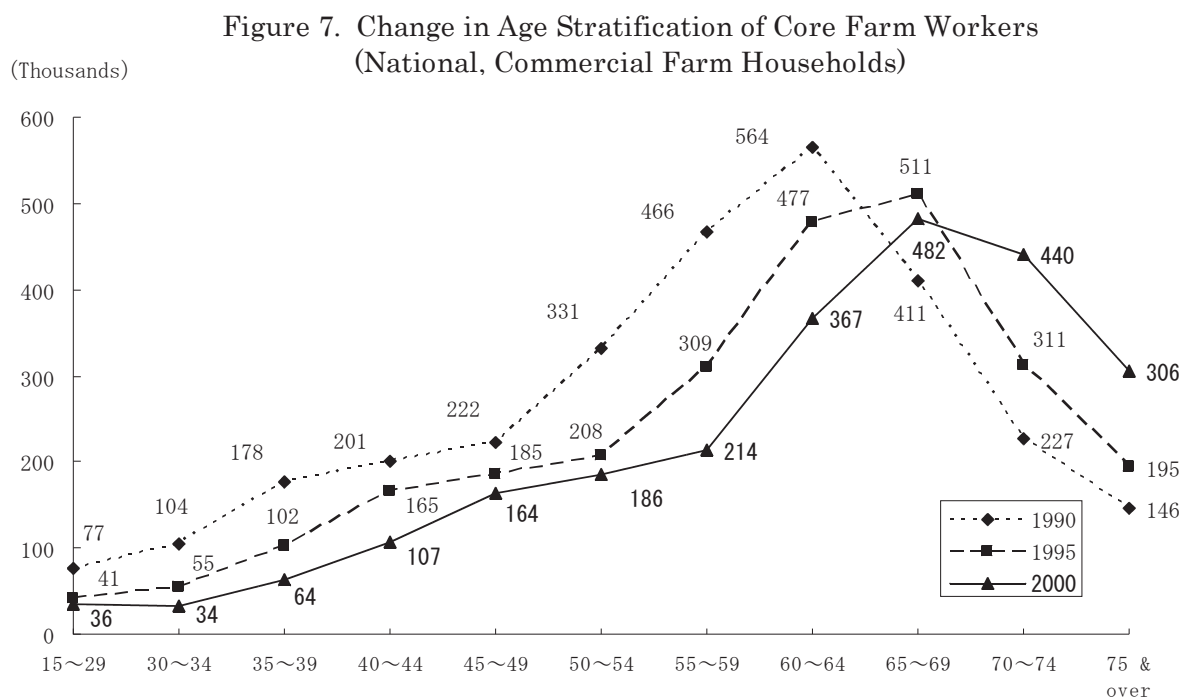
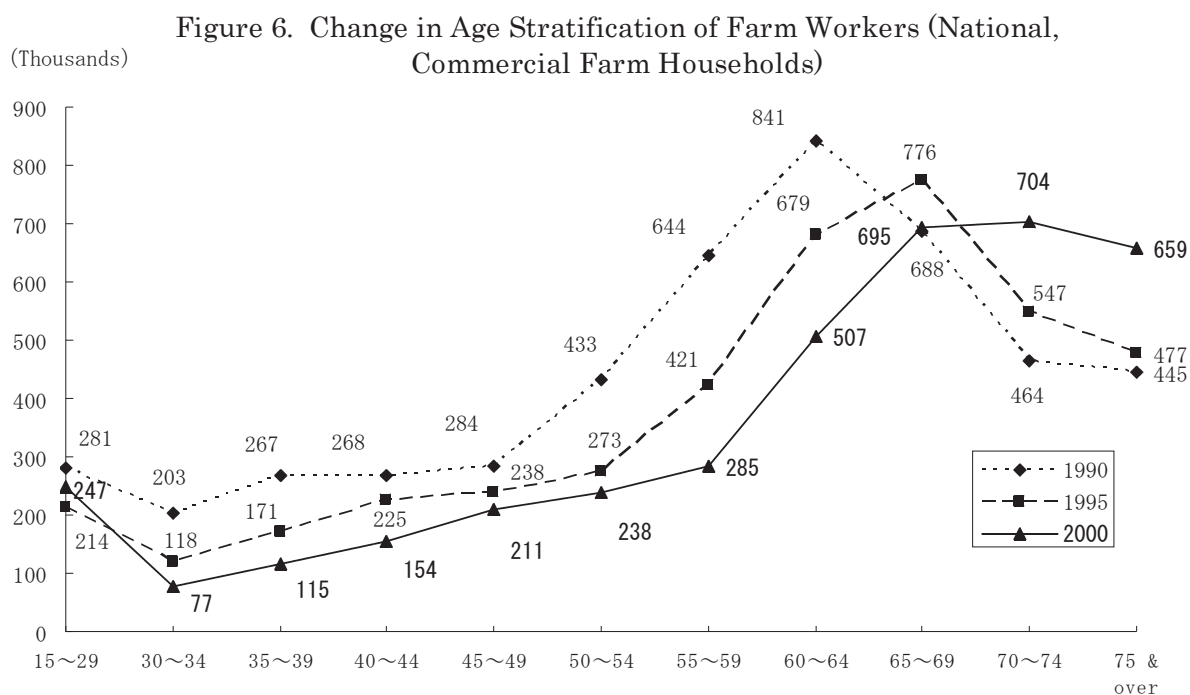
< Agricultural labor force >

