

Address by Katsutaka Idogawa, Mayor of Futaba (currently a mandatory evacuation zone), Fukushima

My name is Katsutaka Idogawa, Mayor of Futaba, Fukushima Prefecture.

The nuclear catastrophe that began on 11th March 2011 has devastated our community in Futaba, which then became uninhabitable. About 300 people in Futaba were exposed to particularly high doses of radiation from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, which included the radioactive fallout from the explosion of the Unit 1. I am the only Mayor in contemporary Japan with personal experience of being covered with nuclear ash. As a representative for all Fukushima people, I ask you to share our very sad experiences and request your support to save our children.

From the onset of the nuclear disaster, our human rights, enshrined in the Japanese Constitution, have been violated. On the morning of 12th March 2011, the government ordered us to evacuate. However, they provided no assistance or advice regarding transport or destination. Having finally reached shelters, we received no advice regarding how we could rebuild our shattered lives. We have therefore had to make decisions and manage the evacuation and all its aftermath by ourselves.

A vast area in Fukushima Prefecture is highly contaminated with radiation. The government's response to this was to first raise the statutory radiation safety limit for the general public, and then tell us that radiation exposure below this limit is safe. Due to these policies, most Fukushima people, including children, are still living in highly contaminated regions, and worrying about the health effects of radiation. These people are continuously exposed to high doses of radiation. The weakest victims are the children. Some specialists have raised the alarm concerning the health risks of internal radiation exposure. Our government say that Fukushima Daiichi has released 186 times radioactive materials than the Hiroshima A-bomb. Despite this, there has been a total media blackout about the dangers of radioactivity. The Fukushima prefectural government has colluded with the state and TEPCO who are jointly responsible for the nuclear devastation, and withheld risk information in an attempt to prevent large scale de-population.

Part of our town, Futaba, received the radiation dose as highest as 1,590 micro SV per hour. The plume arrived here even before the explosion at Unit 1. The residents and I were still in Futaba and therefore exposed to this high level of radiation. This horrifying but crucial information was concealed by Fukushima Prefecture until recently. The prefectural government has never explained or apologised for this incident of radiation exposure.

Many people from our town, Futaba, are still left in Fukushima Prefecture. I want to evacuate them to a place far away as soon as possible. Why are they still there? It is because Fukushima Prefecture wants to keep people within the prefectural border and prevented us from moving out despite our wish to do so. Disaster relief law is implemented by the prefectural governments concerned, and it cannot be applied without their agreement. Even though many prefectures offered to accept evacuees and provide financial assistance for them to settle, without Fukushima Prefecture's consent, the law prevents evacuees from receiving such offers. Having lost everything, most people would not be able to survive without the financial and other assistance stipulated in this law. This is why many people who wish to evacuate Fukushima have not been able to leave.

The Japanese government wants to make this nuclear catastrophe look as if it were contained in Fukushima Prefecture. They do not want people to know the truth. As indicated in the map of "annual dose of radiation exposure in Fukushima prefecture", the areas with radiation concentrations above the level for the statutory radiation control zone. This contradicts the new radiation safety limit for evacuation introduced by the Japanese government and illustrates the double standards inherent in their post-Fukushima evacuation policy. As you can see, most major places in Fukushima are too contaminated for people to live in. The map of "food items from prefecture whose consumption and/or shipping have been restricted" shows the reality of contamination in food taken from the natural world. Sadly, much of food including freshwater fish, mushrooms, nuts, game meat and wild herbs in Fukushima are so toxic that they should not be consumed. However, a large number of people

are eating the contaminated vegetables from their own fields. The table of “the evacuation criteria based on the classification of Chernobyl disaster” describes the Chernobyl Law, which was introduced following the observation of the enormous suffering experienced by people in the contaminated regions following the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. The Chernobyl Law sets evacuation standards, for example, 5mSv per year or above for mandatory evacuation and below 5mSv down to 1mSv per year for voluntary evacuation with state support. The recommended maximum dose for the general public by the globally recognised International Commission on Radiological Protection is 1mSv per year. The Japanese government has completely ignored these standards in the Chernobyl Law and sets the evacuation standard at 20mSV per year. They have been influencing people to live in areas with radiation up to 20mSV per year. We say to the officials, “Why don’t you come and live here before telling us to stay here”, but they never respond. Such a dangerous standard was set in order to accommodate highly contaminated regions that were never evacuated. This is outrageous. This is a terrible act of negligence by the government, TEPCO and Fukushima Prefecture who have responsibilities for our protection.

