

DIRECTIONS FOR APPLICATION
FOR
THE SPECIAL ADMISSION OF FOREIGN STUDENTS
FOR ADMISSION IN OCTOBER, 2016
(THREE-YEAR DOCTORAL COURSE)
The United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, Tottori University

The United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences (UGSAS), Tottori University, was founded in 1989 offering independent three-year Doctoral course. The UGSAS is organized on the bases of the three Master's Courses of Tottori, Shimane, and Yamaguchi Universities in the research facilities at the three universities. The UGSAS is operated in close alliance and cooperation with the Master's Courses of the three constituent Universities.

This graduate school aims to develop researchers and competent professionals who have the capabilities, in-depth knowledge, and advanced skills that enable them to pursue issues in agriculture and related fields, who can contribute to the development of science and technology, and meet the demands of regional communities and international society. Our Graduate School seeks foreign students, (1) who have the basic knowledge and academic ability required in each major field of bioproduction science, bioenvironmental science, bioresources science, and global arid land science; (2) who are motivated to acquire a higher level of expertise and skills and engage in original research by leveraging such expertise and skills; and (3) who are eager to contribute to the development of science and technology and the demands of regional and international communities.

1. FIELDS OF STUDY AND NUMBER OF STUDENTS FOR ADMISSION

- (1) Fields of Study: Applications for any field of bioproduction science, bioenvironmental science, bioresources science, and global arid land science are accepted, provided that each applicant selects a suitable academic major supervisor at UGSAS.
- (2) Number of Students for admission:
A limited number of students funded privately or by the other sources (hereafter "Personal Funds").

2. QUALIFICATIONS

- (1) Nationality: Applicants with personal funds should not be living in Japan at the time of application.
Applicants should be nationals from countries which have a diplomatic relation with Japan.
- (2) Age: There is no age limitation for applicants with Personal Funds.
- (3) Academic career: Applicants should have or be expected to earn a Master's degree or equivalent qualifications by the end of September 2016. Admission may be denied if successful applicants do not hold a Master's or equivalent degree by at the end of September 2016.
- (4) Health: Applicants should be in good mental and physical health.
- (5) Language proficiency: A good working level of English or Japanese is required.
- (6) Arrival in Japan: Accepted students must arrive in Japan between October 1 and 7, 2016.
- (7) Note:
 - (A) Applicants must have a recommendation from the dean of the faculty (or someone higher in position) of the university or institution from which they graduated.
 - (B) Applicants must be available for an interview with the members of the oral examination committee via videoconference or other means to take an oral examination.

3. APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION, EXAMINATION SCHEDULE, AND ADMISSION DECISIONS

	Deadline	Remarks
Application	April 1 (Fri.), 2016 – May 31 (Tue.), 2016	Submit the application through the desired major supervisor to the UGSAS.
Examination	An examination schedule (for an oral exam) will be reported to the applicant through the prospective major supervisor within 30 days of the submission of the application. The exam is scheduled sometime between May 2 (Mon.), 2016 and June 30 (Thu.), 2016.	An oral exam will be conducted as specified in Section 5 “Procedure for the Selection of Graduate Students.”
Admission Decisions	Admission decisions will be reported to the applicant through the prospective major supervisor within 30 days of the oral exam.	Acceptance letters will be mailed to successful applicants.

4. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

An applicant should submit the following documents through the desired major supervisor during an application period. Applications directly mailed to UGSAS are not accepted.

Documents:

- (1) Application Form (Use Form No. 1-2)
- (2) Photograph : One photograph (4 cm x 3 cm) should be pasted on the application form. Photograph should be taken from the front, from the chest up, bare-headed, and taken within the last three months.
- (3) Curriculum Vitae (Use Form No. 2)
- (4) A certificate for the Master's degree or a certificate issued by the applicant's graduate school indicating that the applicant will be receiving or has received a Master's degree by the end of September, 2016.
- (5) Evaluation : This evaluation must be written by the dean of the applicant's graduate school (Form No. 3 can be used).
- (6) Application Fee : 30,000 JPY (paid in cash).
- (7) Master's Thesis
 - (A) Applicants who have completed a Master's course:
 - (a) A copy of the Master's thesis, or published manuscript equivalent to the thesis.
 - (b) A summary of the Master's thesis in English (about 1,200 words). Use A4 paper and attach a cover sheet (Form No. 5).
 - (B) Applicants who anticipate receiving a Master's degree:
 - (a) Describe your research program in English (A4 size, about 5,000 words). This report may include tables and figures.
 - (b) A summary of the research program in English; details are the same as in ((A)-(b))
- (8) Research Proposal: Describe your research proposal (goal, objectives, experimental design). Use A4 paper and attach a cover sheet (Form No. 6)
- (9) Letter of Application: Describe why you chose our graduate course, and state your future goals. Use A4 paper and attach a cover sheet (Form No. 7)
- (10) Letter of Permission for Application (Use Form No. 8): If you are working for a public or private institution, arrange a letter of permission from your supervisor at your place of employment.
- (11) Copy of passport or Certificate of citizenship issued by the applicant's municipal authority.
- (12) Recommendation Letter from the president of the university or dean of the faculty.

