

The Ranking of Rice Taste in 2021

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
2019	54	73	28	0	0	155
2020	53	77	24	0	0	154
2021	42	88	22	0	0	152

Table 2 The Ranking by production area

Prefecture	District	Name	2019	2020	2021
Hokkaido	-	Nanatuboshi	SA	SA	SA
	-	Yumepirika	SA	SA	SA
	-	Hukkurinko	SA	SA	SA
Aomori	-	Masshigura	SA	A	A'
	Tsugaru	Tsugaru-Roman	A	A	A
	Tsugaru	Seiten-No-Hekireki	SA	SA	SA
Iwate	The central part of Iwate Pref.	Hitomebore	SA	A	A
	The southern part of Iwate Pref.	Hitomebore	A	A	A'
	The central part of Iwate Pref.	Akitakomachi	A	A	A
	-	Iwatekko	A	A	A'
	The central part of Iwate Pref.	Ginga-No-Shizuku	SA	SA	SA
Miyagi	-	Hitomebore	SA	A	A
	-	Tsuyahime	SA	SA	SA
	-	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	SA	A	A
	The central part of Akita Pref.	Hitomebore	SA	SA	SA
	The southern part of Akita Pref.	Yumeobako	A	A	A
Yamagata	Okitama	Haenuki	A	-	A

Prefecture	District	Name	2019	2020	2021
	Shonai	Haenuki	-	A	A
	Mogami	Tsuyahime	-	-	SA
	Shonai	Tsuyahime	-	SA	SA
	Mogami	Yukiwakamaru	-	A	A
	Okitama	Yukiwakamaru	SA	-	SA
Fukushima	Aizu	Koshihikari	SA	SA	SA
	Nakadori	Koshihikari	SA	SA	A
	Hamadori	Koshihikari	SA	SA	A
	Aizu	Hitomebore	A	SA	A
	Nakadori	Hltomebore	SA	SA	SA
	-	Ten-No-Tsubu	A'	A	A'
Ibaraki	The northern part of Ibaraki Pref.	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	The central part of Ibaraki Pref.	Koshihikari	SA	SA	A
	The southern part of Ibaraki Pref.	Koshihikari	A	SA	SA
	The western part of Ibaraki Pref.	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	The southern part of Ibaraki Pref.	Akitakomachi	A'	A'	A'
Tochigi	The northern part of Tochigi Pref.	Koshihikari	SA	A	SA
	The southern part of Tochigi Pref.	Asahi-No-Yume	A	A'	A'
	The southern part of Tochigi Pref.	Tochigi-No-Hoshi	SA	A	A
	The northern part of Tochigi Pref.	Nasuhikari	SA	A	A
Gunma	Tomo	Asahi-No-Yume	A'	A'	A'

Prefecture	District	Name	2019	2020	2021
	Chumo	Yumematsuri	A'	A'	A'
	Hokumo	Koshihikari	A	SA	A
Saitama	The eastern part of Saitama Pref.	Koshihikari	A'	A'	A
	The northern part of Saitama Pref.	Sai-No-Kizuna	A	SA	A
	The eastern part of Saitama Pref.	Sai-No-Kizuna	A	A	A
	The western part of Saitama Pref.	Sai-No-Kizuna	A	SA	SA
Chiba	The northern part of Chiba Pref.	Koshihikari	SA	SA	A
	The southern part of Chiba Pref.	Koshihikari	A	A	SA
	The northern/southern part of Chiba Pref.	Fusakogane	A'	A	A'
	The northern/southern part of Chiba Pref.	Fusaotome	A	A'	A'
Kanagawa	-	Harumi	A	A	A'
Niigata	Joetsu	Koshihikari	SA	SA	SA
	Chuetsu	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	Kaetsu	Koshihikari	A'	SA	A
	Iwafune	Koshihikari	SA	A	SA
	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

Prefecture	District	Name	2019	2020	2021
Ishikawa	-	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Yumemizuhō	A	A'	A
Fukui	-	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Hanaechizen	A'	A'	A
	-	Ichihomare	SA	SA	A
Yamanashi	Kyohoku	Koshihikari	A	A	A
Nagano	Hokushin	Koshihikari	SA	A	A
	Toshin	Koshihikari	SA	SA	A
	Nanshin	Koshihikari	A	SA	A
	Chushin	Koshihikari	SA	A	A
Gifu	Mino	Hatsushimo	A	A'	A
	Mino	Koshihikari	A	A	SA
	Hida	Koshihikari	SA	SA	SA
Shizuoka	The eastern part of Shizuoka Pref.	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	The central part of Shizuoka Pref.	Koshihikari	A	A'	A'
	The western part of Shizuoka Pref.	Koshihikari	A'	A	A'
	The eastern/central/west part of Shizuoka Pref.	Kinumusume	SA	SA	A
	The western part of Saitama 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	A

