

Plant Protection Station block harmful plant pests diseases for agriculture



Quarantine of fruits in the plant laboratory
(Taisho era)

Plant Protection Station History

1913
Taisho 2

The Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce enacted the “Regulations on Export Phytosanitary Certificate” and established the “Export Plant Quarantine Official Offices” in Yokohama and Kobe.

1914
Taisho 3

The “Import and Export Plant Control Act” was enacted, and import/export plant quarantine began. The “Plant Inspection Office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce” was established in Yokohama.

1924
Taisho 13

Plant Inspection Office was transferred to the Customs Department of the Ministry of Finance and became the “Customs Plant Inspection Section”.

1943
Showa 18

Transferred to the Maritime Bureau of the Ministry of Transport and Communications and became the “Plant Inspection Section of the Maritime Bureau”.

1947
Showa 22

Returned to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and became the “Animal and Plant Quarantine Office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry”.

1948
Showa 23

The “Import and Export Plant Quarantine Act” was enacted.

1950
Showa 25

The “Plant Protection Act” was enacted.

aims to and



Inspection of plants brought in by travelers as carry-on baggage on a passenger ship (Taisho era)



Leaflet from the Showa era



Trap survey for eradicating oriental fruit flies in the Nansei Islands (Showa era)

In Japan, pests such as the arrowhead scale and the phylloxera became a major problem after the Meiji era; they had arrived from overseas, resulting in a threat to agricultural production. In 1913 (Taisho 2), the United States required plant exporting countries to issue Phytosanitary Certificates from the exporting country's government, and in 1914 (Taisho 3), the “Import and Export Plant Control Act” was enacted along with the establishment of the “Plant Inspection Office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce” to begin plant quarantine.

International trade has been increasing. Distribution systems and networks such as sea containers and air-transport are expanding further, supported by relevant technological developments. Accordingly, more varieties and larger quantities of plant products have been imported into Japan. Additionally, with the increasing number of foreign tourists visiting Japan and the increase in international e-commerce mail, the risk of pest introduction is greater than ever.

Plant Protection Station focuses on various tasks to protect Japanese agriculture.

1952 Showa 27	1961 Showa 36	1972 Showa 47	1976 Showa 51	1979 Showa 54	1981 Showa 56	1986 Showa 61	1993 Heisei 5	2016 Heisei 28
Animal quarantine was separated, and a three-station system (Yokohama, Kobe, and Moji) was begun as part of the “Plant Protection Station of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry”. Joined the International Plant Protection Convention	Nagoya branch was promoted to the Head Office.	Naha Plant Protection Station was established when Okinawa Prefecture was returned to Japan. The five-station system (Yokohama, Nagoya, Kobe, Moji, and Naha) began.	A Inspection Operation Department was established in the Yokohama Plant Protection Station.	A Research Department was established in the Yokohama Plant Protection Station.	A Inspection Operation Department was established in the Kobe Plant Protection Station.	Eradication of oriental fruit flies in Japan	Eradication of melon flies in Japan	A Risk Analysis Department was established in the Yokohama Plant Protection Station.