Agricultural Participant	Family member over 15 who participated in agricultural work during a one-year prior of the World Census 2000.
Farm Worker ...	Of agricultural participants, those who “only worked in agriculture” and those who concurrently worked outside agriculture whose involvement in agriculture in terms of the number of days was greater in agriculture than in outside work.
Core Farm Worker ...	Of farm workers, those who normally worked in agriculture during a one-year period prior to the World Census 2000.
Full-time Farm Worker ...	Those who worked in agriculture over 150 during one-year period prior to the World Census 2000.
Quasi-Full-time Farm Worker	Those who worked in agriculture between 60 and 149 days during a one-year period prior to the World Census 2000.

- Aging of agricultural labor force is advancing -

Focusing on age strata of farm workers and core farm workers, the number in over 70 year old stratum was showing an increase.

The actual population in the 60-65 stratum of the World Census was significantly greater than that in the 55-59 stratum in the last Census.



(3) Status of Farm Operators (Commercial Farm Households)

- Younger operators concentrate in dairy farming and protected horticulture -

Regarding the age composition of farm operators in various crop specialties, the proportion of over-60-year-olds is high in open vegetable growing and single-crop orchard operation, while single-crop dairy, hog farm and protected horticulture in vegetables are made up by a high proportion of those under 49 years old.

Table 7 Age Composition of Single-Crop Farm Operations (National, Commercial Farm Households)

		Unit : %					
Classification	Total	Under 40	40~49	50~59	60 & over	65 & over	
Commercial Farm Households	100.0 (2 337)	3.4	17.8	25.4	53.3	38.4	
Corp Specialty	Single-Crop Operation	100.0 (1 668)	3.4	18.1	25.9	52.5	37.8
	Rice	100.0 (1 170)	3.2	18.4	26.7	51.8	37.1
	Open Field Vegetables	100.0 (87)	3.4	14.9	21.5	60.3	45.3
	Protected Vegetables	100.0 (51)	5.8	22.1	27.9	44.3	28.1
	Fruit Trees	100.0 (160)	3.1	14.8	24.0	58.2	43.8
	Flowering Plants	100.0 (38)	5.3	21.9	27.7	45.1	31.8
	Dairy	100.0 (24)	9.6	32.2	29.0	29.2	15.6
	Beef Cattle	100.0 (28)	4.0	18.4	22.1	55.6	39.3
	Hogs	100.0 (5)	4.3	24.7	32.8	38.2	22.1
	Henery	100.0 (5)	4.3	20.7	30.7	44.4	28.1
	Quasi-Single-Crop Multi.	100.0 (382)	3.5	17.5	23.7	55.4	39.4
	Multiple Crop Operation	100.0 (105)	4.6	19.3	24.3	51.7	35.6

Note: Figures in parentheses are actual numbers (thousands).

< Farm operator >

A farm operator is the person responsible for farm management of a farm household. This is a new concept adapted for the first time in the World Census 2000; up to the last Census, the term farm household head (one responsible for financial aspect of farm operation) was used.

In case where a multiple number of individuals are involved in farm management, one of them is designated as the farm operator.

