

The 1st “Niigata International Food Award”
Laureates



- Main Prize** Dr. Monty Patrick Jones
Executive director of Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa : Sierra Leone.
Developed New Rice for Africa (NeRica rice) that adapts to the African environment.
Challenge to the poverty and the starvation.
- Sano Touzaburo Special Prize** Prof. Yuan Long Ping.
Chief director of China National Hybrid Rice Research & Develop Center : China
Deeply respected in China as the “Father of Hybrid Rice”.
Conducting new food increasing project of China.
- 21st Century Hope Prize** Dr. Fumihiro Fujimori
Associate Professor of Domestic Science Dept. Tokyo Kasei University : Japan
Constructed the database of the gene of mushrooms.
Developed the big possibility to solve the problems of food and health.

The 2nd “Niigata International Food Award”
Laureates



- Main Prize** Ms. Josette Sheeran
Ex-Executive Director of World Food Program : USA
She served as the executive director of World Food Program for 5 years, and during the tenure performed the food aid of 75 nations and 1,005 million people for starvation eradication with the personnel and made the world recognize the necessity for a humane food aid.
- Sano Touzaburo Special Prize** Prof. Masanao Umebayashi
Professor Emeritus of Mie University : Japan
In the famous Thailand northern mountain area called “Golden Triangle”, he performed by himself fruit tree-planting volunteer by his own budget for many years to get rid of the traditional poppy cultivation.
Also he constructed the sustainable agricultural model for local farmers to be self-sufficient.
It was recognized globally that the production of the opium was reduced by his effort.
- 21st Century Hope Prize** Mr. Nnaemeka C. Ikegwounu
Executive Director of Small Holders Foundation : Nigeria
He started the new regional FM station for small farmers, and through the broadcasting provided to 250,000 farmers in Nigeria, many various information such as market trend, sustainable agriculture and environmental protection.
Then he established the “Small holder’s Foundation” that contributes for the small farmers by providing the knowledge to improve the products productivities.
And in Nigeria, improving the products productivity means the improvement of their lives.

The 3rd “Niigata International Food Award”
Laureates



- Main Prize** Mr. Tatsushi Tsuboi
National Crops Resource Research Institute (Uganda)
JICA Expert / Senior Adviser for Rice Farming Technology : Japan
Involved in the guidance of rice cultivation technology in developing countries over the 30 years. he practiced and adoption research and technology development as the worldwide leader of rice in Africa (NERICA).
- Sano Touzaburo Special Prize** Dr. C.L.Laxmipathi Gowda
International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
Deputy Director for General-Research : India
Development of improved varieties of chickpea.
He have been developed high yield crop varieties, and contributed to the GDP of many countries and income improvement of many farmers.
- 21st Century Hope Prize** Dr. Hiroyuki Nakata
Applied Biological Chemistry Department, Agriculture Faculty,
Niigata University : Japan
He succeeded the development of low-cost general-purpose manufacturing technology of useful functional oligosaccharide in health maintenance and promotion of people.

The 4th “Niigata International Food Award”
Laureates



- Main Prize** Dr. Masaru Iwanaga
Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS),
Former Director General, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) : Japan
Dr. Iwanaga’s research has focused on the preservation and use of biological resources, and he has made many important research discoveries in this area for nearly 30 years. He was selected from a list of international applicants to be the Director of Mexico’s International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT). He was pressing responsibilities as its new Director involved adjusting its organizational structure, as well as establishing new long-term research strategies.
- Sano Touzaburo Special Prize** Dr. Takao Masumoto
Director, Division of Regional Resources Engineering Institute for Rural Engineering National Agriculture and Food Research Organization (NARO) : Japan
His research focused on the suitable placement of such drainage facilities, and the development of new methods for designing and locating such facilities in light of expected amounts of rainfall and other local climate factors.
- Sano Touzaburo Special Prize** Dr. Marcy Nicole Wilder
Senior Research Scientist Fisheries Division Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences : USA
Dr. Wilder therefore developed an indoor shrimp production system (ISPS), which allows for the efficient cultivation of shrimp indoors. In a closed environment, the first of its kind in the world. This kind of system can be installed wherever space permits, and its wastewater is minimal.
- 21st Century Hope Prize** Dr. Yusaku Uga
Principal researcher, Breeding Material Development Unit, Division of Basic Research,
Institute of Crop Science, National Agriculture and Food Research Organization : Japan
Dr. Uga accomplished the outcome in scholarly study of genetics and breeding about the structure and function of roots in rice. This would play a big part in the improvement of drought resistance in rice.

