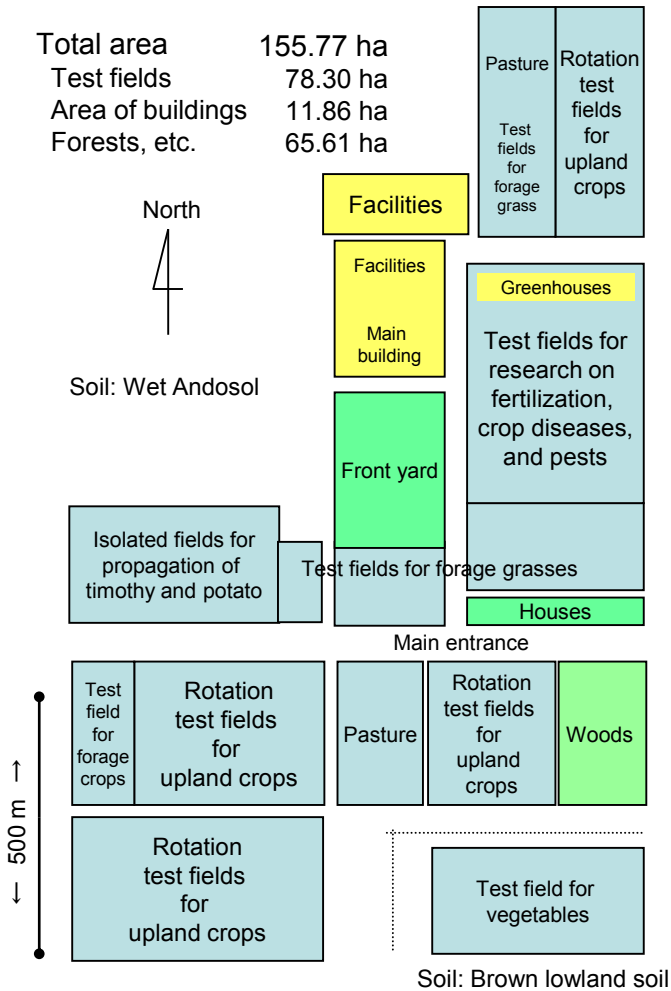


# History

- 1907 Established as the Kitami branch of the Hokkaido Prefectural Agricultural Experiment Station at Notsukeushi Village (now Kitami City)
- 1959 Relocated to Kunneppu town
- 1964 Renamed the Hokkaido Prefectural Kitami Agricultural Experiment Station
- 1998 The Potato Breeding Section was transferred from the Konsen Agricultural Experiment Station
- 2007 The 100th Anniversary
- 2010 Restructured as a subordinate organization of the Local Independent Administrative Agency 'Hokkaido Research Organization'

# Facilities and Test Fields

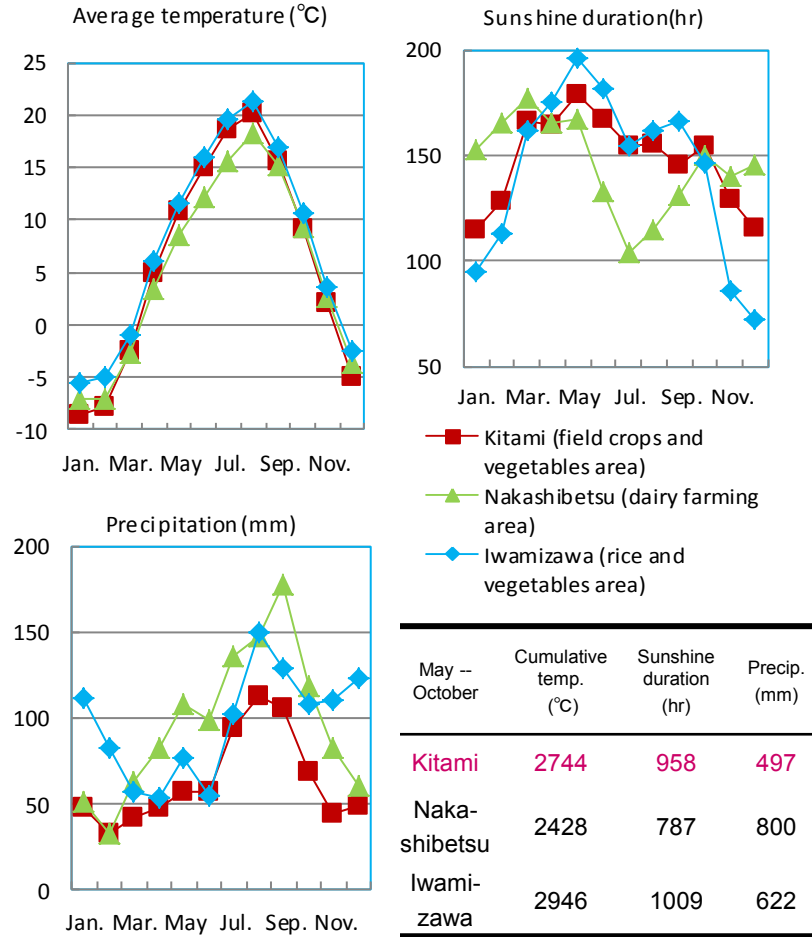
Total area 155.77 ha  
 Test fields 78.30 ha  
 Area of buildings 11.86 ha  
 Forests, etc. 65.61 ha



