Great earthquake, Tsunami and radioactive pollution

# Organic agriculture movement to overcome disaster

Organic is Life The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

Uozumi Michio, JOAA vice-president

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## Ladies, and gentlemen, from all over the world he 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 let me begin by apologizing to all of you. Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

- 1) I want to deeply apologize to everyone in the world for the radioactivity from our country that has polluted the atmosphere, the soil, and the ocean on the earth.
- 2) We also sincerely wish to express our gratitude for the warm support from so many countries.
- 3) The Japanese Organic Agriculture Association (JOAA) has been encouraging the organic agricultural movement for 40 years. We are determined to do our best to get over this difficulty of the earthquake and radioactive contamination through the organic agricultural movement. Our wish is to be united with people in the world, and creating a world without radiation poisoning.
- 4) I also want to speak about the core that ties the life in the world together. I want to discuss the meaning of "humus" in organic farming, and how the continent and the ocean are connected through humus. We call this the "River-basin area self-sufficiency through humus, connecting forests, farms and the ocean."



## Outline

- 1) Ten days before the great earthquake
- 2) March 11, 2011 East Japan great earthquake and nuclear accident
- 3) Bringing rescue, reconstruction and support to the stricken areas
- 4) Ocean revival through organic farming and forest-farm-ocean cooperation
- 5) Mother Earth: Organic farming and radioactive contamination
- 6) Conclusion



The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

# Ten days before the great earthquake With our companions from Britain



## March 1, 2011 British Soil Association visits Japan

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We visited the Pocket Farm Doki-Doki in Ibaraki prefecture





Explaining traditional hot bed of compost with fallen leaves in Uozumi Farm





# Compost : the process of formation of humus

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fermenting compost (later this compost is polluted by radiation)



# Our rich soil

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2. March 11,2011 East Japan great earthquake Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

# March 11, 2011 East Japan great earthquake, tsunami and nuclear accident



## Tsunami

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Kesennuma Miyagi prefecture



# March 12, The hydrogen explosions at the Fukushima nuclear reactors

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Meltdown Hydrogen explosion



March 12 Hydrogen explosion at reactor #1 (Source: BBC)



(Source: Air Photo Service Co.Ltd)



March 14 Hydrogen explosion also at react or #3 (Source: Kyodo)



March 14 Satellite image (Source: U.S. Digital Globe)



## Radioactive contamination

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Concentration du césium 137







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# Extension to the world of Radioactive contamination

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(Source: CTBTO)



# Bringing rescue, reconstruction and support to the stricken areas

Spirit of cooperation cultivated by the organic agricultural movement

"Let's become the victim's eyes, become their ears, and their mouths" Toyohiko Kagawa (1880-1960)\*

\* Japanese founder of cooperatives



# Organic farmers meeting in IbarakiThe 17th IFOAM OWC 2011for stricken area rescue and supportGyeonggi Paldang, Korea

### April 6, 2011



It was held in the same meeting space where we held a party for the visitors from the Soil Association one month earlier



## Organic food was brought as support to the stricken area every week

### We collect our organic foods and carried with our own hands





## Together with people in the stricken area

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### Kesennuma, Miyagi prefecture











## Bring food to the stricken area !

### The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

### Kesennuma, Miyagi prefecture



### Rescue operation



## Stricken area support : With farmers and fishermen

Stricken area support: Organic farmers support the revival of local fishermen



April 2, 2011 at a liquefied ground of fish processing factory in Nakaminato, Ibaraki prefecture The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea









## In the stricken areas (March)

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### Ishinomaki, Miyagi prefecture





## **Supporting the reconstruction**

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April 16-21, 2011 cooperative staffs and organic farmers start the reconstruction support for the stricken area in Ishinomaki











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# Together with organic farmers in Fukushima Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

May 17, 2011 Support meeting for organic farmers and consumers in Fukushima





# The forest is the lover of the ocean

# Ocean revival !

Earthquake revival prayer afforestation festival

The people of the forest, the people of the sea, and the people of the farm gather together in the forest.

Symbol of returning to life: Hikobae (Eng. Ratoon)



# Ocean revival is linked upstream rivers and mountains

The cherished rich fishery grounds of the Kesennuma Bay are linked to the upstream region of the Okawa river reaching the mountains of Yagoshiyama, Ichinoseki,Iwate prefecture







## Farmers and fishermen joining hands to plant trees in the forest

The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

Mr. Hatakeyama, author of "Forest is the lover of the ocean"



(Photo by K.Nakamura)

Mr. Uozumi in the hand of booklet "The forest-farm-ocean self-sufficiency





# Organic farmers and Teikei consumers planting trees in the forest

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# June 5, 2011 Revival prayer afforestation festival

The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea





### The forest is the eternal lover of the sea

Let's believe! We cultivate the hikobae (Eng. ratoon, sprout) spirit in our minds as we gather for the ocean





## Mr. Hatakeyama Parent and son of oyster fisherman

### The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea



(Photo by K.Nakamura)



(Photo by K.Nakamura)



## From the disaster-stricken area of KesennumaThe 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 to the mountains and forests Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea



Fisherman, farmer, cooperative, expert discussing about the radioactive pollution and how to prevent it to the farm and sea.