THE SEARCH FOR FOOD INNOVATORS CREATING A BETTER LIFE

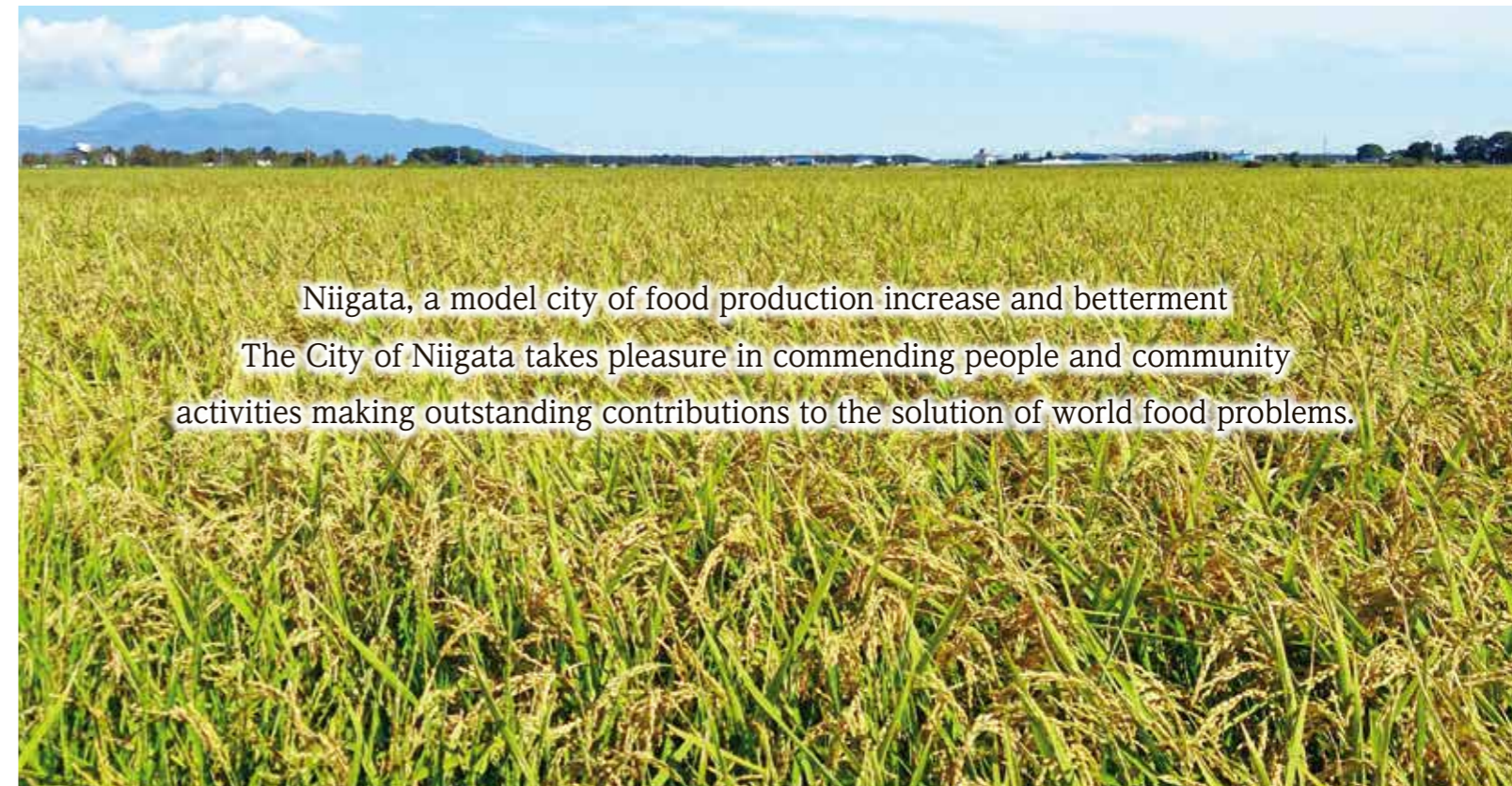
In Memory of Sano Touzaburo

Niigata International Food Award

5th Guidelines for Candidate Nomination



Niigata Award



Niigata, a model city of food production increase and betterment
The City of Niigata takes pleasure in commending people and community activities making outstanding contributions to the solution of world food problems.