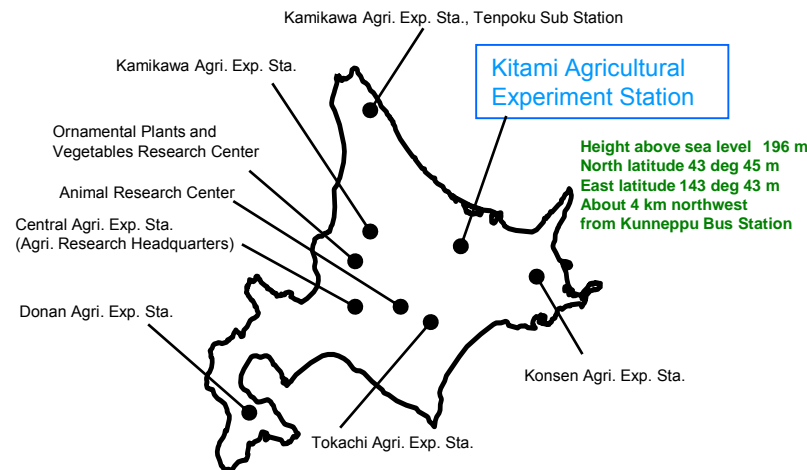
## Research facilities

Laboratory for biotechnology, greenhouses for research (wheat, potato, forage grass, vegetables, diseases and pests, and sugar beet), facilities for wheat quality tests and wheat vernalization treatment, warehouses (potato, onion, and crop seeds)

# Climate



# Location



# Guide for Visiting



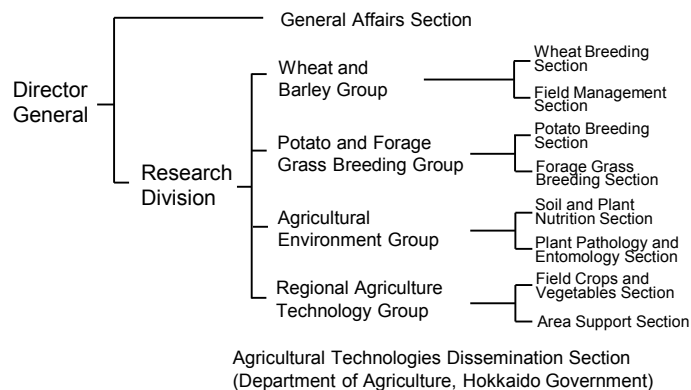
**Agriculture harmonized with the rich natural environment in the Okhotsk region**



**Local Independent Administrative Agency**  
 Hokkaido Research Organization  
 Kitami Agricultural Experiment Station

52 Yayoi, Kunneppu-cho, Tokoro-gun, Hokkaido 099-1496  
 Tel.+81-157-47-2146 Fax.+81-157-47-2774  
<http://www.agri.hro.or.jp/kitami/>

## Organization



Number of staff: 42, of which 29 are research staff (as of April 2017)