Notes:

- ① These documents should be either typewritten or printed neatly in English or Japanese. Application forms can be downloaded from the Website (<http://rendai.muses.tottori-u.ac.jp/english/recruit/index.html>).
- ② Applications will not be accepted unless all documents are fully and correctly completed and delivered by the due dates.
- ③ None of the documents submitted will be returned to the applicants.
- ④ Each applicant should select a professor as the prospective major supervisor and contact the professor when preparing the application documents. Any application without nominating a professor as the major supervisor will not be accepted.
- ⑤ The application fee is nonrefundable once paid.

5. PROCEDURE FOR THE SELECTION OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

- (1) Graduate students will be selected through a comprehensive evaluation of the oral examination, the documents submitted, and other elements.
- (2) During an interview for the oral exam conducted via videoconference, at least three members of the oral exam committee (who are one or more faculty members of each of the constituent universities and which include the prospective major supervisor) will spend about 50 minutes reviewing the master's thesis and the research proposal (roughly 30 minutes for the description of the Master's thesis and 20 minutes for questions and answers).
- (3) The method of the oral exam is subject to approval by the board of representatives following the submission of the Notice of the Method of the Oral Exam (Form No. 12) by the prospective major supervisor to the dean of the faculty.

6. ADMISSION PROCEDURES, ETC.

- (1) Period of Admission Procedures: It is roughly scheduled for early September 2016. Successful applicants will be notified of the period at a later date.
- (2) Fees on entrance
 - (A) Admission fee: 282,000 JPY (proposed).
 - (B) Tuition: 267,900 JPY (proposed) for the first semester (annually 535,800 JPY). Tuition may be revised each school year.
 - (C) Personal accident insurance for students pursuing education and research: This insurance compensates for physical accidents students in intra-curricular activities both on and off campus, commuting to and from school, and extracurricular activities on campus. All the students enrolled shall be advised to enroll in the insurance. The insurance premium for three years is 2,600 JPY.

7. EDUCATION

The successful applicants will be enrolled as full-time graduate students and under supervision and instruction in English or Japanese. Each student is supervised by faculty members of the three constituent universities with a professor as a major supervisor and two professors as sub-supervisors. Although each student studies at a constituent university where the major supervisor resides, the student can use the training and research facilities at the other two constituent universities.

8. NOTE

- (1) If false statements were made in the application dossiers, admission shall be rejected even after having been accepted by the United Graduate School.
- (2) With enrollment, new students are advised to become well informed about the Japanese climate, customs, manners, and other cultural aspects in general before coming to Japan. It is strongly advised that they study the Japanese language. Knowledge of the Japanese language is very helpful to newcomers to Japan.

More detailed information and all correspondence about this program is available from the following:

The United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, Tottori University

4-101, Koyama-Minami, Tottori, 680-8553, Japan

Tel: +81-857-31-5446 Fax: +81-857-31-5683 (81 is the international code for Japan)

E-mail: ag-rengaku@adm.tottori-u.ac.jp

Address of Constituent Universities:

*Tottori University

Faculty of Agriculture, Tottori University, 4-101, Koyama-Minami, Tottori, 680-8553, Japan

Tel: +81-857-31-5346 Fax: +81-857-31-5347 (81 is the international code for Japan)

*Shimane University

Faculty of Life and Environmental Science, Shimane University, 1060, Nishikawatsu, Matsue, 690-8504, Japan

Tel: +81-852-32-6492 Fax: +81-852-32-6499 (81 is the international code for Japan)

*Yamaguchi University

Faculty of Agriculture, Yamaguchi University, 1677-1, Yoshida, Yamaguchi, 753-8515 Japan

Tel: +81-83-933-5800 Fax: +81-83-933-5820 (81 is the international code for Japan)

List of Major Supervisors and their Research Interests

The United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences offers doctoral programs in the following four major courses : Bioproduction Science ; Bioenvironmental Science ; Bioresources Science and Global Arid Land Science. Each course contains one to three Divisions ; and each Division offers basic and applied research programs. Faculty members (Professors and Associate Professors who serve as Major Supervisors) and their active research programs are listed below.

