



JA Zenchu Position Regarding Trade Policies and Japan–Canada Bilateral EPA

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“CALL FOR COHERENCE”

–Basic Principles



- all countries must have the right to produce for domestic consumption in order to improve self-sufficiency and ensure their food security, including the use of tariff measures
- trade rules must allow for policy measures, including supply management, which promote stability of food supplies and prices
- special and differential treatment and capacity-building for developing countries must enable them to address the real concerns of resource-poor, vulnerable and small-scale farmers
- all countries should have the right to meet the non-trade concerns of their citizens including food safety, the environment, animal welfare and needs of rural areas so as to promote sustainable agriculture and help combat climate change and protect biodiversity



Farmers' Organizations That Endorsed The Call For Coherence Declaration, June 20, 2011 in Brussels, Belgium

[Africa]

Eastern African Farmers Federation – EAFF
Réseau des organisations de paysans et producteurs agricoles – ROPPA
Sub-Regional Platform of Farmers' Organizations in Central Africa – PROPAC
Maghrebian Farmers Union – UMAGRI (Union magrébine des agriculteurs)

[the Americas]

[Canadian Hatching Eggs Producers](#)
[Chicken Farmers of Canada](#)
[Dairy Farmers of Canada](#)
[Egg Farmers of Canada](#)
[Turkey Farmers of Canada](#)
[UPA \(Union des producteurs agricoles – Québec\)](#)
National Farmers Union (United States)

[Asia]

Advocacy Center for Indonesian Farmers (Indonesia)
Independent Farmers Network (Sri Lanka)
[JA Zenchu \(Japan\)](#)
National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (Republic of Korea)
National Cooperative Union of India

[Europe]

European Farmers and European Agri Cooperatives – Copa-Cogeca
European Council of Young Farmers
Norges Bondelag (Norwegian Farmers Union)
Norsk Landbrukssamvirke (Federation of Norwegian Agricultural Co-operatives)
Swiss Farmers Union



JA Zenchu Position Regarding FTA/EPAs

1. The multilateral trading system under the WTO must be a core element for Japan's trade policy.

- Feasibility of any FTA/EPA should be examined one by one taking due consideration of political, economical, diplomatic, social and cultural relationship with the partner country.

2. A FTA/EPA negotiation should be launched only when all sectors including agriculture are expected to gain fair and equitable benefit from a possible agreement

- Any FTA/EPA should be aimed for economical, social and cultural development of both Japan and the partner country so as to promote mutual development and prosperity.

3. Further decline of domestic agricultural production capacity will damage the national interest of Japan.

- While expanding exports of industrial products and securing energy and resources are undeniably important challenges for Japan, the fact must be recognized that Japan's food self-sufficiency has substantially decreased along with its development policy as a trading nation. Securing stable supply of quality and safe food must be placed at the center of national strategy.



4. A negotiating partner should be selected in view of food security and whether or not such partner is likely to understand sensitivity of Japanese agricultural sector

- Any FTA/EPA negotiation must be resulted in coherence with the “Basic Plan for Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas” in March, 2010, which clearly defined policies on food, agriculture and rural areas to be one of the national strategies.

5. The Government must disclose any information, including prospected advantage and disadvantage for each economic sector, before deciding to launch a negotiation.

- It must be prevented to evoke people’s anxiety on food insecurity such as unstable supply of quality and safe food, decline of food self-sufficiency rate, deterioration of domestic agriculture and rural areas.



European Farmers' Position On Trade Policy



Mr. Gerd Sonnleitner

President of COPA

(Committee of Professional Agricultural Organisations in the European Union)