To make matters even worse, the medical sector helped establish the myth that nuclear energy was absolutely safe while making no preparation for nuclear accidents. They had no radiation monitoring systems or devices in place when the Fukushima disaster occurred. This is yet another fact the government wants to keep from the Japanese people. Instead, they started a campaign onslaught throughout Fukushima Prefecture to create the myth that radiation exposure below the safety limit is safe by sending many academics to communities to reassure the population. Incredibly, the government have twisted the reality instead of fulfilling their responsibilities. However, one by one, their lies have been exposed, and the feeling of anxiety and distrust towards the authorities amongst Fukushima people is growing.

Recently, a secret meeting was held at Fukushima prefectural government office to control information released to the public. During this meeting, it was agreed not to disclose the fact that the prefectural government withheld the emergency radiation dose prediction data immediately following the nuclear disaster. Also, agreed was to announce that no anomaly had been found in the figures released in prefectural radiation health monitoring despite the high incidence of thyroid abnormalities in the children examined. The prefectural officials whose duty is to protect our lives repeatedly lied to us and withheld information. Most Japanese people are ignorant of these facts. What the authorities have been doing to the good people of Japan is an act of betrayal. This will also cause Japan to lose trust of the international community. It is totally unacceptable to destroy children’s health, their hopes and future. Now, who can we turn to, for rebuilding our vision for the future?

I ask you all and people in the world to put yourselves in our place and look at the situation from the point of view of ourselves and our children. Please (do not take official announcements at face value but) continue to research alternative information. Today, I am here to speak for my people who have been victimised. We have been displaced and abandoned. I call for your support for those who have been grieving, suffering and enduring great hardship. I beg you to save us and our children. Please allow us to live together in a new place somewhere on the earth. I trust you will do whatever you can do to evacuate Fukushima children. Thank you very much for listening.

Address by Toshio Yanagihara, a head of the team supporting “the Fukushima Collective Evacuation Trail”.

My name is Toshio Yanagihara. We are fighting on the court for the right for the children of Fukushima to study in a safe environment. After the Fukushima nuclear disaster in March 2012, the way that the government acted was merely satisfactory, rather unacceptable. Not only did the Japanese government fail to help evacuate the residents of Fukushima, but also they intended to prevent the people’s evacuation. The most important thing that I would like to emphasize today is that “the Japanese government must evacuate the children in Fukushima collectively, in groups of large numbers, immediately.” Otherwise, the life and health of many Fukushima children will be destroyed. We cannot allow what happened in Chernobyl repeat itself in Fukushima in this 21st century. We regard this right to live in a safe environment as a basic human right to be concerned. This lawsuit to acquire the right for evacuation is known as the Fukushima Collective Evacuation Trail. The causes for our fight are displayed below.

Fukushima Collective Evacuation Trail blog: <http://fukushima-evacuation-e.blogspot.jp/>

Generally, it is believed that the Japanese government has not learned much from Chernobyl. But, I would say, to the contrary, the Japanese government did take the lessons from Chernobyl to heart. And in handling the aftermath of the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant on March 11 last year, they swiftly put that to use. What I mean is, based on such lessons, they came up with three policy pillars: 1) immediate responses after the accident; 2) raise legal standards allowed for radiation exposure; and 3) hide the information and make the accident look small.

(1) First, let me tell you how the Japanese government responded immediately after the accident.

It is widely known that in order to prevent thyroid cancer caused by radiation exposure, iodine tablets can be effectively taken soon enough. At the time of Chernobyl, the Soviet government did not provide iodine tablets to its people. Consequently, a great number of children suffered thyroid cancer. Likewise the Japanese government did not provide with iodine tablets, either. It even instructed the towns who took the initiative to distribute the tablets to collect them back! Now we are finding an unusually high rate of thyroid abnormalities among Fukushima children. There is already one child who has been diagnosed with thyroid cancer.

(2) Secondly, as to suddenly changing the legal allowance for radiation exposure, this is what happened.

