



President
MIYASHITA Kiyotaka

The world's population currently stands at over 7.2 billion and is expected to top 9 billion by the middle of this century. Food production will have to be boosted considerably both to feed this rising population and to address dietary improvements in emerging nations. However, agricultural production is under threat from a wide range of environmental issues, including increasingly frequent extreme weather events such as large-scale droughts and flooding thought to have been triggered by the global warming of recent decades, and the degradation of soil, water, and other natural resources that underpin agriculture. Resolving these issues is a major challenge facing humanity in the 21st century, which has been aptly named the "Century of the Environment."

The National Institute for Agro-Environmental Sciences (NIAES) traces its roots back to the National Agricultural Experiment Station, which was founded as Japan's first agricultural research organization by the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce in 1893. Subsequently, over the course of numerous transitions, NIAES was established through a restructuring of this body in 1983 to create an organization dedicated to basic research on agriculture and the environment. Its establishment owes much to the passion of our predecessors to develop agricultural practices in harmony with the environment. NIAES became an independent administrative institution in 2001.

Since its establishment, agro-environmental issues have rapidly taken on increasing importance both in Japan and overseas. Amidst this backdrop, NIAES has grappled with and contributed to the elucidation and resolution of a wide range of issues, including problems of food safety caused by pollutants in the environment, the relationship between agriculture and climate change, the preservation of biodiversity, and the environmental impacts of agriculture.

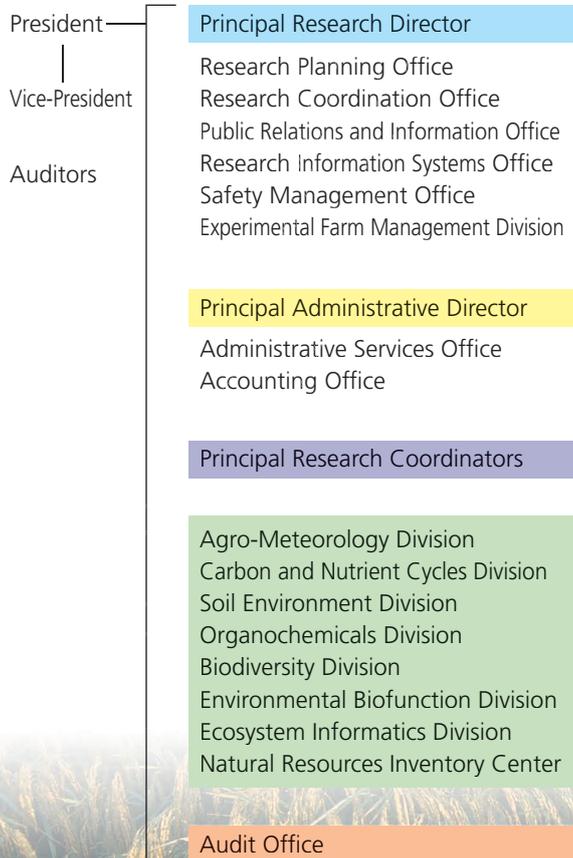
Building on our achievements to date, we are now conducting research in the four major areas listed below under our 3rd Medium Term Plan, which began in 2011.

1. Climate change and agriculture
2. Ecological functions in agroecosystems and the preservation of biodiversity
3. Agrochemical dynamics and risk management
4. Development of agro-environmental inventory methodologies

Cognizant of the importance of our mission, we are pursuing high-level research aimed at helping to overcome the world's food and environmental problems and to promote sustainable relationships between humanity, society, and the natural environment.

We ask for your understanding, support, and cooperation.

ORGANIZATION



Research Projects (RP)

Researchers from various fields team up to conduct interdisciplinary research on priority research themes.

- RP for Mitigation of Global Warming
- RP for Agroecosystem Response and Adaptation to Climate Change
- RP for Global Risk Assessment toward Stable Production of Food
- RP for Agrobiodiversity Assessment
- RP for Ecological Assessment on Genetically Modified Organisms and Alien Species
- RP for Biological Interactions and Infochemicals
- RP for Risk Management of Hazardous Chemicals
- RP for Environmental Risk Assessment of Nutrients and Organochemicals
- RP for Ecosystem Monitoring
- RP for Agro-Environmental Information and Classification of Environmental Resources

● Staff 165 (As of January, 2014)
Scientific staff 123

● Budget 6,227 million yen (FY2013)
The Balance Carried Forward 49
Operational Budget 2,730
Facilities Maintenance Subsidy 2,735
Project Research Budget 711
Miscellaneous Income 1