

The Ranking of Rice Taste in 2023

The Rice Taste Ranking has been carried out every year on varieties nationwide in Japan since rice produced in 1971.

It is based on a taste sensory test in which cooked white rice is tasted and evaluated.

In the taste sensory test, Koshihikari rice blended from multiple production areas is used as the standard rice, and is compared with rice from various rice production areas nationwide.

In the test, rice that is almost the same taste as the standard rice is evaluated as A', the one particularly better than the standard rice as Special A (hereinafter, "SA") , the good one as A, the slightly inferior one as B and the inferior one as B' respectively.

Table 1 The number of varieties by each ranking category

	SA	A	A'	B	B'	total
2021	42	88	22	0	0	152
2022	40	91	21	0	0	152
2023	43	78	23	0	0	144

Table 2 The Ranking by production area

Prefecture	District	Name	2021	2022	2023
Hokkaido	-	Nanatsuboshi	SA	SA	SA
	-	Yumepirika	SA	SA	SA
	-	Fukkurinko	SA	SA	A'
Aomori	-	Masshigura	A'	A	A'
	Tsugaru	Seiten-No-Hekireki	SA	SA	A
	-	Harewatari	—	—	SA
Iwate	The central part of Iwate Pref.	Hitomebore	A	A	A
	The southern part of Iwate Pref.	Hitomebore	A'	A	A
	The central part of Iwate Pref.	Akitakomachi	A	A	A'
	The central part of Iwate Pref.	Ginga-No-Shizuku	SA	SA	SA
Miyagi	-	Hitomebore	A	A	A
	-	Tsuyahime	SA	SA	A
	-	Sasanisiki	A	A'	A'
Akita	The northern part of Akita Pref.	Akitakomachi	A	A	A
	The central part of Akita Pref.	Akitakomachi	A	A	A'
	The southern part of Akita Pref.	Akitakomachi	A	A	SA
	The central part of Akita Pref.	Hitomebore	SA	SA	A
	-	Sakihokore	—	—	SA
Yamagata	Murayama	Haenuki	—	A	A
	Shonai	Haenuki	A	A	A'

Prefecture	District	Name	2021	2022	2023
	Murayama	Tsuyahime	—	SA	SA
	Okitama	Tsuyahime	—	SA	SA
	Shonai	Yukiwakamaru	—	SA	A
	Okitama	Yukiwakamaru	SA	SA	SA
Fukushima	Aizu	Koshihikari	SA	SA	A
	Nakadori	Koshihikari	A	A	A'
	Hamadori	Koshihikari	A	A'	A
	-	Ten-No-Tsubu	A'	A	A'
	-	Hitomebore	—	A	A
Ibaraki	The northern part of Ibaraki Pref.	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	The central part of Ibaraki Pref.	Koshihikari	A	SA	A
	The southern part of Ibaraki Pref.	Koshihikari	SA	SA	A
	The western part of Ibaraki Pref.	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Fukumaruru	—	A	A
Tochigi	The northern part of Tochigi Pref.	Koshihikari	SA	A	SA
	The southern part of Tochigi Pref.	Tochigi-No-Hoshi	A	A	A'
	The northern part of Tochigi Pref.	Nasuhikari	A	A	A
Gunma	Tomo	Asahi-No-Yume	A'	A	A
	Chumo	Yumematsuri	A'	A	A
	Hokumo	Koshihikari	A	A	A

Prefecture	District	Name	2021	2022	2023
Saitama	The northern part of Saitama Pref.	Sai-No-Kizuna	A	A	A
	The eastern part of Saitama Pref.	Sai-No-Kizuna	A	A'	A'
	The western part of Saitama Pref.	Sai-No-Kizuna	SA	SA	SA
Chiba	The northern part of Chiba Pref.	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	The southern part of Chiba Pref.	Koshihikari	SA	A	A'
	The northern/southern part of Chiba Pref.	Fusaotome	A'	A'	A
	The northern part of Chiba Pref.	Tsubusuke	—	—	A
Kanagawa	-	Harumi	A'	A	A
Niigata	Joetsu	Koshihikari	SA	SA	A
	Chuetsu	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	Kaetsu	Koshihikari	A	A	A'
	Iwafune	Koshihikari	SA	A	A
	Uonuma	Koshihikari	SA	SA	SA
	Sado	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Koshiibuki	A	A'	A'
Toyama	-	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Tenkomori	A	A	A
	-	Fufufu	A	A	A
Ishikawa	-	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Yumemizuhō	A	A'	A'

