

Yame Agricultural High School

Our school was opened in 1902 as Yame County Fukushima Agricultural School. In 1955, the name was changed to the current Fukuoka Prefectural Yame Agricultural High School, and this year marks the 121th anniversary of its founding.

Our school is in Yame City, the southern part of Fukuoka Prefecture, rich in nature and surrounded by mountains and rivers. The Yame area is famous for agricultural products such as green tea, kiwifruits, mandarin orange and Japanese pear. This has led to advanced agricultural management systems since the ancient times.

The Department of Production Technology



The Department of Systems Horticulture



The Department of Animal Pets



The Department of Food Development



We have four departments:

The Department of Production Technology where knowledge and skills in the cultivation of fruit trees, green tea and crops are acquired.

The Department of Systems Horticulture where knowledge and technique for growing flowers and vegetables using environmentally controlled greenhouses are acquired as well.

The Department of Animal Pets, where we gain various techniques of animal breeding, and finally, the Department of Food Development, where we learn about food manufacturing such as bread and confectioneries using microorganisms and nutritional valuable menus. We also learn about food education which involves the local food culture.

Each department has its own characteristics, and they offer classes and practical training based on the idea of “One Health.”

The Introduction of One Health Educational Activities

Having said that, let me now introduce to the audience the “One Health” educational activities implemented at our school.



First, we cultivate “Ren-ai Rice”, which is the brand rice of the Department of Production and Technology. “Ren-ai Rice” is an acronym for Astragalus farming and Aigamo farming methods. The idea is for humanity to love nature and it was registered as a trademark in 1999. Astragalus farming is a farming method that utilizes the characteristics of legumes that fix nitrogen in the atmosphere and does not require more fertilizer than necessary. In the duck farming method, ducks eat pests in the paddy fields.





This reduces the number of pesticides that would have been required in normal circumstances. In addition, ducks stir and provide air to the soil which promotes the growth of rice roots. In spring, the entire paddy field is filled with astragalus flowers, and in early summer, ducks can be seen swimming in the rice paddies. Here, you can enjoy looking at the growth of flora and fauna and the change of seasons. By experiencing the cultivation of "Ren-ai Rice", we are deepening the connection between safe, secure, and sustainable food production and environmental conservation. It is our hope that this method will be embraced by many people.





Secondly, we have a class at the Department of Animal Pets which works on broiler breeding and production through work groups to raise broilers from chicks while keeping in mind the environmental impacts of such practices. You can feel the health of chicks just by appearance because of the good management practices that have been set up to raise these broilers. These include proper feeding and the breeding environment.

We carry out our own production and disposal of any waste that is a result of our activities. We can feel the transfer of life from different forms through this process and it makes us appreciate the value of it as humans and animals. “Itadaki masu”, which is, “thank you for the meal”, the Japanese phrase we have used since children to show appreciation to ingredients that have been used in the preparation of our meals. We continue to think about ways of how we can better manage and improve breeding and production of broilers.

“Itadaki masu”



We feel food loss and waste has become a problem today because most have less time to interact with animals and plants. In addition, we and the Department of Animal Pets conduct exchanges through "petting animal experiences" with children between the ages of 3 and 12 about eight times a year. Through this experience, we are able to see cases which reaffirm that humans and animals are better partners, by working with compassion for each other. There is a new awareness created, questions and other issues can also be solved and discovered. This has a positive effect on each other's minds and bodies, and we have come to think about the importance of maintaining good health.

We hope to continue taking classes and improve my understanding of “One Health” through practical training. We realize that we are always learning by the direct connection to "One Health". Every day, we discover the joy and enjoyment of learning while encountering life, the environment, and food through agricultural production activities. My friends and we talk about the health of animals and the environment surrounding our plants. From now on, we must live our lives on the planet thinking about the connection between people, animals, plants, and the environment. To conclude, we will continue to put my efforts on agricultural classes with the idea of “One Health” in mind. I hope that you will soon become part of this idea if you have not already. Thank you.



We will challenge new things with the idea of One Health in mind.