(4) Status of Farm Succession (Commercial Farm Households)

- Farm successors who primarily engage in farming constitute 7 % -

Farm households in which the successor is co-habiting constitute 57.3 %. Of these farm households where the successors are engaged primarily in agricultural work comprise 7.2 %, and 13.1 % of successors of farm household is living outside of the parental house.

In terms of crop-specialty, those farm households with successor who primarily is engaged in agricultural work are single-crop farm households in dairy and hog husbandry operations both at over 20 %.

**Table 8. Status of Successors in Farm Households of Various Crop Specialties
(National, Commercial Farm Households)**

Unit: %

Classification		Total		Successor over 15 years old in co-habitation				No Successor		
				Subtotal	Co-habiting successor working outside farming				Over 15 in Cohabitation	Primarily Works Outside Agriculture
					Agriculture as Core Occupation	Other Field as Core Occupation	Worked in Agriculture	Did not Work		
Commercial Farm Households		100.0	(2 337)	57.3	7.2	43.7	34.2	6.4	42.7	13.1
Crop Specialty	Single-Crop Operation	100.0	(1 668)	57.4	6.9	43.9	34.6	6.6	42.6	13.1
	Rice	100.0	(1 170)	59.6	4.8	48.1	38.6	6.8	40.4	13.5
	Opeh Field Vegetables	100.0	(87)	56.8	11.4	39.9	27.7	5.4	43.2	10.5
	Protected Vegetables	100.0	(51)	54.5	17.3	29.9	20.8	7.2	45.5	9.2
	Fruit Trees	100.0	(160)	53.4	9.4	38.5	29.3	5.5	46.6	13.6
	Flowering Plants	100.0	(38)	54.0	17.8	28.1	18.9	8.1	46.0	10.7
	Dairy	100.0	(24)	50.4	24.2	17.8	12.5	8.5	49.6	6.9
	Beef Cattle	100.0	(28)	40.7	9.5	26.5	21.2	4.7	59.3	17.1
	Hogs	100.0	(5)	51.8	21.1	22.2	14.0	8.5	48.2	10.5
	Hennery	100.0	(5)	52.6	19.3	25.1	16.1	8.1	47.4	11.8
	Quasi-Single-Crop Multi.	100.0	(382)	58.2	9.2	43.1	35.1	5.9	41.8	12.6
	Multiple Crop Operation	100.0	(105)	57.1	11.9	39.2	32.2	6.0	42.9	12.2

Note: Figures in parentheses are actual numbers (thousands).

< Farm successors >

Farm successors is offspring of farm operator of over 15 years of age, co-habiting or otherwise. He/she is expected to succeed the farm operation of the farm household.

3 Land holdings

(1) Cultivated Land under Management (Commercial Farm Households)

