

# Changes in the Roles of Women and Elderly Persons within Oyster Aquaculture in Japan

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# Outline

1. Background and Objectives
2. World production, Japan's position, and characteristics of oyster farming district in Japan
3. Case study of Oku town, Okayama Prefecture
4. Conclusion and Discussion

# Background

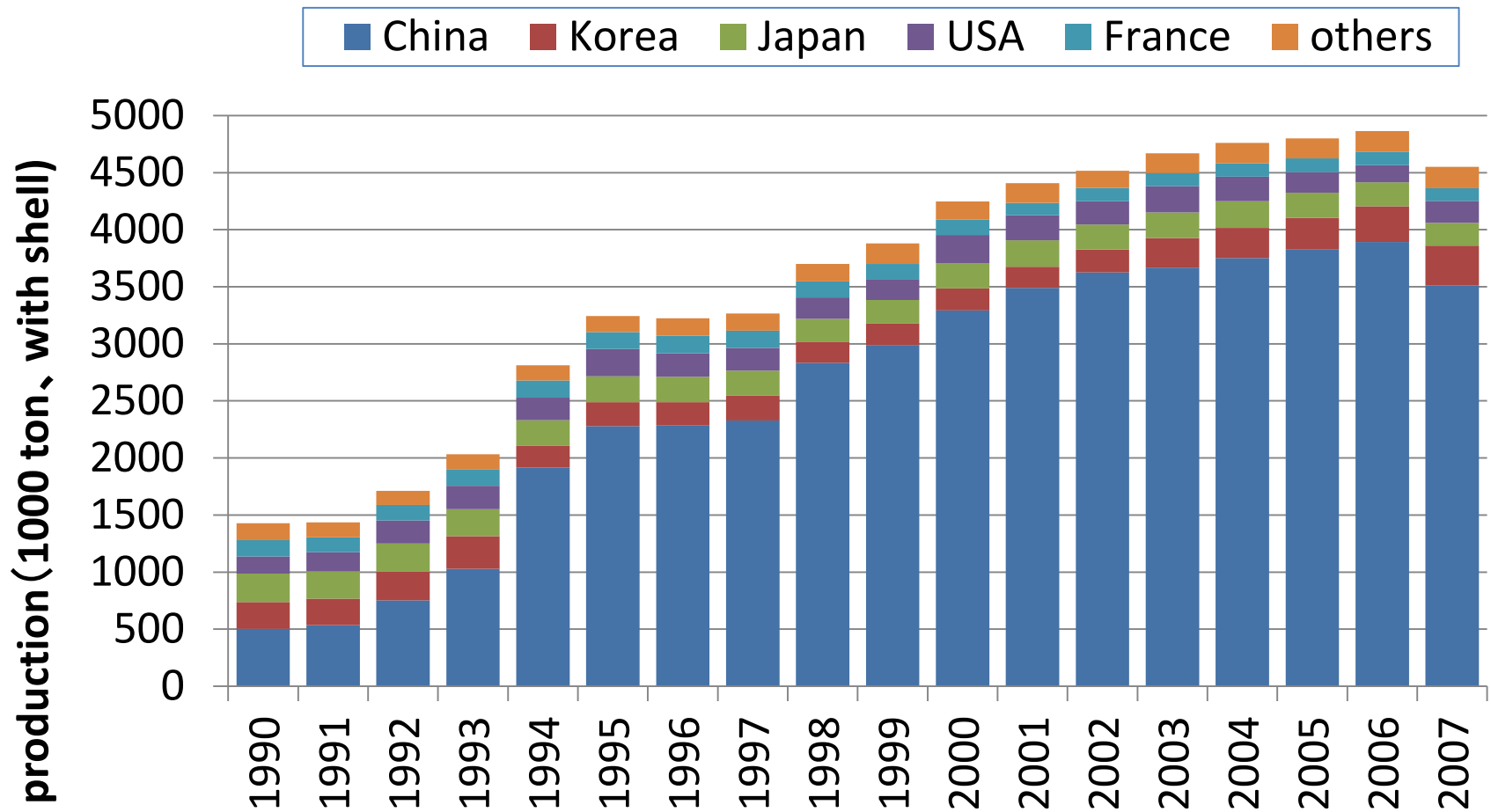
- Women and elderly person play a major role within oyster aquaculture in Japan
- However, a lot of foreigners have made entries into the land-based work of the oyster industry.

How is the significance of the work performed by women and elderly persons changing in fisheries, households, and communities?

# Objectives of my study

1. To draw out the roles of women and elderly persons in oyster aquaculture.
2. To consider how these roles are changing.
3. To consider the kinds of changes occurring in the oyster aquaculture sector and associated communities.