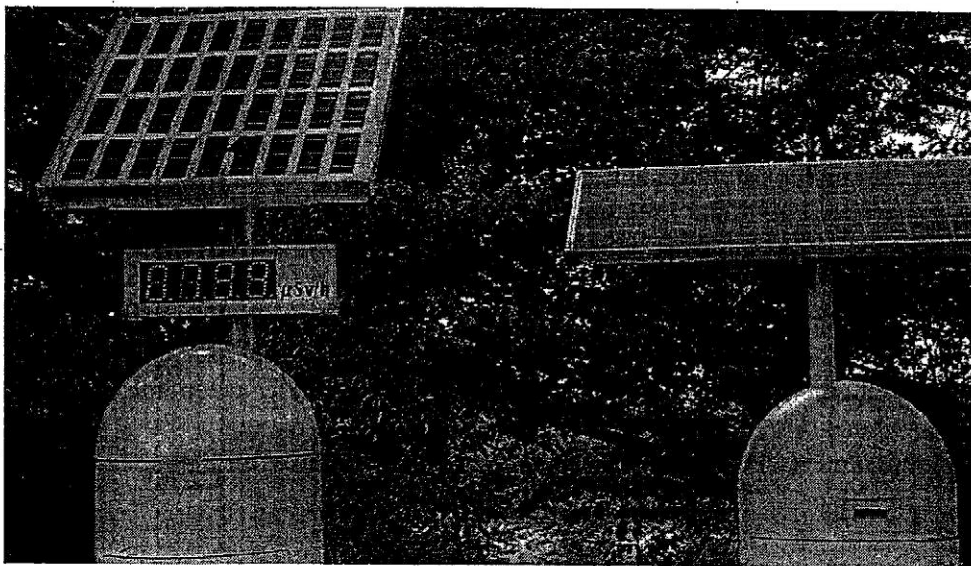
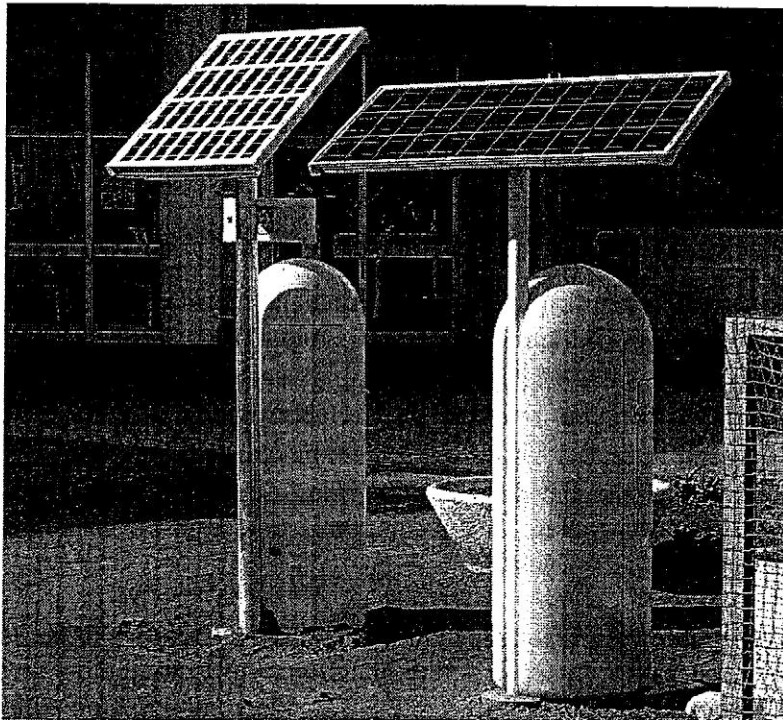
When the Soviet government learned that the city of Kiev was getting ready to evacuate the school children to safer locations, it raised the annual allowance 100 times higher. The purpose was to prevent the same action from the rest of the region. Actually they raised the annual dose limit one day before the evacuation of the Kiev children started. As if to follow this example, the Japanese government swiftly raised the safety limit at schools **20 times higher**, before the local government could do anything to evacuate the school children. How do we explain this to the children? Can we say to our children “Since you have to live in radioactive contamination, your tolerance level increased 20 times?!”