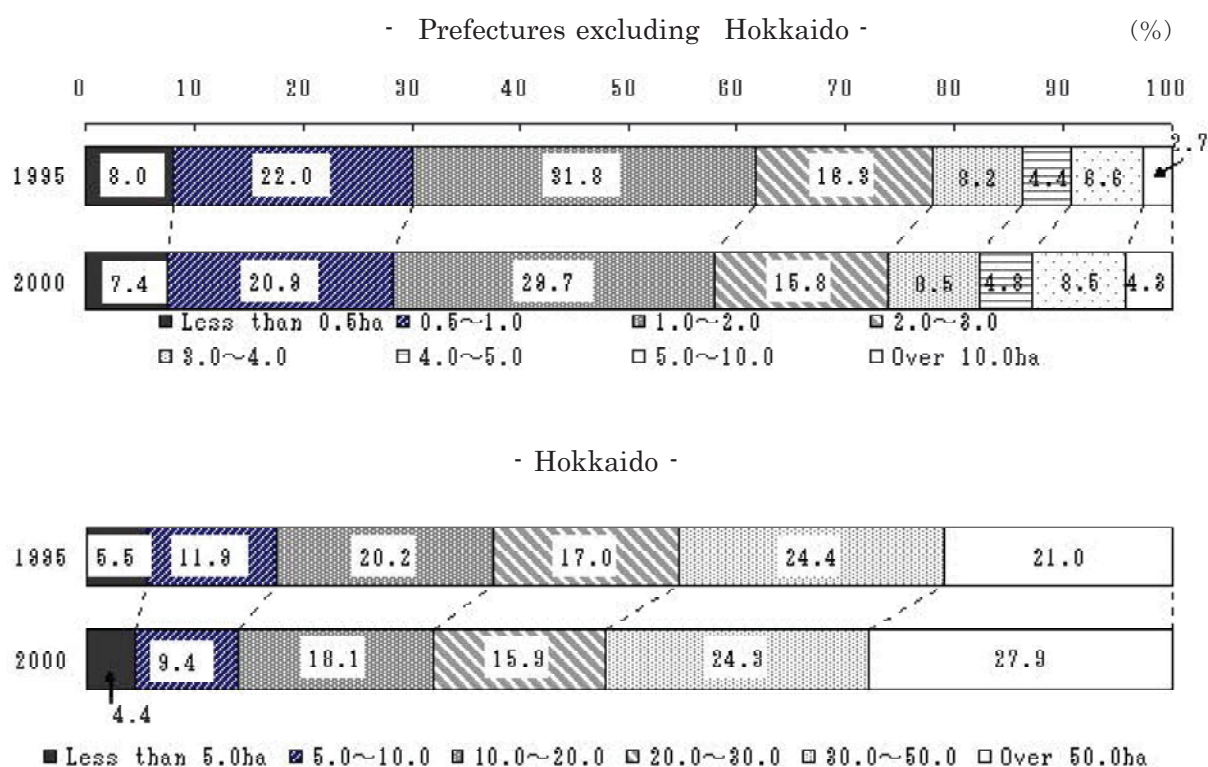
- Cultivated land is concentrating in the hands of farm households with managed land holdings of over 3 ha -

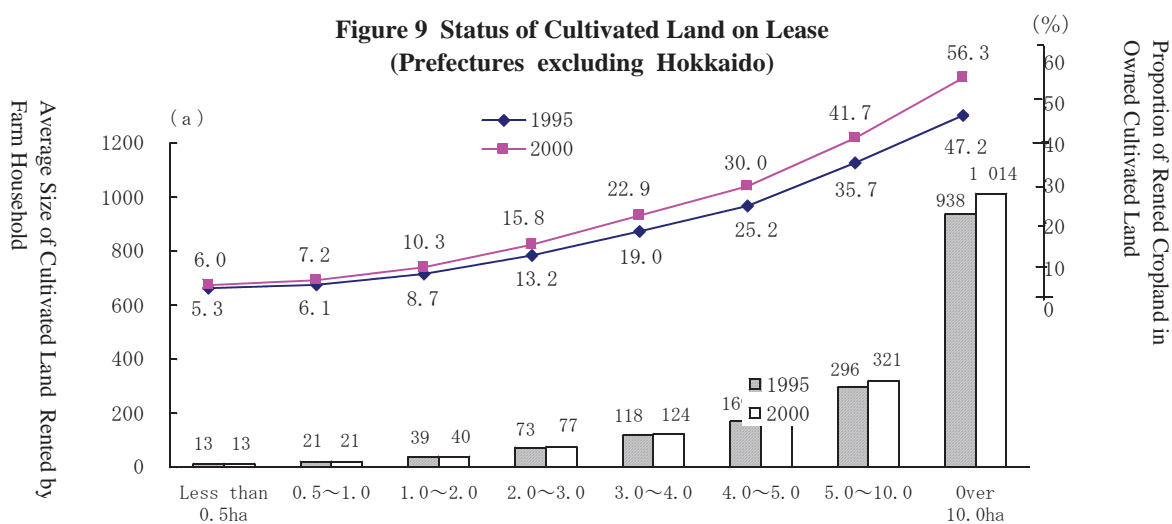
The total area of cultivated land under management in the hands of commercial farm households is 3,734,000 ha, an average per commercial farm household of 160 a (average of all farm households is 125 a), an increase of 10 a (all farm household average of 5 a) since the last Census.

Regarding the change in the shares of cultivated land under management in terms of prefectural classification of farm household based on cultivated land under management (proportion of the total cultivated land under cultivation), the shares of all strata above farm households with 3 ha showed increases. This indicates that cultivated land is transferring into the hands of large-scale farm households.