(Photo by K.Nakamura)





(Photo by K.Nakamura)



# Revival plan: Organic agriculture, forestry<br/>and fisheries revival projectThe 17th IFOAM OWC 2011Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

- 1) Stricken area support by organic farmers and Teikei consumers after the earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear accident
- 2) Self-sufficiency cooperation for the river-basin that reflects the concept of "Forests, farms, and the ocean" in the revival plan
- 3) Revival plan proposal to aim at disaster measures and river-basin self-sufficiency
- 4) We expect it to be based on the function of organic humus and clay and microorganisms
- 5) Importance of agriculture and saving food for emergencies.Installation proposal for "Organic farming parks" with disaster prevention function in metropolitan areas and cities



# The concept of "Forests, farms, and ocean The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 connected by humus" Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

The forest where rich humus is originating

1)The forest life is enriched, and the mountain is maintained

2)This becomes the humus supply source for organic farming

3)All living things on the farm and in the ocean are enriched

4)This becomes biomass energy sources such as charcoal and firewood

5)The rivers, underground water, lakes,marshes ,and ocean will not be polluted by materials such as radioactive substances or agricultural chemicals



Organic farming and radioactive contamination

# Mother Earth adsorb and fix Cesium in the ground

The significance of the humus-claymicroorganism organic complex in the soil



# Fallout of radioactive material before the accident in Fukushima

### The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea





**Source :** Komamura,M.Tsumura,A.Yamaguchi,N.Fujiwara,E.Kihou,N.Kodaira.K (2006) Long-term Monitoring and Analysis of <sup>90</sup>Sr and <sup>137</sup>Cs concentration in Rice,Wheat and Soils in Japan from 1959 to 2000 Bulletin of National Institute For Agro-Environmental Sienses No.24 1-21



# Concentration of radioactive contamination the 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 of soil before the accident in Fukushima Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea



on the Japan Sea side and on the Pacific Ocean side

Source : Komamura, M.Tsumura, A.Yamaguchi, N.Fujiwara, E.Kihou, N.Kodaira.K (2006) Long-term Monitoring and Analysis of <sup>90</sup>Sr and <sup>137</sup>Cs concentration in Rice, Wheat and Soils in Japan from 1959 to 2000 Bulletin of National Institute For Agro-Environmental Sienses No.24 1-21



## Transition of contamination levels of rice The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 and wheat before the Fukushima accident Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea



**Source :** Komamura,M.Tsumura,A.Yamaguchi,N.Fujiwara,E.Kihou,N.Kodaira.K (2006) Long-term Monitoring and Analysis of <sup>90</sup>Sr and <sup>137</sup>Cs concentration in Rice,Wheat and Soils in Japan from 1959 to 2000 Bulletin of National Institute For Agro-Environmental Sienses No.24 1-21



### The shock of radioactive contamination

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- 1) Due to the radioactive contamination by this nuclear power plant disaster, many farmers and consumers felt hopeless
- 2) It will take a considerable time until we see the end of the nuclear power plant disaster
- 3) However, we did not become confused and never gave in to our worst fears







### Cooperating with Teikei consumers

Teikei consumers came to harvest onions at the Uozumi farm where the soil was polluted by radioactive (200Bq/kg Cecium)



## **Soil contamination**

The soil pollution distribution map which the government released



farmland soil. Source: Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (August 30, 2011)



# Pollution investigation activities by citizens Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea



Hotspots with high levels of radioactivity

茨城県守谷市 放射能汚染マップ(拡大) 空間線量(地上1cm µSv/h) 凡例の数値は1000倍に拡大(500=0.5µSv)



市民による放射能汚染調査 茨城県取手市 空間線量(地上0~1cm nSv/h)



Action by Joso Co-op in Ibaraki prefecture



# Screening of ragioactive in the organic farmland

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### Inspection of the radioactivity soil and crops Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