(3) Thirdly, how they withheld information and tried to make the accident look smaller?

The Soviet government did not want to expand the evacuation zone. So they withheld the information

Furthermore, some researchers have found out that the radiation readings from the monitoring equipment set up by the government are typically half the dose the people are exposed to. We would be very happy to share the evidence of this in case you are interested in.

There are about 500 monitoring posts at schools and parks in Fukushima. In the pictures shown below, two monitoring devices next to each other, like in this picture. The one on the left is equipment currently being used in Japan as the standard. The one on the right is the device that was previously used. This meets the international standard that was used before the Japanese government started imposing its own standard to measure the airborne radioactivity. The contract with the company that provided the machine on the right was terminated. The readings from the type of equipment on the right are up to 40 % higher. This is a perfect example of how the government is trying to understate the contamination caused by the accident.



3; Now, let me tell you in detail about the health problems that the children in Fukushima are experiencing during the period after the accident.

It is a little bit more than one and half years. According to the report published by Fukushima Prefecture on September 11, this year, the thyroid examinations found abnormalities such as nodules or cysts in 43% out of 42,000 children tested. The numbers for the girls are worse. 54% of the girls from age 6 to 10 had these abnormalities, and 55% for age 11 to 15. The probability of developing pediatric thyroid cancer is usually considered to be one in million. The repeated requests of the people persuaded the reluctant government to conduct the reexamination of the children whose thyroid abnormalities are rather prominent. Among the 38 reexamined, one child was diagnosed with pediatric thyroid cancer according to the report published on the 11th of September. However, the government denies the causality of the accident for the cancer and will not take any further action.

The high prevalence of thyroid abnormalities so soon after the initial radiation exposure indicates a high probability that many Fukushima children will suffer not only from thyroid cancer but also heart conditions and other diseases in the future. Also strongly supporting this prediction is the latest Ukrainian government report on the health effects of the Chernobyl disaster¹.

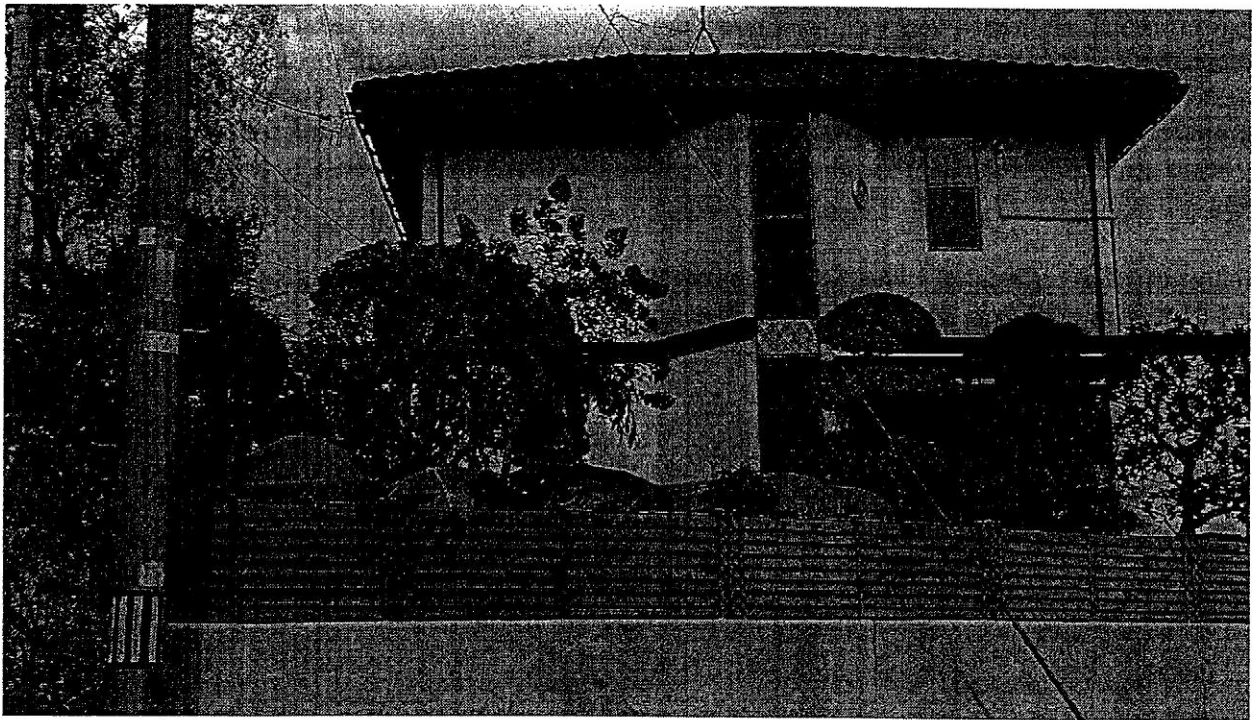
¹ Twenty-five Years after Chernobyl Accident: Safety for the Future National Report of Ukraine