With respect to rented land among farm households of various operational scale, large scale farm households tend to rent larger area of cultivated land, along with average rented land per farm household. This indicates acceleration of land movement through leasing.

Figure 8. Difference of the Area of Cultivated Land and the Scale of Farm Operation (Commercial Farm Households)





(2) Cultivated Land on Lease

- High rate of leasing among subsistence and small farm households -

Focusing on the proportion of land on lease in owned cultivated land in terms of the scale of cultivated land under management as compiled by prefectures, the proportion of leased land was large among small scale farm households, and consisted of 33.2 % of subsistence farm households and those owning less than 0.5 ha constituted 17.0 %.

Table 9 The Status of Cultivated Land on Lease

Unit: { Area in thousand ha
Proportion in %

Classification		Cropland on Lease		Proportion of Rented Cropland in Owned Land	
		1995	2000	1995	2000
National (All Farm Households)		205	236	5.4	6.7
Prefectures	All Farm Households	178	204	6.2	7.8
	Commercial Farm Household				
	total	121	134	4.5	5.6
	Less than 0.5ha	37	39	14.3	17.0
	0.5~1.0	43	47	6.6	8.2
	1.0~2.0	27	31	3.1	4.0
	2.0~3.0	8	9	1.8	2.5
	Over 3.0ha	6	8	1.3	1.7
Subsistence Farm Households		57	70	28.5	33.2

(3) Fallow and Abandoned Cropland

- The Rate of abandoned cropland is increasing -

The total area of abandoned fallows is 210,000 ha; the area increased to 48,000 ha (29.8 %) to 5.1 % of all cultivated land.

The rate of abandoned fallow is high in Tosan, Sanyo and Shikoku Agricultural Regions, while Sanyo and North Kanto Agricultural Regions showed a high-rate of fallow.

Table 10 Situation of Farming Abandonment and Fallow Viewing From Agricultural Regions

Unit: $\begin{cases} \text{Area in thousand ha} \\ \text{Proportion: \%} \end{cases}$

Classification	Abandonment (All Farm Households)					Fallow				
	Area			Proportion in %		Unplanted Land			Proportion in %	
	1995	2000	% Change	1995	2000	1995	2000	% Change	1995	2000
National	162	210	29.8	3.8	5.1	156	278	77.6	3.9	7.4
Hokkaido	9	9	6.3	0.9	0.9	10	21	104.7	1.0	2.1
Prefectures	153	201	31.2	4.7	6.5	146	257	75.7	5.0	9.4
Tohoku	31	44	42.8	3.8	5.6	28	68	145.0	3.6	9.3
Hokuriku	8	11	31.7	2.7	3.7	7	27	261.9	2.5	9.7
Kanto/Tosan/	41	55	33.8	5.7	8.1	49	58	18.2	7.6	9.8
North Kanto	16	24	48.8	4.5	7.0	25	32	32.2	7.5	10.7
South Kanto	13	17	34.4	5.7	8.3	18	17	△ 5.1	9.0	9.4
Tosan	12	14	13.8	9.1	11.1	6	8	32.1	5.4	7.9
Tokai	14	16	14.4	5.6	6.8	13	20	53.1	6.0	9.9
Kinki	7	10	42.2	3.2	4.7	9	17	85.2	4.8	9.5
Chugoku	15	20	29.5	6.1	8.5	11	22	110.3	4.9	11.6
Sanin	3	5	45.1	4.5	7.1	2	6	167.3	3.2	9.7
Sanyo	12	15	25.0	6.7	9.1	8	17	95.7	5.7	12.5
Shikoku	9	12	32.2	6.4	9.0	6	9	65.6	4.5	8.2
Kushu	26	31	22.1	5.0	6.5	23	35	55.5	4.9	8.2
North Kyushu	18	22	22.2	5.3	6.8	17	26	56.4	5.3	8.9
South Kyushu	7	9	22.0	4.5	5.7	6	9	52.9	4.1	6.6
Okinawa	2	2	△ 6.5	4.7	4.8	1	1	△ 14.9	4.7	4.3

< Abandoned fallow • Fallow >

Abandoned fallow is cultivated land unused in the past 1 year and no further plan for growing in the future.

Fallow is cultivated land unused in the past 1 year and has plans for growing in the future.

Abandonment rate = Area of abandoned area / (abandoned area + cultivated land under management) x 100.0.

