

1. LAND USE
 2. NATIONAL AND PREFECTURAL FOREST LAND.
 NATIONAL AND PREFECTURAL LAND OTHER THAN FORESTS

1. Land Use

Land utilization in Japan assumes complicated shapes except for forests, and well reflect, in general, the natural conditions of the land.

The greater part of mountainous and hilly areas and volcanic areas are covered with forests and some used only for grassland for mowing and pasture and orchards.

Plains which consist of plateaus, terraces and lowland are mostly used for cultivated land and built-up land and contains only a small area of forests. Except for urban utilization of land such as built-up areas, the lowland is mostly used for paddy fields ; while plateaus and terraces are mainly used for upland fields and, in some cases, for orchards, mulberry fields and tea fields. Plateaus and terraces which are well irrigated are used for paddy fields. The northern and eastern parts of Hokkaidō, being in cold climates, are not suitable for paddy cultivation. Even lowlands in these areas are used only for upland fields, scrubland or grassland.

The distribution of orchards, mulberry fields and tea fields, depending upon areas, are affected not only by natural conditions but also by social and economic conditions.

According to the Annual Report on National Land Use, the areas by utilization mode of national land in 1972 (except the northern islands of Habomai, Sikotan, Kunasiri and Etorohu together with Take Sima) and their percentages to the total area were as follows : 5,970,000 ha. (16.0%) for agricultural land, 25,310,000 ha. (68.0%) for forests, 55,000 ha. (1.5%) for wasteland, 1,100,000 ha. (3.0%) for water areas, 690,000 ha. (1.8%) for roads, 1,110,000 ha. (3.0%) for housing areas and 2,510,000 ha. (6.7%) for other uses.

Salient Points of the Legend and Map Compilation

Built-up areas : Densely inhabited districts and other areas not included therein, such as large-scale factory districts and airports according to the

Census.

- Paddy fields : Paddy cultivating fields, rush fields and lotus fields.
- Upland field : Upland field where ordinary upland field crops are cultivated, meadows, seedling fields, and pineapple fields.
- Orchards : Fields where fruit-trees are grown.
- Mulberry fields and tea fields : Including fields where vegetables are cultivated between the rows of mulberry or tea trees.
- Forests : Including young forests and cutover areas.
- Scrubland and grassland : Including grassland for mowing and pasture, bamboo land and also golf courses
- Barren land : Those parts where rocks and gravel are exposed.

Sources

1. Geographical Survey Institute, 1 : 25,000 and 1 : 50,000 scale Topographic Maps.
2. Geographical Survey Institute, 1 : 25,000 and 1 : 50,000 scale Land Use Maps.
3. Hokkaidō Development Agency, 1 : 200,000 scale Hokkaidō Land Use Map.
4. National Land Agency, 1 : 200,000 scale Land Classification Map, 1969.
5. Bureau of Statistics, Office of the Prime Minister, 1970 Population Census of Japan.

**2. National and Prefectural Forest Land.
 National and Prefectural Land Other Than Forests**

The area of national land (excluding roads, rivers and beaches) as of March 31, 1973 was 9,021,000 ha. and accounted for about one-fourth of the total land area of Japan.

National land can be classified by kind of national property as follows : 8,845,000 ha. for administrative property and 176,000 ha. for common property. The breakdown of administrative property is : 244,000 ha. for official-use property, 2,000 ha. for public-use property, 2,000 ha. for Imperial Family property and 8,596,000 ha. for public enterprise property. The greater part of the land of public enterprise property consists of national forests belonging to the National Forest Service Special Account.

There are many national forests in eastern Japan such as the Tōhoku Region and not many national forests in western Japan such as the Kinki Region.

The area of prefectural land (excluding roads, rivers and beaches) as of March 31, 1974 was 991,000 ha. and prefectural forests accounted for 88% of the total prefectural land. The breakdown of the area of prefectural forests by prefecture was as follows : 628,000 ha. for Hokkaidō (which was the largest), followed by 156,000 ha. for Yamanashi. Areas of other prefectural forests are all below the 10,000 ha. mark.

Salient Points of the Legend and Map Compilation

In this map, land belonging to national property (national land) and prefectural property (prefectural land) are shown, divided into forests and land other than forests.

National property is divided into administrative property used for national administrative purposes and common property, not used for specific administrative purposes. Administrative property is further subdivided into the following 4 kinds.

Official-use property : Property to be used for the work or enterprises of the Government and as residences for officials working for the enterprises (buildings and land for government buildings, national schools, etc.).

Public-use property : Property directly used for public purposes (parks such as the Outer Gardens of the Imperial Palace, squares, etc.). Although roads, rivers and beaches are public-use property, the area of these kinds of land has not been included in the map because of statistical limitation.

Imperial Family property : Property to be used for the Imperial Family. (Imperial Palace, Imperial Residence, etc.).

Public enterprise property : Property to be used for enterprises of the Government and as residences for officials working for the enterprises (national forests and factories such as the mint bureau and the printing bureau).

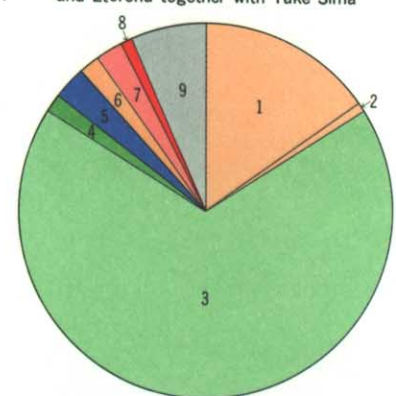
The classification method of prefectural property slightly varies from one prefecture to another. In this map, the property is first divided into administrative property and common property, and then the respective property is sub-divided into public property and public enterprise property.

Sources

1. Data from the Forestry Agency and prefectural governments.
2. Ministry of Finance, Monthly Journal of Public and Private Finance, No.263, Special Issue for National Properties.

RATIO OF USE OF NATIONAL LAND BY TYPE (1972)

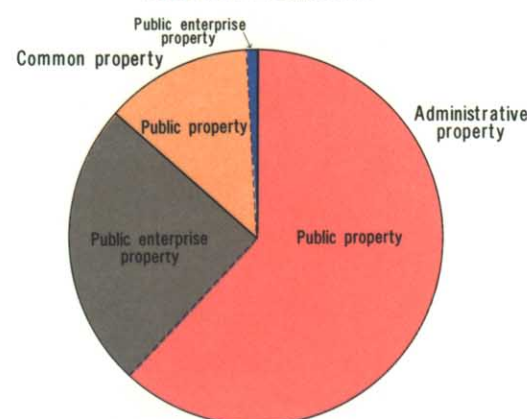
(Except the islands of Habomai, Sikotan, Kunasiri and Etorohu together with Take Sima)



(Compiled from Annual Report on National Land Use)

RATIO OF AREAS OF PREFECTURAL LAND OTHER THAN FORESTS (1974)

Total area : 117,000ha.



(Compiled from prefectural government data)