## New varieties and technologies

### ■ New varieties released

- Spring wheat "Harukirari" (2007)
- Winter wheat "Tsurukichi" (2012), "Kitasachiho" (2011), "Kitahonami" (2006)
- Potato "Konayutaka" (2014), "Rirachip" (2013), "Konayuki" (2010), "Saya-akane" (2006), "Okhotsk Chip" (2004), "Snow March" (2004)
- Timothy "Natsupirika" (2014), "Natsuchikara" (2010), "Natsusakari" (2004)
- Onion "Kitamikou 65" (2016), "Yumesenka" (2012)



### ■ New technologies

- Stable cultivation methods of hard winter wheat variety "Tsurukichi" (2017)
- Stable cultivation methods of high starch yielding potato variety "Konayutaka" (2017)
- Nitrogen fertilizer application methods of dent corn by means of soil diagnosis (2017)
- Effective spraying method of fungicides against cercospora leaf spot of beet (2017)
- Processing characteristics and stable cultivation methods of onion variety "Yumesenka" (2017)
- Nitrogen split dressing for stable cultivation of transplanted onion (2016)
- Effective control for onion gray-mold neck rot (2016)
- Improvement of field-scale soil sampling method for estimating potato cyst nematodes density (2016)
- Limits of sowing time in summer renovation of grass/legume mixed sown sward (2015)
- Control of onion downy mildew (2015)

## Overview of Research Groups

### Wheat and Barley Group

#### Wheat Breeding Section

Breeding of winter wheat and spring wheat varieties adaptable to the Hokkaido region is conducted in this section. The main breeding objectives of winter wheat varieties are high yield, pre-harvest sprouting resistance, disease resistance (to snow mold disease, yellow mosaic virus, and so on), with high processing qualities for Japanese noodle "udon" and Chinese noodle. Those of spring wheat varieties are high yield, high processing quality for bread, pre-harvest sprouting resistance, and disease resistance (to fusarium head blight and so on). In addition, tests of adaptability to the Okhotsk region are done using promising barley lines suitable for beer brewing.

#### Field Management Section

This section conducts management of test fields. It includes land preparation, spraying of agricultural chemicals, cultivation of green manure, and maintenance of agricultural machinery.

### Potato and Forage Grass Breeding Group

#### Potato Breeding Section



Breeding of potato varieties adaptable to the Hokkaido region is conducted in this section. The main breeding objectives are high yield, resistance to potato cyst nematode, resistance to some diseases such as potato scab, excellent traits of starch, and good processing qualities for chips and salad. In addition, promising lines developed in other breeding agencies and imported varieties of potato are tested for possible release in the Hokkaido region.

#### Forage Grass Breeding Section

Breeding of timothy varieties adaptable to the Hokkaido and Tohoku regions is conducted in this section. The main breeding objectives are high yield and nutritive value, lodging resistance, persistence of growth, and disease resistance. In addition, promising lines developed in other breeding agencies and imported varieties of forage crops are tested for possible release in the Hokkaido region.

## Agricultural Environment Group

### Soil and Plant Nutrition Section

Studies of the relations between soil and crops are conducted in this section for stable crop production with high quality. The main research objectives are development or improvement of diagnosis technologies for soil and crops, improvement of fertilizer application methods, trials for reduction of chemical fertilizers, settlement of guidelines for appropriate fertilization, and efficacy tests of new fertilizers and soil amendments.

### Plant Pathology and Entomology Section

This section researches disease and pest damage on major crops in the Okhotsk region. The main aims are developing efficient and effective forecasts and reducing the damage on the basis of ecologies of pathogens and pests, for sustainable agriculture. In addition, we diagnose various diseases and pests including the newfound and sudden outbreaks, and conduct application tests of new agricultural chemicals.



## Regional Agriculture Technology Group

### Field Crops and Vegetables Section

Tests of characteristics of sugar beets, soybeans, azuki beans, and kidney beans are conducted in this section to select or evaluate breeding lines and varieties that are readily adaptable to the Okhotsk region.

Breeding of onion varieties is conducted for the objectives of high yield, disease resistance, and good qualities for processing. Low-cost onion cultivation methods such as direct seeding are also studied.



### Area Support Section

Tests for dissemination of agricultural technologies are conducted in this section through the introduction of new technologies and application of existing technologies. For this purpose, this section organizes research teams along with other groups. In addition, this section takes part in the organization of regional agricultural technology support teams along with the Agricultural Technologies Dissemination Section to resolve regional problems.