at the 26th JA National Convention in Tokyo

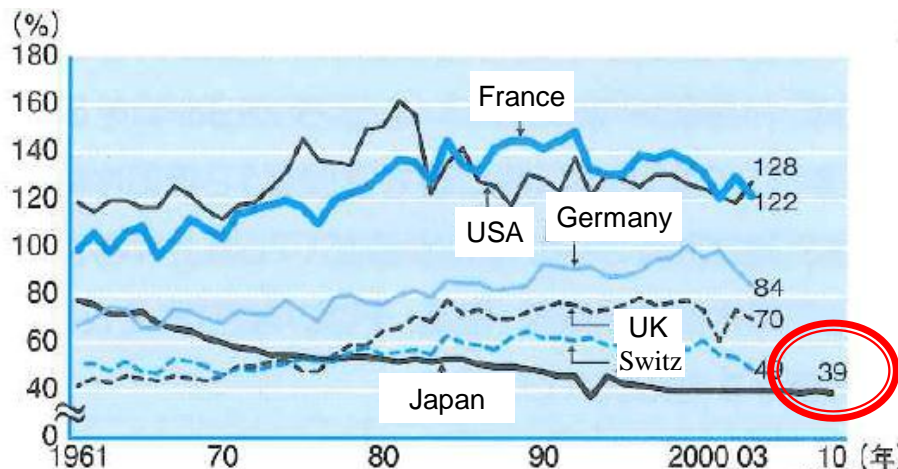
October 2012

- Farmers have a role to play in producing food, but they also manage natural resources – land, soil and water – in a sustainable way.
- The multilateral approach is better than a patchwork of bilateral agreements
- Any trade negotiations should take account of the concern to preserve the multifunctional role of agriculture.
- Proper consideration on sensitive items and cultural aspects is necessary.

