

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** October 24,2019

**Report Number:** JA2019-0179

**Report Name:** Effects of Typhoon Hagibis on Agricultural Production in Japan

**Country:** Japan

**Post:** Tokyo

**Report Category:** Agricultural Situation

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**Report Highlights:**

On October 12, 2019, typhoon Hagibis inflicted substantial damage on eastern Japan. Some of the affected regions are leading produce and livestock producers, particularly of strawberries, apples and pork. As of October 24, Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) estimated official damage to agricultural sectors due to Hagibis-related floods and landslides at \$900 million.

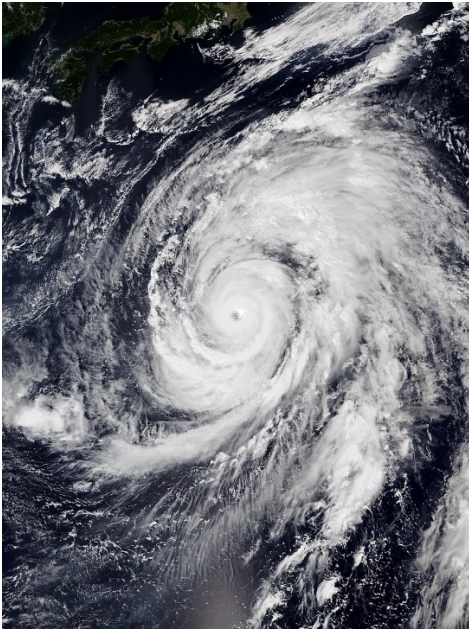
Nevertheless, minimal trade impacts are expected due to diversified regional production across Japan.

Keywords: JA2019-0179, Japan, typhoon, strawberry, apple, livestock

## **Background**

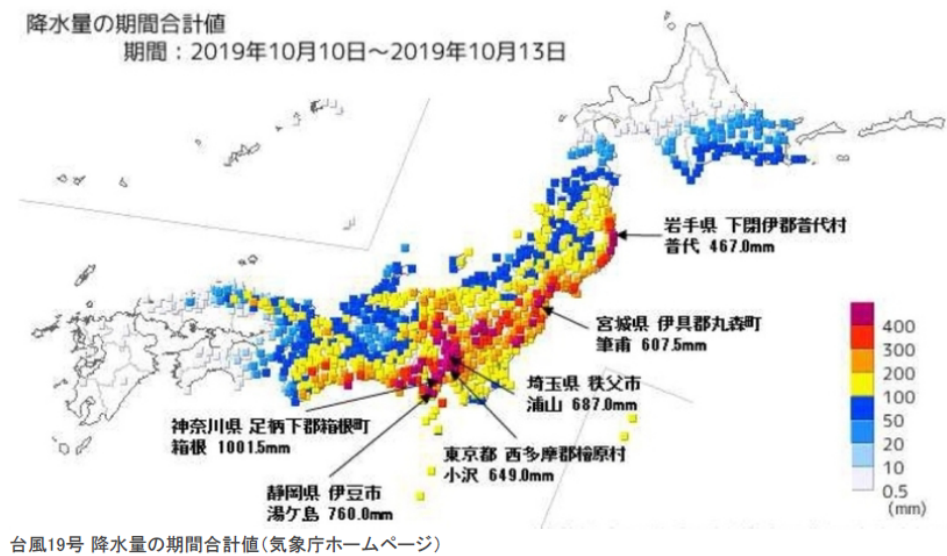
Typhoon Hagibis, a category 5 super typhoon, hit eastern Japan on October 12, 2019 with winds of up to 165 miles per hour (Figure 1). Within 24 hours, areas in eastern and northern Japan experienced unprecedented rainfall (Figure 2). The resulting flooding led to riverbank erosion and disrupted agricultural production in the affected prefectures: Iwate, Miyagi, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba, Saitama, and Nagano (highlighted in Figure 3). As of October 24, 2019, some production areas remain under water, and the full extent of damage has yet to be determined by Japan's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF). MAFF estimates the damage to agricultural production at approximately \$900 million. According to media sources, resulting damage extends to approximately 13,300 hectares of agricultural fields, 110 hectares of orchards, and 220,000 heads of livestock. Prime Minister Abe instructed his Cabinet to use the emergency reserve fund of \$5 billion to support recovery in affected areas.

Figure 1. Satellite image of super typhoon Hagibis over Japan



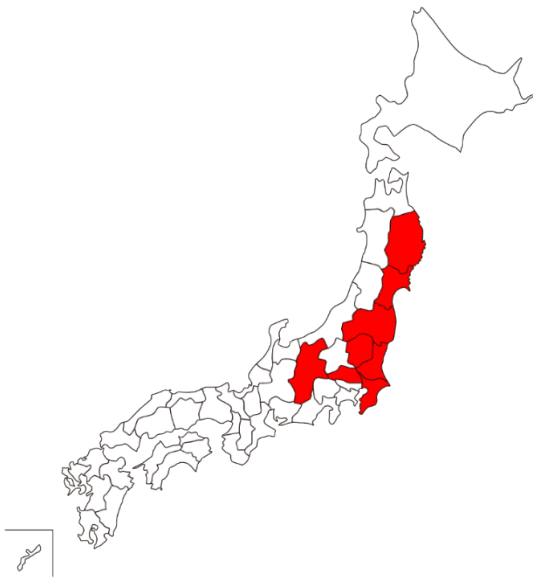
Source: Japan Meteorological Agency

Figure 2. Record-setting precipitation levels across northeastern Japan (October 10-13, 2019)



Source: Japan Meteorological Agency

Figure 3. Japanese prefectures severely affected by super typhoon Hagibis and resulting riverbank erosion



Source: FAS/Tokyo

The eight affected prefectures (Figure 3) are major domestic producers of rice, eggs, and specialty crops (Table 1). FAS/Tokyo estimates that domestic availability of strawberries and apples may be substantially impacted by the flooding brought on by Hagibis (Figure 4). Further production losses may be brought about by infrastructural damage, and disease and pest pressures related to flooding. However, as each prefecture produces a certain amount of rice, vegetables and livestock products for local consumption, the effect of those losses on the national market is expected to be limited.

Table 1. Share of Japan's agricultural production by commodity in the affected prefectures in 2018.

	Major Agricultural Commodity	Value of production (\$ million)	Proportion of national production (%)	Notes
Cereal	Rice	5,184	29.7%	Season is almost over
Livestock	Broiler	589	11.1%	
	Cattle	894	12.4%	
	Egg	1,308	24.6%	
	Pork	1,666	25.3%	
	Milk	949	12.8%	
Vegetables	Cucumber	226	15.4%	
	Scallion	414	36.9%	
	Spinach	116	20.1%	
	Lettuce	227	21.9%	
	Chinese Cabbage	350	46.2%	
Fruits	Apple	268	21.9%	
	Strawberry	271	15.5%	
	Peach	114	28.8%	Season is over
	Grape	207	23.5%	Season is almost over

Source: MAFF and FAS/Tokyo

Figure 4. Super typhoon Hagibis's damage to apple orchards in Nagano prefecture (left) and a strawberry greenhouse in Tochigi prefecture (right).



Source: Japan Agricultural Newspaper

**Attachments:**

No Attachments.