

Agriculture in Tokachi

History and Present Situation

Kiyoshi Tsutsuki Dr. of Soil Science

Emeritus Prof. of Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine



Tokachi plain is situated in the eastern part of Hokkaido. It is a very wide plain surrounded by high mountains and is facing to the Pacific ocean. Main industry in Tokachi plain is agriculture and dairy farming. Main crops are upland wheat, sugar beet, beans, and potato. Produced amounts of these crops and milk occupy large percentages to the total production in Japan.



I am Kiyoshi Tsutsuki. I am an emeritus professor of Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine. I have also engaged in the soil diagnosis training course and other trainings by JICA since 1991.



These photos were taken during soil profile survey in OUAVM (left) and YAU field in Myanmar (right).



With the trainees of 'Farmer-led Extension Course' in 2015 after the field soil survey practice.



With the trainees of 'Soil Science and Climate Change' at the Yezin Agricultural University in Myanmar, 2020 after finishing all the lectures.



‘Soil Science and Climate Change’ at the Yezin Agricultural University in Myanmar, 2020.
Soil profile survey (left) and laboratory soil analysis (right)



Soil monolith and soil mini monolith prepared by myself.



With my grandchildren. I have 5 grandchildren.



With my family members in August, 2020.
The family of my youngest son could not
join due to COVID19-pandemic.



I like to grow vegetables in the field for teaching and for my hobby at home.



I like walking enjoying the beautiful scenery of Tokachi.



Part 1 of this lecture.

- Hokkaido had been the most unknown land in the world until 300 years ago.
- Hokkaido is a volcanic island, and many volcanic ashes fall in Tokachi plain.
- How the land and soils were formed in Tokachi plain.
- What is soil fertility.



Part 2 of this lecture.

- Crops growing in Tokachi.
- Rotational cropping system in Tokachi.
- Change in yields of main crops.
- Change in agricultural population.



Part 3 of this lecture.

- Change in areas for main crops.
- Factors contributed to the yield increase in main crops.
- Change in numbers of horses, cows and tractors.



Part 4 of this lecture.

- Various soil problems in Tokachi.
- Change in soil analysis data in the past 35 years.
- Conclusion: How the farmers in Tokachi tackled the problem.
- URL of this lecture in my home page.



This is the view of Obihiro city from the forest of Obihiro.
Now, let's start the main part of my lecture.
Please move to part 1.