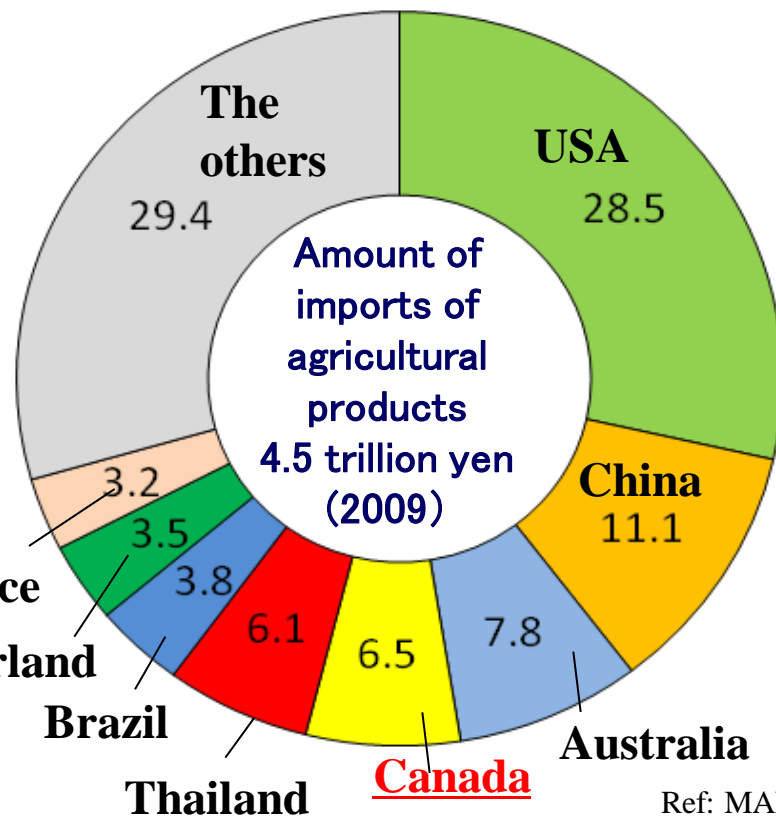


Japan Heavily Depends On Food Imports From A Few Countries

Changes of food self-sufficiency rate



資料:農林水産省作成「食料需給表」、FAO「Food Balance Sheets」を(概算)
 基に農林水産省で作成
 注)日本は年度の値



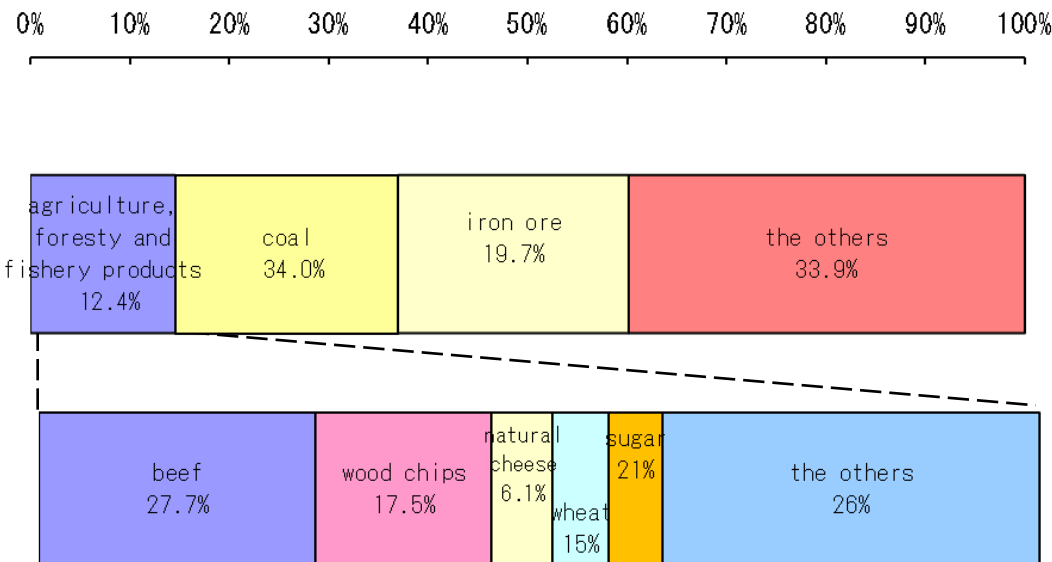
Ref: MAFF

- ▶ Japan's food self-sufficiency is 39%. This means 61% of Japanese food demand is dependent on foreign sources.
- ▶ The import share of the top five countries (USA, China, Australia, Canada, and Thailand) accounts for 60%. These five countries, in particular, are responsible for Japan's food security and must not work for damaging sustainable agricultural development in Japan.



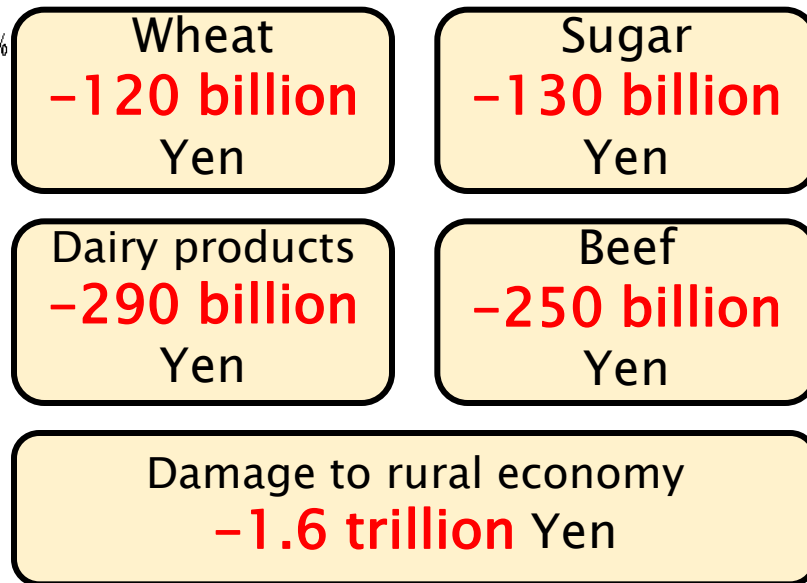
Japan-Australia Trade Relationship

Share of import value from Australia by products(2010)



Ref: MAFF, JETRO

Estimated Effect of Tariff Elimination of Agricultural Products with Australia



Ref: MAFF

- ▶ Japan imports large amount of agricultural products from Australia, most of which are strategic products for sustainable domestic agriculture and food self-sufficiency.



Major Points of the Resolutions on the Commencement of the Japan–Australia EPA Negotiation

The House of Representatives: December 7, 2006,
The House of Councilors: December 12, 2006

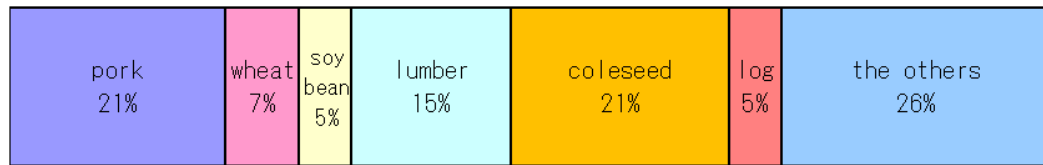
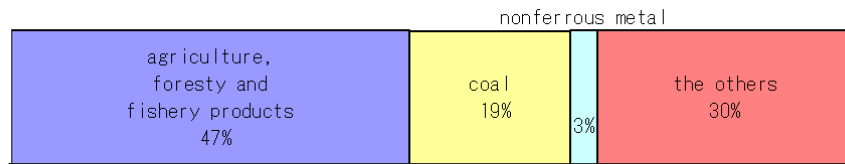
- The government, as a whole shall make best efforts in their EPA negotiations with Australia so that important agricultural, forest and fishery products, including rice, wheat, beef, dairy products, and sugar, are exempted from tariff elimination, or are items designated for re–negotiation.
- Negotiations shall not be bound by deadlines, and the government shall patiently and persistently negotiate. If the negotiating partner fails to demonstrate sufficient consideration and flexibility in regards to important Japanese products (flexible treatment), the government shall react with a stern judgment in the course of the negotiation, including suspension of the negotiation.



