

The 75th Annual Meeting of the Association of Regional Agriculture and Forestry Economics (ARAFE)

October 12, 2025

1. The Date

November 1st–2nd. 2025, Symposium, Individual Presentation
International Symposium etc.
* October 31th, 2025, Business meetings; TBA for eligible participants

2. The Venues and Schedule

2-1. Venues

Shimane University Matsue Campus

★ Map: https://www.shimane-u.ac.jp/nyushi/transport_access/campus_map/campus_map01.html

Please use Google Maps or another service to check how to access
Shimane University Matsue Campus using the following
address: 1060 Nishikawatsu-cho, Matsue, Shimane.

Executive Committee

Associate Prof. Yoshiko Mori E-mail: yomori@life.shimane-u.ac.jp
Associate Prof. Nobuyoshi Yasunaga E-mail: nyasunaga@life.shimane-u.ac.jp
Associate Prof. Yukiko Nakama E-mail: nakama@life.shimane-u.ac.jp

2-2. Schedule

[November 1st. 2025]

Individual Presentation 1;	9:00-12:00
Symposium;	13:00-17:00
Plenary session;	17:00-18:00
Banquet;	18:00-20:00

[November 2nd. 2025]

Individual Presentation 2;	9:30-15:00
International Symposium;	10:00-12:30 (in English)

2-3. Participation fees

On site

General members	¥5,000. – (non-taxed)
Nonmembers	¥6,000. – (non-taxed)
Students regardless of membership	¥1,000. – (non-taxed)

Banquet fee (participants only)

Members	¥6,300. – (after-tax price)
Student members	¥3,200. – (after-tax price)

On-line, joining in only International Symposium

All participants	Free of charge
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* Advance payment by credit card is available. Details are listed in the conference and reception participation application form below. Instructions on how to pay by credit card will be sent to you by email at a later date.

* Notes regarding receiving emails

- Payment information will be included in the email body. If the email does not arrive, payment will not be possible, so please make sure you enter a correct email address when applying.

- Please also make sure that the email address registered in the online member information management system is correct.

2-4. Participant Registration with or without banquet

Please make registration of your participation from the following site till 24th October

URL: <https://business.form-mailer.jp/fms/bd23a4e788440>



2-5. Application for the Individual presentation

ARAFE members can make application for your individual presentation.

Please check the URLs below and make their registration on each form till each form's own deadline.

~~Registration of Individual presentation with its abstract~~

~~URL: <https://business.form-mailer.jp/fms/ebc136a9173043> by 22th, Aug~~

• **Submission of a pdf file for individual presentation slides**

URL: <https://business.form-mailer.jp/fms/9b6f3b99173045> by 24th, Oct

• **Submission of a final draft**

URL: <https://business.form-mailer.jp/fms/2e5e7cff173044> by 24th, Oct

For further inquiries, regarding individual presentation, please contact:

Planning Affairs of ARAFE E-mail: arafe-plan2025-ml@fcu.ac.jp

For further inquiries, submission of a final draft, please contact:

Editorial Board of ARAFE E-mail: editors-arfe@nacos.com

~~2-6. Application for the Special session~~

~~ARAFE members can set up Special session, where participants share and discuss specific challenges, at the URL below till the deadline. A representative person must arrange and submit its abstract, that contains the information about the names and belongings of a chairperson (or chairpersons) and all speakers.~~

~~Registration of Special session with its abstract~~

~~URL: <https://business.form-mailer.jp/fms/584837a6243766> by 22th, Aug~~

~~The password <20250822>.~~

~~★ Please contact with Planning Affairs of ARAFE about further information:~~

~~Planning Affairs of ARAFE E-mail: arafe-plan2025-ml@feu.ac.jp~~

3. Symposium

[November 1st, 13:00-17:00]

3-1. Theme

- Grand challenges in 75rd and 76th Annual meetings
Ensuring Food Access for All: Emerging Challenges in Regional Agriculture and Forestry Research
- The Theme in 75th Annual meetings
Does Everyone Have Access to Food ? ; Emerging Challenges in Regional Agriculture and Forestry Research

3-2. Concept

As a unified theme for both the 75th and 76th Annual Meetings, we focus on the fundamental role of the food system: ensuring that food reaches the people. The revised Basic Law on Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas states that food security means "a stable supply of quality food at reasonable prices, accessible to every citizen." This year's symposium will highlight the latter part of that definition—ensuring access for every individual. We will examine current issues at the downstream end of the food chain and consumers and share challenges to be addressed.