Rise field in Niigata



Niigata Award

Secretariat of the Niigata International Food Award Foundation

Niigata City Office Hakusan-ura Annex 1, 4F
1-425-9 Hakusan-ura, Chuo-ku Niigata-shi, Niigata-ken 951-8131 JAPAN
URL: <http://www.niigata-award.jp> E-mail: info@niigata-award.jp

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The Award

Having overcome the unfavorable natural environment for farming and successfully achieved food production increase and food quality improvement, Niigata is a leading model city in Japan for food and agriculture.

The Niigata International Food Award is the only international food award in Japan which was created jointly by the government, business, academia and the general public of a local city. The Award aims to help solve the world food problem by shedding light on and honoring those individuals, organizations and communities around the world that are earnestly engaged in activities to address and solve food problems.

About Niigata

Since long ago, the city of Niigata has produced strong agriculture and food industries and is widely known as a major rice and other food production center in Japan. It is a rural city that integrates food production, distribution, dietary culture, food research, food education and other food-related human activities.

Who is Sano Touzaburo

Historically, farmers in Niigata had no other choice but to struggle with water and mud as they grew rice in the lowland paddies with water sometimes rising almost up to their waist.

Mr. Sano Touzaburo, President of the Kamedagou Land Improvement District in Niigata city (1923 - 1994) took on the challenge of changing the harsh working environment and turned the area into a solid food production base by converting the muddy paddies into beautiful rice fields to grow the best rice in Japan. In addition, he contributed extensively to community and regional development by strengthening the link between the rural and urban areas in the region.

Mr. Sano was also one of the pioneers in Japan's international cooperation in agriculture. He applied his experiences in Kamedagou to improve the infrastructure for food production increase in the Sanjiang Plain, Heilongjiang Province in China.

The Sano Touzaburo Memorial Niigata International Food Award is so named in remembrance of Mr. Sano and many other forefathers who established the reputation of Niigata as a major “home of foods” in this country and in the hope that many more Sano's will emerge on the international agricultural scene.

Instructions for nomination

(to replace “Screening Rule”, “Eligibility” and “Considerations.”)

1. Judgment criteria

- (1) Whether or not the nominated activity is international, regional or individual in scope and the achievements are novel and creative in nature.
- (2) This award is not meant to pass judgment and praise the academic value of a study. Rather, the focus is on new discoveries or development activities that are long-term and sustainable and are expected to help make people's lives better and leave a strong impact on the rest of the world.
- (3) That the activity has a potential for the future, even though it may not be very well known or not fully accomplished at this point.

2. Niigata International Food Award: Outline of the prizes

- (1) **Grand Prix** One winner (in principle), diploma and trophy with a cash prize of 10 million yen

(The cash prize will be split if there are 2 or more winners.)

Areas of research/activity:

- 1) Production and supply, 2) Food and health, 3) Food and education

Some examples

- 1) Food processing (food processing, inventions, device, technology for preservation and processing of food materials)
- 2) Food production increase (techniques and technologies for breeding or cultivation of new varieties, land improvement, irrigation, flood control)
- 3) Distribution systems (development of transportation systems, food distribution)
- 4) Food safety and better eating habits (overcoming nutrition- or food-related diseases)
- 5) Improving health through diet (effects of food on human health, epidemiological study into disease prevention)
- 6) Measures and activities to address food loss and food waste issues (*mottainai* spirit, grass-roots civic activities)
- 7) Food/agricultural education (education models for food and agriculture, promotion of dietary education (*shokuiku*), dietary culture and traditional foods)
- 8) International cooperation and assistance in food (various activities of NGOs)
- 9) Conservation and security of sustainable food supply (protection of culturing techniques and technologies, nature and environment, conservation of fishery resources)