The specialists around the globe alarmed when the preliminary results published on 26th of April 2012 revealed that 36 % of the 38,000 Fukushima Children tested had thyroid abnormalities. Dr. Helen Caldicott, an Australian paediatrician once said, "They are appearing very early, less than one year, and we would not normally expect them to appear for about 5 to 10 years, which means these children received a very high dose. . . . It is not normal at all for children to have thyroid nodules or cysts!" Also, Dr. Bryan Haugen, the President-Elect of the American Thyroid Association stated, "It is surprising for kids to have this many nodules and cysts, especially this soon after the accident. Also surprising is the fact that this is not more widely known".

4, Now, I would like to shed some light on the Fukushima children's suffering relative to the Japanese government's reconstruction strategies. Firstly, because of the intention of preventing de-population of radiation-contaminated regions, the government has been focusing on "de-contamination" efforts. However, we already know from the Chernobyl disaster that "decontamination" is not possible. Under this futile "decontamination" policy, many children have been trapped in highly contaminated regions and are continually exposed to high doses of radiation. This is a state crime against these children.

Secondly, the Japanese government accepts no responsibility for voluntary evacuation. The officials will say that those still in highly contaminated regions are free to leave voluntarily if they feel in danger. The difference between mandatory and voluntary evacuation lies in who makes the decision and who pays for it. In this context, voluntary evacuation means people have to bear the entire cost of evacuation and relocation without state support. As a result of this policy, those who cannot afford to leave everything behind and start from scratch have had no choice but to remain in highly contaminated regions regardless of their wishes. Knowing that the state is also responsible for the Fukushima nuclear tragedy, simply telling people, "You can leave if you want" is not morally acceptable, especially to the children who are more sensitive to radiation. It is unjustifiable and inhumane to force children to live in such highly contaminated areas. After all, children bear no responsibility for this nuclear catastrophe.

The report by the National Diet of Japan Fukushima Nuclear Accident Independent Investigation Commission concludes that the tragedy was not caused by natural disaster, but was, in fact, man-made. The state is responsible for the welfare of the victims of its own policy failure. After all, imagine if you injured somebody in a traffic accident, for example, it would not be acceptable merely to tell the injured person to go to hospital if he or she wants to. The Japanese government should fulfill its moral and legal responsibilities for the evacuation of those still living in highly contaminated regions, especially, the children.



5. The Yablokov-Nesterenko report based on 5,000 papers written mainly in Belarusian, Ukrainian and Russian provides an analysis that more than 980,000 people lost lives as a result of the accident. The population density in Fukushima is 15 times higher than that of the regions around Chernobyl².

Chernobyl: Consequences of the Catastrophe for People and the Environment²

The number of people in Fukushima who are living in the areas with contamination levels equivalent to Chernobyl is also much larger. Therefore, it is not hard to imagine that the loss of life Fukushima will witness in the future may be significantly higher.

So what can we do? The answer is simple. We should immediately evacuate the people, especially the children, out of the high radiation zones. Why does it have to be done immediately? Chernobyl suffered the casualties of 980,000 people, despite its internationally accepted evacuation standard. It was not because the standard was not adequate, but rather because it was implemented 5 years after the accident. For many, it was too late. This is why we must move the children out of the radioactive contamination now!!!

This is indeed the most important lesson of Chernobyl that the Japanese government must learn. A high school student in Fukushima once said to me, "a life has no replacement". If we lose our children, the reconstruction of Fukushima will be meaningless!!!