Japan-Canada Trade Relationship

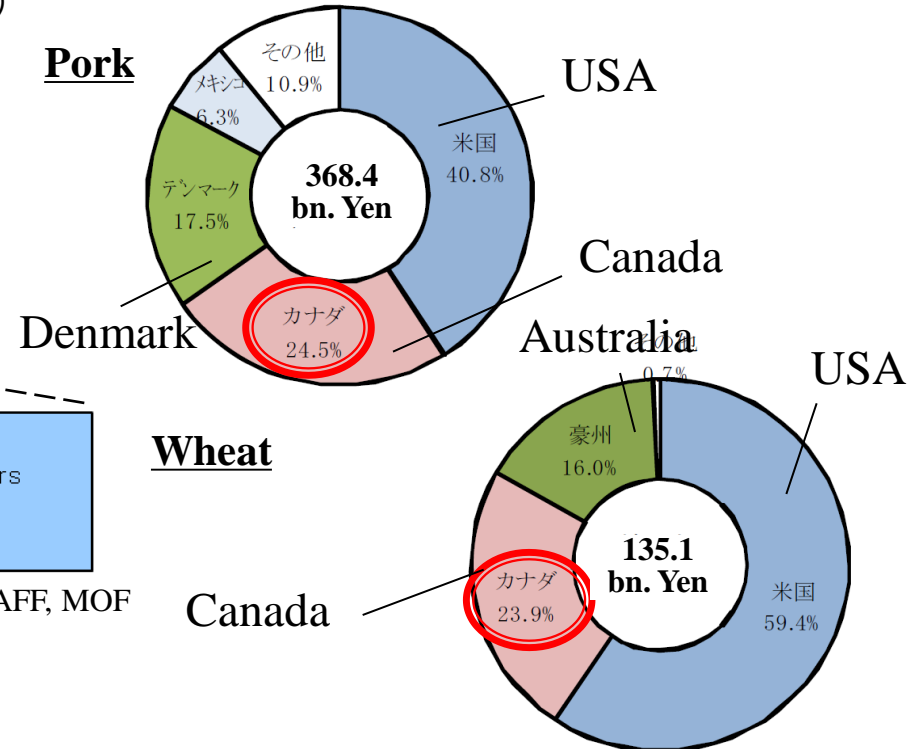
Share of import amount from Canada(2010)

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%



Ref: MAFF, MOF

The exporters of pork and wheat to Japan(2009)



- ▶ Many of Canadian farm products exported to Japan are core items of Japanese agriculture. Besides, Canada is one of the major exporters of those items to Japan.
- ▶ If the tariffs on sensitive items were eliminated, it would raise concern over food security issues due to import expansion of those items on particular countries as well as huge influence on domestic agricultural production.



Conclusion

- Canada is the 4th agricultural exporter to Japan and thus is responsible for food security in Japan. Its responsibility should be taken in ways to ensure predictable and stable supply of food that Japanese people demand as well as to not undermine sustainable development of agriculture in Japan.
- Farmers in Japan and Canada have a longstanding cooperation, particularly during the WTO-DDA negotiations. Japan-Canada EPA negotiations must not undermine such a solidarity, but should rather promote strengthening relationship of farmers in both countries.
- Japanese farmers adamantly oppose Japan's entry into negotiations of the TPP. Regarding the Japan-Canada EPA negotiations to be launched in November, 2012, the Report of the Joint Study should be fully respected in the official negotiations, particularly with regard to market access of agriculture, forestry and fishery products as well as export prohibitions and restrictions;



Report Of The Joint Study On The Possibility Of A Canada-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (Abstract)

[Market Access]

- Canada and Japan concurred that sufficient attention should be given to the importance of striking a balance between the facilitation of trade in agricultural, forestry and fishery products, and the sound development of domestic agriculture, forestry, fisheries and rural areas.
- In this regard, the two countries shared the mutual understanding that practical and flexible approaches should be taken with respect to sensitivities in agriculture, forestry and fishery products in the negotiations of a possible EPA between Canada and Japan.

[Others (Energy, Minerals and Foods)]

- Noting that global demands for energy, minerals and foods continue to increase, Canada and Japan recognized that 'energy security' and 'food security' remain a priority issue globally.
- The two countries reaffirmed their obligation to comply with the relevant provisions of the WTO Agreement, including the GATT 1994, with respect to prohibitions or restrictions on the exportation of energy, mineral resources and food goods.