# Fig.1 Oyster Farming Production in the world



Source: FAO, Fishstat

# Oyster Production in Japan

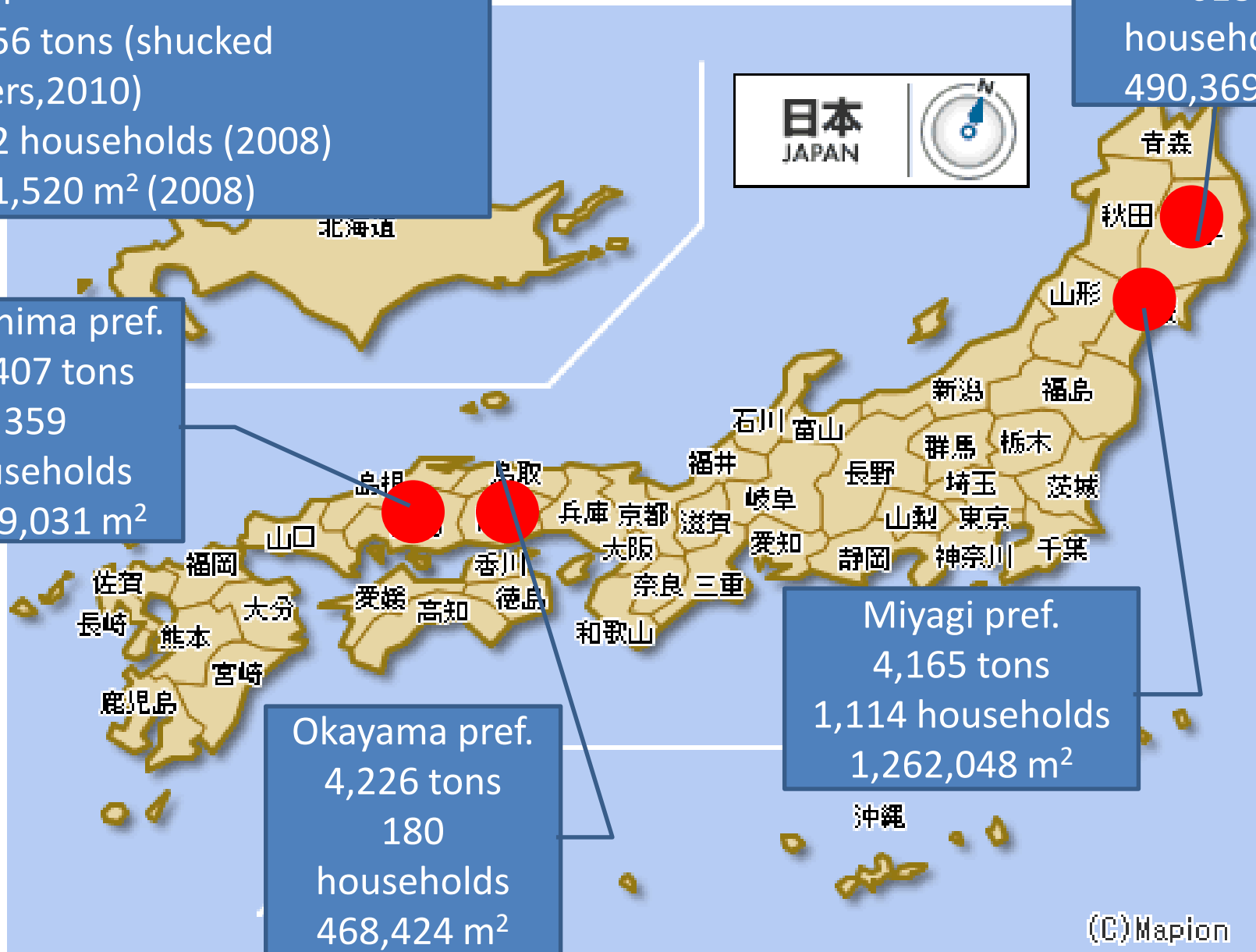
Japan  
32,956 tons (shucked oysters, 2010)  
4,222 households (2008)  
6,421,520 m<sup>2</sup> (2008)

Iwate pref.  
958 tons  
618 households  
490,369 m<sup>2</sup>

Hiroshima pref.  
19,407 tons  
359 households  
2,119,031 m<sup>2</sup>

Miyagi pref.  
4,165 tons  
1,114 households  
1,262,048 m<sup>2</sup>

Okayama pref.  
4,226 tons  
180 households  
468,424 m<sup>2</sup>

















# Case Study: the town of Oku

- One of the main oyster producing areas in Okayama prefecture
- Production (2011): 1,500 t
- Households (2011): 80





海燻 かいこん

オリーブオイル漬け  
牡蠣かきの燻製

牡蠣の家しおかせ



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オリーブオイル漬け  
牡蠣かきの燻製

牡蠣の家しおかせ



海餐の宴

甘口

牡蠣味噌

辛口の味を  
味増の旨みで  
味増の旨みで

海餐の宴

辛口

牡蠣味噌

辛口の味を  
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# Changes in communities

- Each household operation is growing larger in scale.
- Polarization of operations.

 These changes have been caused by the entry of Chinese workers.

# Conclusion and Discussion

1. Local women and elderly persons are losing work opportunities, sense of purpose, and their roles in the oyster aquaculture industry.
2. Women are acquiring new roles and importance in oyster aquaculture management.
3. Polarization of the industry is underway.

 The Japanese oyster aquaculture industry is undergoing massive changes at present.