3-2. Speakers

The President's address:

President of ARAFE, TAKETOSHI Kazuki (Ryukoku Univ.)

Chairperson:

KIYOHARA Akiko (Fukuyama City Univ.)

Presentation 1:

Food Access, Dietary Conditions, and Inequality in Urban Areas.
UEDA Haruka (Univ. of Tokyo)

Presentation 2:

Current Status of the shopping environment in Hilly and Mountainous Areas : A case study of Okuizumo Town, Shimane Prefecture.

TAKAHASHI Katuya (Toyo Univ.)

TAMAKI Shiho(Policy Research Institute, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)

MARUYAMA Yuki(Policy Research Institute, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)

Presentation 3:

Store Strategies of Food Retail Companies and Their Prospects as Social Infrastructure.

KIDACHI Mano (Chuo Univ.)

Commentators:

ABE Hiroaki (Policy Planning Division, Okuizumo Town)

YASUOKA Sumito (Keio Research Institute at SFC, Former Director-General of Food Safety and Consumer Affairs Bureau,MAFF)

4. Individual Oral Presentation

[November 1st, 9:00-12:00 / November 2nd, 9:00-16:00]

4-1. The time allocated for each presentation is 30 minutes (20 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for discussion).

4-2. Only one presentation can be made by one first presenter.

4-3. In the case of a joint presentation, in principle, the first presenter must make an oral presentation.

4-4. The first presenter must be a member of ARAFE and pay the current and any outstanding membership fees by August 22, 2025.

For non-members who wish to present their papers, please request the ARAFE Secretariat to send the membership application forms as soon as possible (the application form can be downloaded from the ARAFE website).

4-5. For the instruction of applications, see Appendix 1. Please be careful about the submission and application methods.

4-6. For the application of Excellent Presentation Prize, Please check Appendix 2. There are any conditions for entry to this prize.

**2025 International Symposium of the Association for Regional
Agricultural and Forestry Economics**

5-1. Theme

- Financialization of the Food System:
Contextualization in Japan and Developing a Research Agenda

5-2. Concept

The financialization of food systems has become a defining force reshaping global agricultural production, distribution, and consumption. Beyond the broad notion of financial actors gaining influence in commodity markets, food system financialization refers to the transformation of food into a financial asset, where speculation, rent-seeking, and financial engineering shape prices, market structures, and food security outcomes. This process manifests in several ways, including speculative trading in agricultural futures and derivatives, the increasing role of institutional investors and private equity in farmland and agribusiness, and the financial restructuring of major commodity traders.

The consequences of food financialization are far-reaching. They include heightened price volatility, opaque supply chain governance, market concentration in the hands of a few multinational traders, and growing disconnections between producers and consumers. These dynamics exacerbate food insecurity, marginalize small-scale farmers, and shift the priorities of food systems away from public goods and sustainability toward financial returns. While these issues have been extensively studied in North American and European contexts, their manifestations and impacts in Japan remain underexplored.

Notably, Japan has a unique historical relationship with food financialization, having pioneered one of the world's first formalized agricultural futures markets with the Dojima Rice Exchange in Osaka during the 18th century. However, contemporary financialization in Japan's food sector has received little scholarly attention, despite its significance in shaping domestic and international agricultural markets. Japan's role as a major importer, its evolving agrarian policies, and the financial strategies of its food corporations provide rich ground for analysis.

This symposium brings together international and Japanese

scholars to critically engage with the evolving landscape of food system financialization. Key themes include: Speculation and Price Volatility (financial instruments), Market Concentration and Corporate Power, Financialization of Land and Production, and Regulation, Policy, and Alternative Models.

By situating Japan within global debates on food financialization, this symposium aims to advance theoretical frameworks, generate new empirical insights, and foster dialogue on policy alternatives. In doing so, it seeks to contribute to both academic discourse and practical responses to the challenges posed by financialization in food systems.