- (2) **Sano Touzaburo Special Prize** One winner (in principle), diploma and trophy with a cash prize of 2 million yen

Areas of research/activity

- 1) Research or activity contributing to the development of production or cultivation techniques and technologies or to the consolidation of the production base, with the aim of increasing world food production and ensuring stable supply
- 2) Research or activity to create a self-standing community model in which sustainable agriculture plays the pivotal role in a country or region of the world
- 3) International cooperation or assistance efforts in the field of food

Instructions for nomination

(to replace “Screening Rule”, “Eligibility” and “Considerations.”)

- (3) **The 21st Century Hope Prize** Up to Two winners (in principle), diploma and trophy with a cash prize of 1 million yen

Areas of research/activity

- 1) Same as in Grand Prix in (1) above
Also considered for this prize category are: research or development in collaboration with other individuals, firms or organizations, experiments for commercialization and implementation activities, which demonstrate an encouraging outlook for future success even though the outcomes so far may not be very satisfactory.
- 2) The nominee must be a researcher or activist of age 45 or less.

* No winners may be found for any prize categories.



The “Springen” Trophy

The trophy received by the winners of the past four awards is titled “Springen,” a creation by Prof. Ryohei Miyata, an internationally-renowned metal craft artist and currently Commissioner, Agency for Cultural Affairs of the Government of Japan (before this post, Professor Miyata was President of Tokyo University of the Arts). The theme of this masterpiece is “Leap and Hope.” Two dolphins jump courageously in the air to move forward into the future.

3. Eligibility

- (1) The nominee may be of any nationality, gender or creed. The deceased may not be nominated.
- (2) Achievements made by a person or a group of persons in the service of a government agency will not be considered for the award, unless the achievements of the individual or group in question went above and beyond their basic responsibilities at the government agency.
- (3) No person or group may be nominated who has won an internationally renowned award such as the Nobel Prize, World Food Prize, Japan Prize and Kyoto Prize.

4. Selection and decision

The Fifth Niigata International Food Award Screening Committee chaired by Professor Emeritus Hideaki Karaki will select the candidates for the award and the Board of Directors of Niigata International Food Award Foundation (NIFAF) will decide the final winners.

5. Award ceremony

The award ceremony will take place in Niigata City, Japan in November 2018.

6. Nomination procedures

- (1) **Nomination period:** Friday, September 1, 2017 through Monday, December 25, 2017
Nominations must be received by the final day of the nomination period (Japan Standard Time)
- (2) **Number of nominees:** Up to 3 nominees may be named for each of the prize categories. One group counts as one nominated person for this purpose.
- (3) **Nomination form:** The NIFAF Nomination Form must be filled in using either English or Japanese language.
- (4) **Multiple nominations:** An individual or group may be nominated for more than one prize category at the same time.
- (5) **Previous nominations:** Nominations made in the past and not selected will be accepted.
- (6) **Self-nomination:** One may nominate him/herself or his/her group for the award.
- (7) **Confidentiality:**
 - 1) Nomination information will be kept confidential.
 - 2) However, nomination information for the 21st Century Hope Prize may be disclosed for the purpose of promoting joint research with a firm or organization or of facilitating commercialization, so that the nominated research will be commercialized or otherwise put into practical use at an early opportunity.
- (8) **Nomination documents:** As a general rule, nomination documents submitted will not be returned.
- (9) **Nomination submission:** Please send your nomination documents either electronically or by post.
Any supporting materials may be sent by CD, DVD or other electronic medium.
- (10) **To be sent to:** E-mail: info@niigata-award.jp
Mailing address: Niigata International Food Award Foundation Secretariat
Niigata City Office Hakusan-ura Annex 1, 4F
1-425-9 Hakusan-ura, Chuo-ku Niigata-shi, Niigata-ken 951-8131 JAPAN
- (11) **Website:** http://www.niigata-award.jp
The nomination form can be downloaded from this website.
- (12) **Others:** Submission of additional information and/or materials may be requested in the course of the selection.