Prefecture	District	Name	2021	2022	2023
Fukui	-	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Hanaechizen	A	A	A'
	-	Ichihomare	A	SA	SA
Yamanashi	Kyohoku	Koshihikari	A	A	A
Nagano	Hokushin	Koshihikari	A	A	SA
	Toshin	Koshihikari	A	A	SA
	Nanshin	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	Chushin	Koshihikari	A	A	A'
Gifu	Mino	Hatsushimo	A	A	A
	Mino	Koshihikari	SA	SA	SA
	Hida	Koshihikari	SA	SA	A
Shizuoka	-	Koshihikari	—	—	A
	The eastern part of Shizuoka Pref.	Kinumusume	—	—	SA
	The central part of Shizuoka Pref.	Kinumusume	—	—	A
	The western part of Shizuoka Pref.	Kinumusume	—	—	SA
	The western part of Shizuoka Pref.	Nikomaru	SA	SA	SA
Aichi	-	Aichi-No-Kaori	A	A	A
	-	Koshihikari	A	A'	A
	Hilly and mountainous area in Mikawa	Mineasahi	A	SA	SA
Mie	Iga	Koshihikari	A	SA	SA
	Hokusei/Chusei/Nansei	Koshihikari	A	A'	A'

Prefecture	District	Name	2021	2022	2023
Shiga	-	Koshihikari	SA	A	A
	-	Mizukagami	A	A	SA
Kyoto	Tango	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	Tanba	Koshihikari	SA	A	A
	Tanba	Kinuhikari	A	A	A
	Yamashiro	Hinohikari	SA	SA	A
Hyogo	The northern part of Hyogo Pref.	Koshihikari	SA	A	SA
	The southern part of Hyogo Pref.	Hinohikari	A	A	A
	The southern part of Hyogo Pref.	Kinumusume	A	A	SA
Nara	-	Hinohikari	A	A	A
Wakayama	The northern part of Wakayama Pref.	Kinuhikari	A'	A'	A'
	The northern part of Wakayama Pref.	Kinumusume	SA	A	A
Tottori	-	Koshihikari	SA	A	A'
	-	Kinumusume	SA	SA	SA
	-	Hoshizoramai	A	SA	A
Shimane	-	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Kinumusume	SA	SA	SA
	-	Tsuyahime	A	A	SA
Okayama	-	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Kinumusume	SA	SA	SA
	The southern part of Okayama Pref.	Nikomaru	—	SA	SA

Prefecture	District	Name	2021	2022	2023
Hiroshima	-	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Aki-Roman	A'	A	A'
	The southern part of Hiroshima Pref.	Koi-No-Yokan	SA	SA	SA
Yamaguchi	-	Koshihikari	A	A'	A
	-	Hitomebore	A	A	A
	-	Kinumusume	SA	A	A
Tokushima	The southern part of Tokushima Pref.	Koshihikari	A'	A'	A
	The northern part of Tokushima Pref.	Akisakari	A'	A	A
Kagawa	-	Koshihikari	A'	A'	A
	-	Akisakari	—	—	A
	-	Oidemai	A	SA	A
Ehime	-	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Hinohikari	A'	SA	SA
	-	Nikomaru	A	SA	SA
Kochi	-	Koshihikari	A	A'	A'
	-	Hinohikari	A	A	A
	The northern part of Kochi Pref.	Nikomaru	SA	SA	SA
	The western part of Kochi Pref.	Nikomaru	SA	SA	SA
Fukuoka	-	Yumetsukushi	A	A	A
	-	Genkitsukushi	SA	SA	SA

Prefecture	District	Name	2021	2022	2023
Saga	-	Sagabiyori	SA	SA	SA
	-	Yumeshizuku	A	A	SA
	-	Koshihikari	A	A	A
Nagasaki	-	Hinohikari	A	A	A
	-	Natsuhonoka	A	A	A
	-	Nikomaru	A	SA	SA
Kumamoto	The northern part of Kumamoto Pref.	Hinohikari	SA	A	A
	The northern part of Kumamoto Pref.	Mori-No-Kumasan	A	A	SA
	The northern part of Kumamoto Pref.	Koshihikari	A	A	A'
	The northern part of Kumamoto Pref.	Kumasan-No-Kagayaki	—	A	A
	The southern part of Kumamoto Pref.	Kumasan-No-Kagayaki	—	A	A
Oita	Hohi	Hinohikari	A	A	SA
	The western part of Oita Pref.	Hitomebore	SA	SA	SA
	-	Tsuyahime	—	SA	SA
Miyazaki	Coastal area	Hinohikari	A	A	A
	Northwest mountainous area	Hinohikari	SA	A	A
	Kirishima	Hinohikari	SA	A	A
	Coastal area	Koshihikari	A'	A'	A
	-	Otentosodachi	A	A	A

Prefecture	District	Name	2021	2022	2023
Kagoshima	The northern part of Kagoshima Pref.	Hinohikari	A	A	A
	The southern part of Kagoshima Pref.	Koshihikari	A'	A'	A'
	The northern part of Kagoshima Pref.	Akionami	A	A	SA