The collective evacuation we need is a simple solution that can be implemented, if we allocate money to it. In 1959, when the Japanese government introduced nuclear power generation in the country, they estimated the cost of liabilities for potential damages from nuclear accidents at 2.2 times the national budget. This is approximately \$2,500,000,000,000 (2.5 trillion US dollars) at the current budget level. They promoted nuclear power with the assumption of damage at such a scale. They can not use the excuse that the evacuation of the children is not financially viable. In April this year, our finance minister is reported to have made a phone call to IMF, offering \$50 billion to contribute to easing of the European credit crisis. If the Japanese government can dedicate such an amount for economic reconstruction in Europe, there is no reason why it can't allocate needed funds to protect our children's lives.

³Possibility of Accidents of Large Scale Nuclear Reactors and Estimate of Public Compensation (大型原子炉の事故の理論的可能性及び公衆損害に関する試算)

チェルノブイリより4倍も高い福島の避難基準

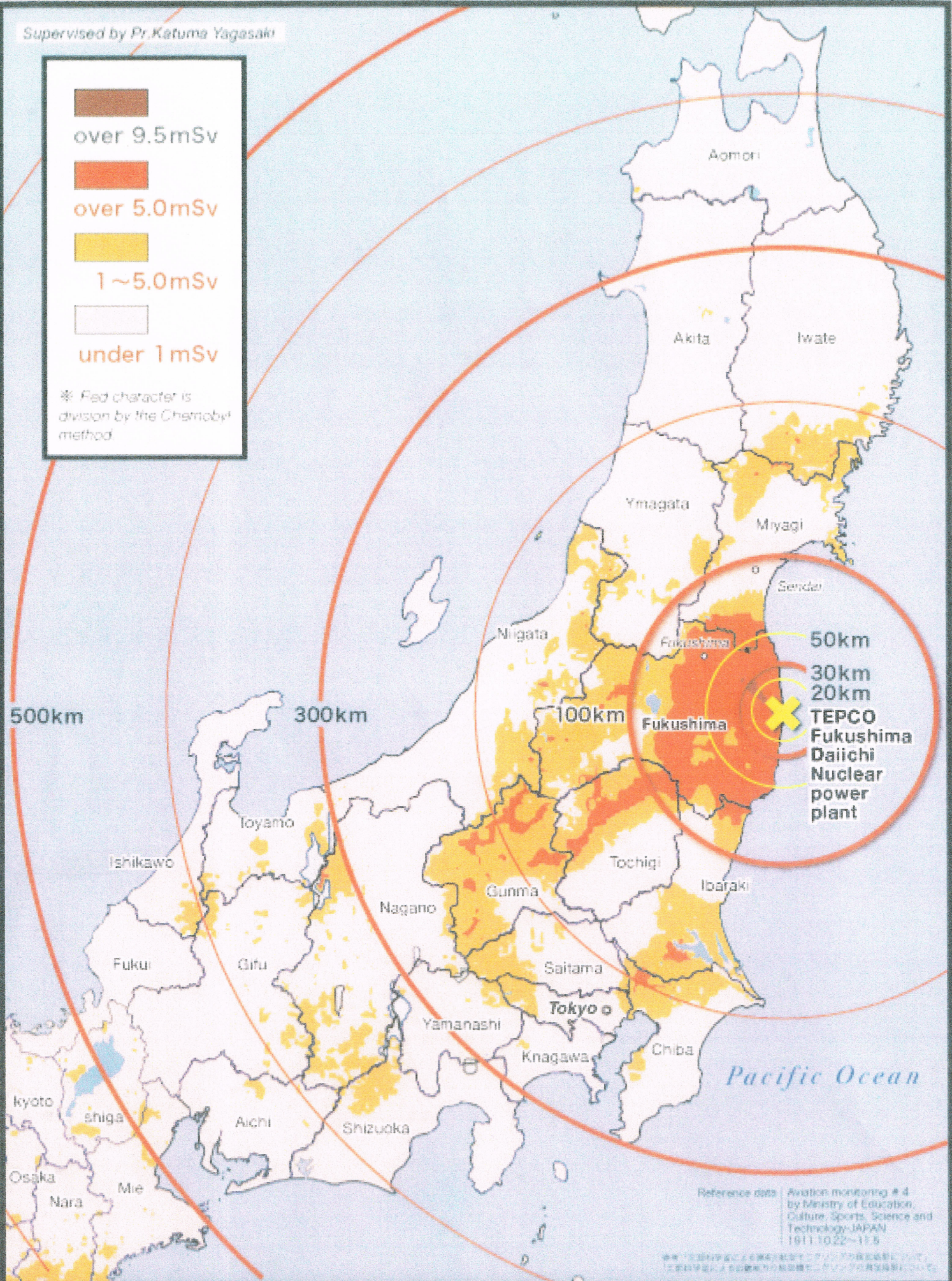
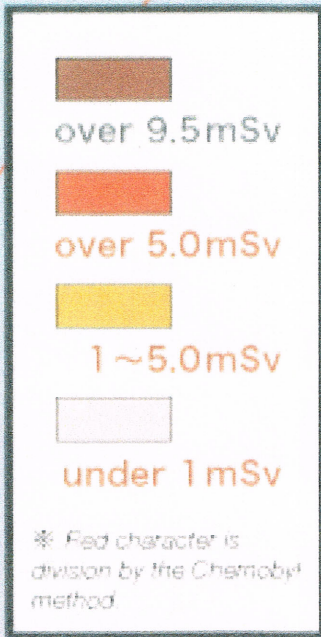
The criteria for evacuation is **4 times higher** at Fukushima than at Chernobyl

