

# Agriculture

Aichi enjoys a mild climate throughout the year and is one of the country's leading agricultural prefectures thanks to its ideal natural environment. Many of the agricultural products that come from Aichi, like cabbage, figs, and chrysanthemums, are considered to be among Japan's finest.

## Rice

Rice is a staple of the Japanese diet, and we've developed cultivation techniques that limit the use of agricultural chemicals and instead rely on environmentally friendly fertilizers. Aichi's main rice varieties are Aichinokaori and Koshihikari from the plains regions and Mineasahi from the mountain regions, with Aichinokaori and Mineasahi being the most delicious varieties developed here.



## Grapes

Aichi was the first prefecture to establish techniques for growing seedless grapes. Grapes are widely bought and consumed during the growing season, through direct sales as well as through recreational grape-picking activities.



## Figs

Figs are cultivated in the cities of Anjo and Hekinan as well as in other parts of Aichi, with the prefecture being Japan's foremost producer. Since the introduction of refrigerated distribution systems in 1985, Aichi producers have been able to ship fresh, ripe, juicy figs right to the tables of consumers.



## Tropical Orchids

Full-scale tropical orchid cultivation in Aichi began in 1965. Many different varieties are grown today, including Cymbidium orchids, Phalaenopsis orchids, and Dendrobium orchids.

## Shiso

Cultivation of aojisō, a macrophyll cultivar of the shiso plant, has flourished in Aichi, making the prefecture one of Japan's leading shiso producers. The plant is largely grown in greenhouses in the eastern Mikawa region and is produced throughout the year.



## Tomatoes

Due to the variety of tomatoes and growing methods employed, Aichi is able to produce tomatoes all year round, with cultivation largely taking place in glass or plastic greenhouses. One distinctive Aichi product is the "first tomato." In the Mikawa mountain region, varieties that don't require pollination are grown.



## Chrysanthemums

One of the characteristics of chrysanthemums is that their blooming is triggered by a shortening in sunlight hours. Growers can take advantage of this characteristic, artificially lengthening daylight hours to produce flowers with a later blooming period by means of a cultivation method called grow-light cultivation. This technique for growing chrysanthemums was first developed in Aichi Prefecture and is now used throughout Japan.



## Cabbage

Aichi has the oldest tradition of cabbage cultivation in Japan, and thanks to the availability of water for agriculture, Aichi has become one of the country's leading producers, with the industry now concentrated in the eastern Mikawa region. The bulk of Aichi's cabbage output takes place between November and April, but output in May and June has also grown.



## House Plants

Full-scale cultivation of ornamental house plants in Aichi began in 1955. Today, Aichi is a major producer, accounting for about half the house plants grown in Japan. An extremely wide variety of house plants is grown here.



## Fuki

The Aichiwase cultivar currently accounts for about 70% of Japan's fuki (giant butterbur) cultivation. This plant has been grown in the Chita area since the 1890s, and Aichi is one of Japan's main producers today.

## Roses

Aichi is a major Japanese producer of roses, which are grown throughout the prefecture but particularly in eastern Mikawa. Lately, with many new varieties being introduced, more people are giving roses as Father's Day gifts and as presents for other occasions.



## Strawberries

Strawberries are produced between November and May, and most cultivation takes place in plastic greenhouses. Cultivation of the Yumenoka variety bred in Aichi has been steadily on the rise.



## Satsuma Oranges

The cultivation of "greenhouse mandarins" throughout Japan had its beginnings in Aichi in 1969. Two famous brands are the Gamagori Onshitsu Mikan from the city of Gamagori, and the Mihamakko brand from the town of Mihama.



## Carnations

Carnation production reaches its peak with the coming of Mother's Day, which takes place on the second Sunday of May. An enormous variety of carnations, including both normal and spray carnations, are grown here. Aichi has become Japan's largest producer of carnations.



## Cyclamens

The Cyclamen genus of flowers is one of Japan's most beautiful and resplendent winter flowers. They can last a long time if they get lots of sunlight, and their withered flowers are picked right away.