Speakers

Symposium Organizers: Executive Board Members for Internationalization of the Association for Regional Agricultural and Forestry Economics

Dr. TAKASHINO Nina (Ritsumeikan University)

Dr. KEENI Minakshi (Tohoku University)

Dr. KUSADOKORO Motoi (Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology)

Dr. FEUER Hart N. (Kyoto University)

Welcome Address: Dr. TAKETOSHI Kazuki (President of ARAFE)

Opening Remarks: Dr. FEUER Hart N. (Kyoto University)

Presentation 1: Government financial support for dominant meat processors and the global concentration of agrifood power. (tentative)

Dr. Philip Howard (Michigan State University)

Presentation 2: New forms of food systems financialization(tentative)

Dr. Loka Ashwood (University of Kentucky)

Presentation 3: The rice price linkage between Tokyo and Taipei during the 1930s: The consequences of rice futures trading through a historical lens. (tentative)

Dr. MAEDA Kiyotaka (Keio University)

Commentators: Dr. HIRAGA Midori (Kyoto Tachibana University)

Dr. YAGI Kohei (Kobe University)

Closing Remarks: Dr. MAHARJAN Keshav Lall (Vice president of ARAFE)

6. Note

6-1. Accommodation

The secretariat will not arrange for accommodation. Please make your reservations. We recommend making your reservations as early as possible since it is the tourist season.

6-2. Meal environment

On November 1st, (Sat.) the Co-op Purchasing Department will be open. On November 2nd (Sun.), the Co-op Purchasing Department, cafeteria, etc., will all be closed. There are 3 convenience stores and restaurants in the surrounding area. Please note that no boxed lunches will be sold to general participants.

6-3. Access map (Shimane University Matsue Campus)



[Appendix 1] Instruction for Presenters of Oral Presentations

1. Preparing the Abstract

- 1-1 Please refer to the template on the ARAFE website
< <https://a-rafe.org/4/2/550> >
- 1-2 The file of the abstract written with a word processor must be converted into PDF format (A4 size, one page).
- 1-3

2. Applying for the oral presentation

~~2-1 The applications for oral presentations and submissions of abstracts must be sent via internet.~~

- ~~- Go to the website < <https://business.form-mailer.jp/fms/ebc136a9173043> >.~~
- ~~- Enter the password <20250822>.~~
- ~~- You will find the English description.~~
- ~~- You must upload an abstract of your presentation at the end of this procedure.~~
- ~~- *Please see the sample format in the ARAFE website~~
- ~~- The file of abstract written by word processor must be converted into a PDF file~~
- ~~- You must finish the procedure by 11:59 p.m. on August 22th, 2025.~~

2-2 If you are planning to make slide-show presentation, you must submit the PDF file by 11:59 p.m. on October 24th, 2025. (Please note that PPT file cannot be used)

- Go to the website < <https://business.form-mailer.jp/fms/9b6f3b99173045> >.
- Enter the password <20251024>.

2-3 If you are planning to submit the manuscript for Short Paper, you must prepare a “pre-submission manuscript” using the template available at < <https://a-rafe.org/4/2/475> > and send it by 11:59 p.m. on October 24th, 2025, to the URL below:

- Go to the website < <https://business.form-mailer.jp/fms/2e5e7cff173044> >.
- Enter the password <20251024>.
- You will find the English description.

* Files must be 3MB or smaller. Files greater than 3MB cannot be accepted.

* It cannot be accepted after the deadline.

~~2-4 Requirements for corresponding authors when submitting a short paper~~

- ~~• You must be a member of the ARAFE~~
- ~~• You must have paid your annual membership fee for 2025 (including past unpaid fees)~~

~~If you are not currently a member, please complete the membership application process by the deadline for individual presentation applications (August.22,2025). New membership URL: https://clara-nacos.com/arfe/apply_for_membership~~

~~You can also pay your annual membership fee by credit card. Please complete the process on the following page.~~

~~Online Member Information Management System-(clara) : <https://clara-nacos.com/arfe/login>~~

[Appendix 2] Applying for the Excellent Presentation Prize

- ~~1. To apply for this prize, a pre-submission manuscript for Short Paper should be sent according to the procedures described in 2-3 above. If you do not send the manuscript for Short Paper, you cannot apply for this prize.~~
- ~~2. The first presenters, who apply for this prize, must be younger than 37 years old on November 1st, 2025.~~