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## Title: A case study on successful tomato production at Biratori, Hokkaido, Japan

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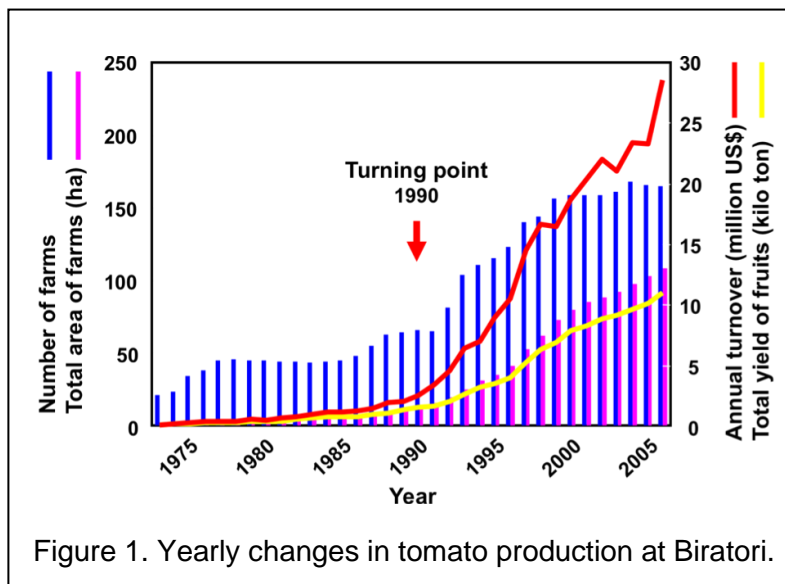
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### *Abstract of the presentation*

Biratori is a rural town located at 100 km southeast of Sapporo. Biratori has not big farm area but became one of the biggest tomato-producing regions in Japan. They started cultivating tomato using plastic film house with 6 farms in 1971. Main agricultural products of the town had changed gradually from rice and animal products to fresh fruits and related foods of tomato, and now more than 60% of the total agric-production is occupied by tomato. Figure 1 represents yearly changes in the tomato production from 1973 through 2006. The curves of the number of farms, total farm area and total yield of fruits were very similar, however that of the total annual turnover of farms in the area increased



drastically from 1990 because of the increased prices of tomato fruits.

In my presentation I will show the reasons why annual turnover increased and what's happened around 1990.

### *Biography*

Dr. Takashi Suzuki is Associate Professor (2005-) at Hokkaido University in Sapporo, Japan. He was assistant professor (1987- 2005) at Hokkaido University and visiting scientist at University of Alberta, Canada (2002-2003). His major is Horticultural Science, especially Pomology and Vegetable Crop Science. He got Ph.D degree from Hokkaido University for the research on ultra-low temperature cryopreservation of vegetative crop tissues as germplasm. He started to use MALDI-TOF MS for examining functional elements, such as anthocyanins and oligosaccharides, in fruits and vegetables at Food Chemistry Laboratory, University of Alberta in 2002. He is also trying to use Electron Spin Resonance (ESR) coupled with spin-trapping method to evaluate antioxidant activity of fruits and vegetables.