

## Chair                      International Agricultural Economics

### 2.6.4                      Laboratory : Food and Environmental Policy

Member:	Professor	Takebe, Takashi, D. Agric. Sci.
	Associate Professor	Junichi, Ito, D. Agric. Sci.
	Assistant Professor	Shinichi, Kitano, D. Glo. Envi. Sci.
	Master's Program	2
	Undergraduate	5

#### **A. Research Activities (2010.4-2011.3)**

##### **A-1. Main Subjects**

###### a) Food, Agricultural and Environmental Policies

In consideration of the global environment as the basis for human life, we examine and identify various problems of agriculture and environment from the viewpoint of the theory in economics and policy. Our topics include sustainable food production in the world, environmental governance, normative analyses of local resource use, international cooperation for global environmental protection, and collaboration between private and public sectors in regional communities. We consider these issues with an eye towards the formation of a recycling society.

###### b) Measuring the impact of agricultural cooperatives on farm income using PSM

Agricultural cooperatives have received considerable attention in China because they are considered to help improve farmers' economic status. This research examines the impact that contract farming under the cooperative system has on individual household economy, depending on data collected from rural Nanjing. The propensity matching score analysis reveals that the average treatment effect is significantly positive with accounting for more than half of the pre-matching difference in farm income between participants and nonparticipants. Also worthy of emphasis is the fact that the treatment effect is highly heterogeneous; the economic benefits arising from the cooperative are significant only for small-scale farms. It can be argued that a coexistence of smallholder exclusion and the treatment effect in favor of small-scale farms is indicative of conflict of interests between the cooperative and potential participants.

###### c) Economic Evaluation of Resource Use

We examine and evaluate the current states of utilization, conservation and management of all sorts of local resources, especially farm land. For this purpose we use and employ the principles of resource, environmental, and managerial economics and utilize the techniques of the geographic information system.

#### d) Clarifying Activities of NPOs and NGOs

Associations aimed at public benefit and/or group benefit will become socioeconomic organizations in charge of our society in the near future. Non-profit organizations in Japan exist as public-oriented and/or group-oriented organizations. We study various activities of these NPOs and NGOs.

### A-2.Publications and presentations

#### a) Publications

##### Books

- Kitano, S.: Value of SATAYAMA and human resource training. SATOYAMA Renaissance (K. Nakamura and R. Kada edit.), Soshinsha, 125-139, 2010.

##### Original Papers(including book-reviews)

- Takebe, T.: An Examination of the Possible Problems of the Entry by Stock Companies into Agriculture by Leasing Farmland. The Natural Resource Economics Review 16, Kyoto University; 1-16, 2011.

- Ito, J., Z. Bao, and Q. Su: Measuring the impact of agricultural cooperatives on household income using propensity score matching: a case study of cooperatives in rural Nanjing, China. Ajia Keizai 51(11): 44-73, 2010.

- Ito, J.: Collective action for irrigation management: a case study of rural Yunnan, China: The Economic Review 61(4): 289-301, 2010.

- Ito, J.: Inter-regional difference of agricultural productivity in China: distinction between biochemical and machinery technology. China Economic Review 21(3): 394-410, 2010.

- Ito, J.: Microeconomic analysis of agricultural cooperatives in China: Country Report: China. Policy Research Institute of MAFF: 43-80, 2010.

- Akhopy, Y., Y. Konishi and S. Kitano: Overview concerning transition of stock farming in Kazakhstan, Part 1. —Rapid socailistic modernization and tendency after the soviet union collapse —. Rural Problems Research 66, 21-41, 2010.

- Akhopy, Y., Y. Konishi and S. Kitano: Overview concerning transition of stock farming in Kazakhstan, Part 2. —Rapid socailistic modernization and tendency after the soviet union collapse —. Rural problems research 67, 21-46, 2010.

- Tomiyoshi, M. and S. Kitano: Contributing Factors to Sustainability of Nonprofit Organizations in Rural Areas - A Case Study of the Suzu-City in Ishikawa prefecture - . Rural problems research 67, 3-20, 2010.

### Reports,others

- Kitano, S. [Book Review] Agricultural Administration by the Democratic Party - Is the Confusion of the Policy Canceled ?, Agriculture and Economics 76(13), pp. 97, 2010, December.

### **A-3.Off-campus activities 1**

#### Membership in academic societies

- Takebe, Takashi : Society for Environmental Economics and Policy Studies, The Agricultural Economics Society of Japan, GIS Association of Japan, Japan Academic Society of Agricultural Law , The Farm Management Society of Japan
- Ito, Junichi : Japanese Economic Association, The Agricultural Economics Society of Japan
- Kitano, Shinichi : The Agricultural Economics Society of Japan, Center for Environmental Information Science, The Japanese Society of Fisheries Economics, The Association of Rural Planning

### **A-4.International cooperation and overseas activities 1**

#### Membership in academic societies

- Ito, Junichi: Agricultural & Applied Economics Association, The Agricultural Economics Society

### **B.Educational Activities(2010.4-2011.3)**

#### **B-1.On-campus teaching**

##### a) Courses given

- Undergraduate level: Sustainable Agriculture and Human Life (Takebe; partial charge), Food, Agriculture and Environment in the World; for the SustainableWorld (Takebe; partial charge), Special Lecture I II (Takebe, Kitano), Agricultural and Environmental Policy (Takebe), Seminar in Agricultural and Environmental Policy I II III (Takebe, Ito, Kitano)
- Graduate level: Advanced Agricultural and Environmental Policy I II (Takebe), Seminar in Advanced Agricultural and Environmental Policy I II (Takebe, Ito, Kitano)

#### **B-3.Overseas teaching 2**

##### Lectures and seminars

- Ito, Junichi

Measuring the impact of agricultural cooperatives on farm income using PSM(Lecturer) : Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences(China)