1. THE COURSE OF BIOPRODUCTION SCIENCE

(a) Division of Agricultural Production Science

Toshiki ASAO (SN)	Vegetable and Ornamental Science	Production of vegetables and ornamentals
Hiroyuki ITAMURA (SN)	Postharvest Physiology of Fruits	Studies on the physiological changes in fruit ripening
Tohru KOBATA (SN)	Crop Science	Eco-physiological study for the improvement of crop production
Nobuo KOBAYASHI (SN)	Horticultural Breeding	Evaluation of plant genetic resources and applications for breeding
Donghe XU*(TT)	Plant genetic resources	Genetic studies on environmental stress tolerance in crops
Tadashi TAKAHASHI (YG)	Crop Science	Establishment of low-cost and low-input crop cultivation systems
Fumio TAMURA (TT)	Physiology of Fruit Trees	Studies on the control of endodormancy in Japanese pears
Akira NAKATSUKA (SN)	Molecular Breeding of Horticultural Crop	Molecular breeding for agriculturally useful traits in horticulture crops
Yoshimichi FUKUTA*(TT)	Crop Breeding and Genetics	Breeding sciences for diversity, differentiation, and genetic mechanism for agricultural traits in rice
Shingo MATSUMOTO (SN)	Biochemistry of Soil and Plant Nutrition	Studies on the mechanism of plant nutrient acquisition in relation to soil fertility
Toshikazu MATSUMOTO (SN)	Fruit science	Studies on fruit growing and processed food
Haruhiko YAMAMOTO (YG)	Environmental Information Science	Growth diagnosis of plant canopies by optical measuring methods

Abbreviations; TT : Tottori University, SN : Shimane University, YG : Yamaguchi University.

* ; Cooperation with Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences

(b) Division of Forest Resources Science

Katsuhisa ITO (SN)	Forest Policy	Forests, forestry and less-favored area problems and policy
Ryota NAGASAWA (TT)	Landscape Ecology	Landscape ecological analysis on the physical and human environment in mountainous regions
Yoshiyuki HIOKI (TT)	Conservation and Restoration Planning of Ecosystem	Ecological planning and engineering for conservation and restoration of biodiversity
Takaaki FUJIMOTO (TT)	Wood physics	Analysis of wood property variation, and development of measurement techniques

(c) Division of Managerial Economics

Yasuhiro ITO (SN)	History of Fisheries	Study on history of agricultural, fisheries and rural problems in modern Japan
Kazuyoshi UCHIDA (SN)	History of Agriculture	Study on the modernization process of agricultural science in Japan
Makoto NOHMI (TT)	Rural Economics	Development and application of regional analysis methods
Hideo FURUTSUKA (TT)	Agricultural Accounting	The establishment of financial accounting standards for family farms and cost accounting of farm produce
Toshinobu MATSUDA (TT)	Economics of Consumer Behavior	Empirical analysis of consumer behavior, especially food demand
Li WAN (TT)	Marketing Information Analytics	Agricultural products distribution channels and econometric analysis of market information

2. THE COURSE OF BIOENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

(a) Division of Production Environmental Engineering

Koji INOSAKO (TT)	Soil and Water Management	Conservation, restoration and sustainable use of soil and water environment
Hidehiko OGATA (TT)	Irrigation and Drainage Facilities Engineering	Evaluation of construction materials and structural performance of irrigation and drainage structures
Ichiro KITA (SN)	Water and Vegetation use Planning	Water use planning and management, and improvement by vegetation
Hiroaki SOMURA (SN)	River basin Environmental Engineering	Study on integrated lake watershed conservation and management
Ikuo TAKEDA (SN)	Water Quality and Hydrology	Evaluation and control of nonpoint sources in watersheds
Akira YANO (SN)	Bioenvironmental Electrical Engineering	Application of electrical engineering to bioenvironmental technologies

(b) Division of Environmental Science

Tadanori AIMI (TT)	Biochemical Technology of Microorganisms	Biochemistry, molecular biology and biotechnology of microbial production
Futoshi ARANISHI (SN)	Genetic Ecology	Molecular evolutionary, ecological and conservative genetics of aquatic organisms
Atsushi ISHIHARA (TT)	Natural Product Chemistry	Function, Biological activity, and Biosynthesis of metabolites produced by plants and microorganisms
Tsuyoshi ICHIYANAGI (TT)	Organic Chemistry	The molecular design and functional analysis of bioactive compounds
Kazuhito ITOH (SN)	Soil Microbiology	Plant- microbe interaction
Shinichi ITO (YG)	Plant Pathology	Functional genomics of plant pathogens
Makoto UENO (SN)	Plant Pathology	Studies on the expression of resistance in plant-microbe interaction
Junichi KIHARA (SN)	Plant Pathology	Photoresponses of the phytopathogenic fungi
Motoichiro KODAMA (TT)	Plant Pathology	Molecular mechanisms in plant-microbe interactions and plant disease resistance
Toshio SATO (SN)	Environmental Sanitary Engineering	Development of new technology and functional materials for wastewater treatment systems and control of environmental water quality
Norihiro SHIMOMURA (TT)	Mushroom Breeding and Cultivation	Studies on breeding and cultivation of mushroom resources
Yoko TAKEMATSU (YG)	Ecological Entomology	Biodiversity and ecology of termites
Akira NAKAGIRI (TT)	Fungal Biodiversity	Taxonomy, ecology and evolution of fungi adapted to aquatic habitats
Nitaro MAEKAWA (TT)	Mushroom Taxonomy and Ecology	Biodiversity and ecological function of mushrooms
Teruyuki MATSUMOTO (TT)	Bioscience of Fungal Genetic Resources	Isolation and analysis of useful genes from fungal genetic resources and their utilization
Ryoichi MIYANAGA (SN)	Insect Ecology	Biology and management of wild bees