年間放射線量 Annual dose of radiation	福島の区分 Classification of Fukushima	チェルノブイリ区分 Classification of Chernobyl
50mSv超 More than 50mSv	<b style="color: red;">帰還困難区域 Return prohibited zone	
20超～50mSv以下 More than 20mSv Less than 50mSv	<b style="color: red;">居住制限区域 Habitation restricted zone	<b style="color: red;">移住の義務ゾーン Mandatory migration zone
20mSv以下 20mSv or less	避難指示解除準備区域 Removal of the evacuation order preparation zone	<b style="color: red;">(強制避難ゾーン) (Forced evacuation zone)
5mSv超 More than 5mSv	(居住可能) (Habitation is possible)	
1超～5mSv以下 More than 1mSv less than 5mSv	(居住可能) (Habitation is possible)	移住の権利ゾーン Optional migration zone
0.5超～1mSv以下 More than 0.5mSv less than 1mSv	(居住可能) (Habitation is possible)	放射能管理ゾーン Radioactivity management zone

注) 赤の区分は原則的に立ち入り禁止です。

Caution - In principle classifications written in red indicate that entry is prohibited

Supervised by Pr. Katuma Yagasaki



Reference data: Aviation monitoring # 4 by Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology-JAPAN 1911.10.22~11.5

TEPCO Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster

2011.3.11~





























福島県内摂取・出荷制限等食品






























Food items from Prefecture whose consumption and/or shipping have been restricted

Futaba town






















Food items from Fukushima Prefecture whose consumption and/or shipping have been restricted































Category	Item	Symbol	Type of restriction (2012.6.7)	Type of restriction (2012.10.18)	
Vegetables	Leaf vegetables		Consumption • Shipping	Consumption • Shipping	
	Head vegetables				
	Cabbage family of plants				
	Turnips				
	Wasabi				
	Plums				
	Loquat				
	Yuzu				
	Pomegranate				
	Persimmon				
Fruit	Kiwi		Shipping	Shipping	
	Blueberry		Shipping	Shipping • Harvesting	
	Sudachi			Harvesting	
	Akebia(Chocolate vine)			Shipping	
	Rice(produced in 2011)		Shipping	Shipping	
	Rice(produced in 2012)			Shipping	
	Wheat		Shipping	Shipping	
	Chestnut		Shipping	Shipping • Harvesting	
	Raw tea leaves		Shipping		
	Rapeseed		Shipping		
Craft agriculture	Rapeseed(produced in 2011)			Shipping	
	Ostrich fern		Shipping	Shipping	
	Bamboo shoots		Shipping	Shipping	
	Fuki shoots		Shipping	Shipping	
	Zenmai leaves		Shipping	Shipping	
	Taranoki sprouts		Shipping	Shipping	
	Bracken		Shipping	Shipping	
	Koshiabura sprouts		Shipping	Shipping	