4 Agricultural Output (Commercial Farm Households)

(1) Cultivation of (Open Field) Agricultural Products

- Eighty-five percent of commercial farm household production is intended for sale -

There were 1,989,000 farm households that planted in open fields for commercial purposes. Of these, rice crop was planted by 1,747,000 farm households (87.8 % of all those who planted), 226,000 planted legumes (11.3 % of all who planted), 450,000 planted vegetables (22.6 % of all those planted) among other crops.

Table 11. Farm Households that Planted for Commercial Purposes
(National, Commercial Farm Households)

Classification	Farm Households	Rice	Wheats	Legumes	Vegetables	Flowering Plants
Number	1 989	1 747	122	226	450	66
% Composition	100.0	87.8	6.1	11.3	22.6	3.3

Table 12 Number of Rice Growers by Planting Area (National, Commercial Farm Households)

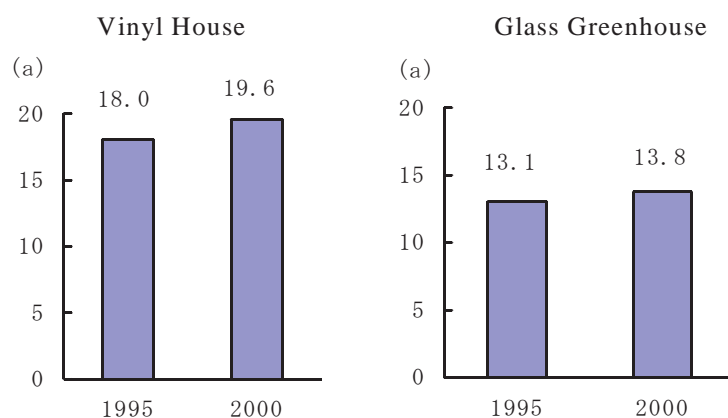
Classification	Total	Bellow 30a	30~50	50a~1.0ha	1.0~2.0	2.0~3.0	3.0~5.0	Over 5.0ha
Number	1 747	378	443	513	277	71	38	25
% Composition	100.0	21.7	25.4	29.4	15.9	4.1	2.2	1.4

(2) Protected Horticulture

- Average area of protected horticulture is on the increase -

Farm households with protected horticulture facilities number 226,000, a decrease of 29,000 (11.3 %) since the last Census. Even though the number of farm households with such facilities decreased, average area of vinyl-covered facilities increased to 19.6 a (increase of 8.9 %), and that of glass-covered greenhouses to 13.8 a (5.3% increase) as compared with the last Census.

Figure 10 Change in the Protected Area in Farm Households
(National, Commercial Farm Households)



(3) Livestock Husbandry

- Increases was observed in all livestock husbandry operations -

While the total number of farm households in livestock husbandry declined, average number of animals in the operation of each farm household is increasing.

Table 13. Changes in the Number of Farm Households in Animal Husbandry and Their Operational Scale (National, Commercial Farm Households)

Classification		Milk Cows	Beef Cattle	Hogs	Laying Hen (100)	Broiler (100)
Livestock Tended						
	1990	62.8	213.7	32.2	9.1	4.8
(Shipped)	1995	45.1	156.2	14.5	6.4	3.5
Farm Number	2000	33.3	106.1	8.8	4.7	2.7
Average	1990	31.3	10.4	248.6	73.1	782.1
Tended (Shipped)	1995	41.5	15.1	387.5	92.9	907.1
Livestock No.	2000	49.3	20.0	565.0	109.5	1 079.3

Unit: { Thousands
Heads, 100 Chickens

Note: Henneries with fewer than 100 chickens were excluded; the 1990 and 1995 counts under management are those of birds over 6 months of age.

5 Consignment of Agricultural Production (Commercial Farm Households)

- High occurrence of consignment crop management -

The nation-wide number of farm households that planted under consignment was 161,000, or 6.9 % of commercial farm households.

The proportion of farm households that undertook consignment rice growing on the prefectural level indicated that the rate of participation in the arrangement was higher among farm households with large cultivated land under management. It can be inferred that consignment growing plays a part in expansion of farm operation.