3. THE COURSE OF BIORESOURCES SCIENCE

(a) Division of Bioscience and Biotechnology

Kazuhiro AKAMA (SN)	Plant Molecular Biology	Study on regulatory mechanism of tRNA gene expression and physiological function of γ -aminobutyric acid in plants
Hiroyuki AZAKAMI (YG)	Molecular Microbiology	Molecular mechanisms of bacterial colonization to host surface
Masaaki AZUMA (TT)	Molecular Entomology	Molecular analysis of insect cell functions and their application to insect control
Jiro ARIMA (TT)	Bio-Functional Chemistry	Functional analysis of enzymes and microorganisms, and their application to industry
Takahiro ISHIKAWA (SN)	Plant Molecular Physiology	Biosynthesis pathway of antioxidants and metabolism of reactive oxygen species in photosynthetic organisms
Yoshihisa OZOE (SN)	Chemical Biology	Mechanisms of biomolecular signaling of neurotransmitter receptors and ion channels
Makoto KAWAMUKAI (SN)	Genetic Engineering	Signal transduction, cell cycle control and biosynthesis of coenzyme Q in yeasts
Akihiko KOSUGI* (TT)	Applied Microbiology	Development of biomass utilization technology using microbial functions
Yoshihiro SAWA (SN)	Enzyme Science	Structure and function of the enzymes involved in amino acid metabolism
Tsuyoshi NAKAGAWA (SN)	Plant Molecular Genetics	Molecular mechanisms of plant development and technology for analysis of plant genes
Akio NISHIKAWA (SN)	Developmental Biology-Animal	Studies using amphibian about cell growth, differentiation, apoptosis, and morphogenesis
Takashi MATSUZAKI (SN)	Developmental Biology	Mechanisms of development and regeneration of skin and its appendages
Jun'ichi MANO (YG)	Mechanisms of Environmental Stress-tolerance in Plants	Elucidation and application of plant tolerance mechanisms against abiotic environmental stresses

(b) Division of Applied Bioresources Chemistry

Tsuyoshi KAWANO (TT)	Bioorganic Chemistry	Regulation of diapause, metabolism and longevity corresponding to the growth environment
Tatsuyuki YAMAMOTO (SN)	Bio-molecular spectroscopy	Spectroscopic studies on life science and medical applications
Kazushige YOKOTA (SN)	Biochemistry and Molecular Cell Biology	Molecular cell biology of food and related substances involved in bioinformation, nutrition, and health
Fumio WATANABE (TT)	Food Science	Chemistry and nutrition of vitamin B12 and related compounds in food

4. THE COURSE OF GLOBAL ARID LAND SCIENCE

(a) Division of Global Arid Land Science

Kinya AKASHI (TT)	Molecular and Cellular biology	Molecular responses of drought-tolerant plants and their application to molecular breeding
Toshiyoshi ICHINOHE (SN)	Livestock Feeding	Evaluation of ruminants production system
Yasuomi IBARAKI (YG)	Bio-environmental Control Engineering	Environmental control in plant production
Reiji KIMURA (TT)	Boundary Layer Meteorology	Heat and water balance in arid lands
Hisashi TSUJIMOTO (TT)	Molecular Breeding	Breeding of drought tolerant crop lines by gene and chromosome engineering
Atsushi TSUNEKAWA (TT)	Conservation Informatics	Monitoring and modeling of plant production and ecosystem change in drylands
Haruyuki FUJIMAKI (TT)	Soil Conservation	Development of methods for preventing salt accumulation and erosion and remediation of degraded soils
Tsugiyuki MASUNAGA (SN)	Pedosphere Ecological Engineering	Control and use of soil functions of environmental protection-restoration and plant production
Hiroshi YASUDA (TT)	Arid Environmetrics	Research on aqua system environmetrics in arid lands
Norikazu YAMANAKA (TT)	Revegetation in Arid Land	Ecological studies on woody plants in arid lands
Sadahiro YAMAMOTO (TT)	Environmental Soil Science	Conservation of soil environment and sustainable use of farmland in arid regions