Prefecture	District	Name	2019	2020	2021
Mie	Iga	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	Hokusei/Chusei/Nansei	Koshihikari	A'	A'	A
Shiga	-	Koshihikari	SA	SA	SA
	-	Mizukagami	SA	A	A
Kyoto	Tango	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	Tanba	Koshihikari	A	A	SA
	Tanba	Kinuhikari	A	A'	A
	Yamashiro	Hinohikari	A	A	SA
Hyogo	The northern part of Hyogo Pref.	Koshihikari	SA	SA	SA
	The southern part of Hyogo Pref.	Hinohikari	A	A	A
	The southern part of Hyogo Pref.	Kinumusume	SA	SA	A
Nara	-	Hinohikari	A	A	A
Wakayama	The northern part of Wakayama Pref.	Kinuhikari	A'	A	A'
	The northern part of Wakayama Pref.	Kinumusume	A	A	SA
Tottori	-	Koshihikari	A	SA	SA
	-	Kinumusume	A	SA	SA
	-	Hoshizoramai	-	-	A
Shimane	-	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Kinumusume	A	A	SA
	-	Tsuyahime	SA	SA	A
Okayama	-	Koshihikari	A'	A	A

Prefecture	District	Name	2019	2020	2021
	-	Kinumusume	SA	SA	SA
	-	Hinohikari	A	A	A
Hiroshima	-	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Akisakari	A	SA	A
	-	Aki-Roman	A	A	A'
	The southern part of Hiroshima Pref.	Koi-No-Yokan	A	A	SA
Yamaguchi	-	Koshihikari	A'	A	A
	-	Hitomebore	A	A	A
	-	Kinumusume	A	A	SA
Tokushima	The southern part of Tokushima Pref.	Koshihikari	A'	A	A'
	The northern part of Tokushima Pref.	Akisakari	SA	A	A'
Kagawa	-	Koshihikari	A'	A'	A'
	-	Hinohikari	A	A	A
	-	Oidemai	SA	SA	A
Ehime	-	Koshihikari	A	A	A
	-	Hinohikari	A'	A	A'
	-	Akitakomachi	A	A	A'
	-	Nikomaru	SA	SA	A
Kochi	-	Koshihikari	A'	A	A
	-	Hinohikari	SA	A	A
	The northern part of Kochi Pref.	Nikomaru	SA	SA	SA

Prefecture	District	Name	2019	2020	2021
	The western part of Kochi Pref.	Nikomaru	SA	SA	SA
Fukuoka	-	Yumetsukushi	A	A	A
	-	Genkitsukushi	A	SA	SA
Saga	-	Yumeshizuku	SA	SA	A
	-	Sagabiyori	SA	SA	SA
	-	Koshihikari	A	A'	A
Nagasaki	-	Hinohikari	A'	A	A
	-	Nikomaru	SA	SA	A
	-	Natsuhonoka	-	SA	A
Kumamoto	The northern part of Kumamoto Pref.	Hinohikari	A	A	SA
	The southern part of Kumamoto Pref.	Hinohikari	A'	A'	A
	The northern part of Kumamoto Pref.	Mori-No-Kumasan	SA	A	A
	The northern part of Kumamoto Pref.	Koshihikari	SA	A	A
	-	Kumasan-No-Kagayaki	-	-	A
Oita	Hohi	Hinohikari	A	A	A
	The western part of Oita Pref.	Hitomebore	A	A	SA
	The northern part of Oita Pref.	Tsuyahime	-	A	SA
	The eastern part of Oita Pref.	Tsuyahime	-	A	A
Miyazaki	Coastal area	Hinohikari	A'	A'	A
	Northwest mountainous area	Hinohikari	SA	SA	SA
	Kirishima	Hinohikari	SA	SA	SA

Prefecture	District	Name	2019	2020	2021
	Coastal area	Koshihikari	A'	A'	A'
	-	Otentosodachi	A	A	A
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	SA	SA	A
	The southern part of Kagoshima Pref.	Ikuhikari	A'	A'	A