Table 14. The Number of Consignment-Growing Farm Households

Classification	Unit: Thousands				
	Consignm Growing Farm Households	Rice Grower	Wheat Grower	Grower Other Crops	Livestock Husbandry
National	160.9	151.9	6.9	9.8	1.7
Hokkaido	3.4	1.6	1.0	1.1	0.2
Prefectures	157.6	150.3	5.9	8.6	1.4

Table 15. Proportion of Farm Households with Consignment Rice-Growing
(Commercial Farm Households, Prefectures excluding Hokkaido)

Unit: %

Classification		No. Farm Households	Entire Process	Partial Process					Drying Conditioning
				Seedling	Spring Tilling	Rice Planting	Spraying	Harvest, Thrashing	
1995		6.0	1.5	1.3	2.6	2.5	0.5	3.6	2.4
2000	Total	7.6	1.5	1.6	3.3	3.5	0.6	4.8	3.2
	less than 1 ha	3.3	0.5	0.4	1.4	1.4	0.3	1.9	1.1
	1 ~ 3	10.1	2.0	1.8	4.2	4.5	0.7	6.2	4.1
	3 ~ 5	27.4	7.0	7.8	11.7	13.5	2.1	18.8	13.7
	5 ha or over	47.4	13.6	19.9	23.0	26.9	4.9	36.6	28.4

Note: The proportion is those of farm household that is growing rice in its own farm operation.

6 Trends in Farm Operation (Commercial Farm Households)

(1) Contract Growing

- Eight per cent of farm households are undertaking contract growing -

Those farm households undertaking crop growing by contract numbered 178,000, the percentage of which was 7.6% among commercial farm households.

Table 16. Farm Households Undertaking Contract Growing in Selected Crop Specialties
(National, Commercial Farm Household)

Classification	Consignment Growing Farm Households	Consigned crops			
		Rice	Vegetables (Open, Protect)	Fruit Trees	Livestock Husbandry
Number	178	88	34	15	15
% Composition	100.0	49.4	19.2	8.3	8.2

Unit: { Thousands
Proportion in %

Note: The core crops are those in which contract growing is most frequent.

<Contract growing>

In contract growing, a farm household concludes a contract with consumers or retailers (supermarkets, consumer cooperatives) for specific crops to be produced.

(2) Movement toward Environmentally Friendly Farming

- About 20 % of farm households are adopting environmentally considered farming methods -

The number of farm households practicing farm operation with consideration toward environmental protection was 502,000. Of these farm households, 21.5 % was commercial farm households.

Environmentally correct contents of farming practice included controlling the nitrogen content of chemical fertilizer, halving the recommended frequency of pesticide spray and effort for soil improvement by use of compost.

Table 17 Move toward Environment-Friendly Farming (National, Commercial Farm Household)
- Multiple Returns -

Unit: %							
Classification		Total	Application of chemical fertilizer and pesticide				Making Compost
			Nitrogen content of fertilizer		Frequency of pesticide spray		
			Not used	Less than 1/2 of Recommend- ed Amount	Not used	Less than 1/2 of Recommend- ed Amount	
Farm households practicing environmentally-friendly methods		100.0 (502)	6.4	62.6	5.3	67.3	73.4
Crops	Rice	100.0 (270)	5.4	67.3	5.2	74.1	64.7
	Vegetables	100.0 (120)	6.9	61.7	5.0	67.0	87.6
	Fruit Trees	100.0 (60)	9.3	56.2	4.2	52.6	76.9
	Other Crops	100.0 (52)	7.2	47.9	8.3	49.8	82.2

Note: Figures in parentheses are numbers of households in thousands.

(3) Animal Waste Management

- A majority of farm households return animal waste to cropland or use waste-processing equipment -

A majority of farm households returned the animal wastes to the land.

However, 23.2 % of them stocked in either holes made in the ground or in piles.

Table 18. Animal waste processing methods of Farm Households

(National, Commercial Farm Household, Farm Household in Animal Husbandry)

– Multiple returns –

Classification	Farm Households in Livestock Husbandry	Number of Farm Households by Waste Processing Methods				
		Return Animal Waste to Cropland	Exchange with Litter	Discards in Hole or in Pile	In-house Equipment	Co-operative Equipment
Number	151	97	19	35	41	7
% Composition	100.0	64.2	12.7	23.2	27.2	4.4

Unit { Thousands
Proportion in %