Mushrooms	Nameko mushroom(open ground)		Shipping	Shipping
	Wild mushrooms		Consumption • Shipping	Consumption • Shipping
	Walnut		Shipping	Shipping
	Milk		Shipping	Shipping
	Cattle		Transporting outside the prefecture • Shipping to slaughterhouse	Transporting outside the prefecture • Shipping to slaughterhouse
	Sand lance		Consumption • Shipping	Consumption • Shipping
	Seema		Consumption • Shipping • Capture	Consumption • Shipping • Capture
	Japanese dace		Shipping • Capture	Shipping • Capture
	Charr		Shipping • Capture	Shipping • Capture
	Japanese mitten crab		Capture	Capture
	Sweetfish		Shipping • Capture	Shipping • Capture
	Willow gudgeon		Shipping	Shipping
	Carp		Shipping • Capture	Shipping • Capture
	Cruician carp		Shipping • Capture	Shipping • Capture
	Kokanee		Capture	Capture
Marine products	Eel		Shipping • Capture	Shipping • Capture
	Loach		Capture	Capture
	Fat greenling, Ceresthead flounder, Red tongue sole,			
	Japanese sand lance, Stone flounder, Goldeyes rockfish,			
	Japanese surferch, Ezoisoainame, Fox jacoceiver, Black cow tongue,			
	Jacoceiver, Black porgy, Sea raven, Common Skete,			
	Masu salmon, Saburo, Pufferfish, Shiromebaru, Alaska pollack,			
	Japanese seabass, Long shanny, Croaker, Starry flounder,			
	Slime flounder, Higanfugu, Bastard halibut, Bluefin searobin,			
	Spotted halibut, Gummy shark, Common Japanese conger,			
	Brown sole, Marbled sole, Flathead, Pacific cod, Barfin flounder,			
	Roundnose flounder, Spotbelly rockfish, Northern sea urchin,			
	Wild boar		Consumption • Shipping	Consumption • Shipping
	Bear		Shipping	Shipping

Reference Date:[Related to restrictions placed on the consumption and shipment of food products following the accident at Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant]
Fukushima Prefecture 2012.6.7 and 2012.10.18 Items appearing on this list have had restrictions placed on them in at least one location within the prefecture

Table

Category	Item	Symbol	Category	Item
Vegetables	Leaf vegetables		Mushrooms	Shiitake
	Head vegetables			Nameko mushroom
	Cabbage family of plants			Wild mushrooms
	Turnips		Wild vegetables	Ostrich fern
	Wasabi			Bamboo shoots
Fruit	Plums			Fuki shoots
	Loquat			Zenmai leaves
	Yuzu			Taranoki sprouts
	Pomegranate		Bracken	
	Persimmon		Koshiabura sprouts	
	Kiwi		Fruit trees	Walnut
	Blueberry		Animal products	Milk
	Sudachi			Cattle
	Akebia(Chocolate vine)		Marine products	Sand lance
Cereals	Rice			Seema
	Wheat			Japanese dace
	Chestnut			Charr
Craft agriculture	Raw tea leaves			Japanese mitten crab
	Rapeseed		Sweetfish	

Symbol	Category	Item	Symbol
	Marine products	Willow gudgeon	
		Carp	
		Cruician carp	
		Kokanee	
		Eel	
		Loach	
		Fat greenling, Ceresthead flounder, Red tongue sole,	   
		Japanese sand lance, Stone flounder, Goldeyes rockfish,	
		Japanese surfperch, Ezoisoainame, Fox jacopever,	
		Black cow tongue, Jacopever, Black porgy,	
		Sea raven, Common Skete, Masu salmon, Saburo,	
		Pufferfish, Shiromebaru, Alaska pollack, Japanese seabass,	
		Long shanny, Croaker, Starry flounder, Slime flounder,	
		Higanfugu, Bastard halibut, Bluefin searobin, Spotted halibut,	
		Gummy shark, Common Japnese conger, Brown sole,	
		Marbled sole, Flathead, Pacific cod, Barfin flounder,	
		Roundnose flounder, Spotbelly rockfish, Northern sea urchin,	
	Wild animal meat	Wild boar	
		Bear	