Joso Co-op support Inspection of the radioactivity soil and crops





【 分析条件 】 バックグラウンド補正 減衰補正			:BG補正あり (BG測定日時:2011/07/14 (木) 13:49:00 ) :測定時の放射能濃度を計算 (減衰補正OFF)					
L	放射能定	量結果】						
No	判定	核種名	エネルギー (keV)	ネット面積±誤差 (Counts)	放射能濃度±誤差 (Bq/kg)	検出限界 (Bq/kg)		
1	不検出	I-131	364, 48	N. D.	N. D.	2.96E+01		
2	検出	CS-137	661,65	1.07E+03 ± 7.87E+01	1,44E+02 ± 1.37E+01	3.84E+01		
3	検出	CS-134	795.845	1. 27E+03 ± 4. 45E+01	1.87E+02 ± 1.30E+01	4.09E+01		
4	検出	K-40	1460.81	2. 10E+02 ± 2. 23E+01	4. 91E+02 $\pm$ 5. 60E+01	2. 98E+02		
						the set of a set of a set of the		









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### The Uozumi Farm map in Ibaraki prefecture Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea



### 1) Uozumi Farm (Ibaraki prefecture)

Field		Soil c	contami	nation(	Bq/kg)	Translation to plant (Bq/kg)					
N⁰	Area	Org	131I	137Cs	134Cs	Cs Total	Crop	131I	137Cs	134Cs	Cs Total
1	<b>60</b> a	23Y	N.D.	52.0	37.6	90	Winter melon				
2	12a	23Y	N.D.	57.3	48.1	105	Wheat	N.D.	18.0	19.3	37
3	<b>15</b> a	25Y	N.D.	122.0	101.0	223	Rice				
4	<b>15</b> a	15Y	N.D.	101.0	92.7	194	Wheat	N.D.	18.0	19.3	37
5	10a	20Y	N.D.	88.7	85.7	174	Green onion	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
6	22a	20Y	N.D.	84.3	89.5	174	Eggplant	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
8	21a	20Y	N.D.	117.0	103.0	220	Pumpkin	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
9	20a	15Y	N.D.	68.8	52.9	122	Potato	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
10	30a	20Y	N.D.	106.0	83.9	190	Chinese chive	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
1	12a	20Y	N.D.	86.9	84.7	172	Eggplant	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
12	20a	20Y	N.D.	118.0	117.0	235	Potato	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
13	40a	23Y	N.D.	131.0	117.0	248	Watermelon	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
14	40a	20Y	N.D.	101.0	121.0	222	Pumpkin	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
15	<b>6</b> a	20Y	N.D.	123.0	125.0	248	Onion	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.

Table 5-1

# Soil-to-plant transfer of Cs (2)

### The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

### 2) 3 different located farm (Fukushima prefecture)

farm	Field	Soil contamination(Bq/kg)				Translation to plant ( <b>Bq/kg</b> )				
	N⁰	131I	137Cs	134Cs	Cs Total	Crop	131I	137Cs	134Cs	Cs Total
Y Farm	1	N.D.	17,700	15,500	33,200	Grass	N.D.	1,130	1,010	2,140
Kawamata	2	N.D.	18,300	16,000	34,300	Grass	N.D.	80	66	146
	1	N.D.	1,230	1,070	2,300	Potato	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
	2	N.D.	965	871	1,830	Carrot	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
O Farm	3	N.D.	2,250	1980	4,230	Cucumber	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
Nihonmatsu	4	N.D.	1,620	1430	3,050	Eggplant	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
	5	N.D.	1,780	1,550	3,330	Sunflowers	N.D.	21.5	16.3	37.8
	6	N.D.	2,120	1,830	3,950	Rice				
H Farm	1	N.D.	704	603	1,307	Green onion	N.D.	15.5	N.D.	15.5
Tamura	2	N.D.	416	374	790					



X The abandoned Y Farm, which is located inside the designated evacuation zone







Table 5-2

# The amount of cesium is absorbed through the roots was less than 1 / 10 of the soil contamination levels.

Wheat seems to be absorbed from the leaf is large.

※Previous research results by Tsukada (Institute of Environmental Sciences) (right→)

\*As the type and property of Japanese soil is different from Russian podzol soil, especially regarding transit factor or accumulation factor,

it is not possible to apply it as it is.

0.0	01	0.01	0.11	1
白米	0.0016			
ニンニク	0.003	3		
カボチャ		0.011		
ダイコン		0.02	3	
メロン		0.02	25	
キャベツ		0.0	26	
バレイショ		0.	030	
トマト		(	0.035	
ニンジン			0.037	
ハクサイ			0.067	
キュウリ			0.069	
牧草			0	.14

Cs-137移行係数



### Uozumi farm's soil, the loamy layer of the Kanto Plain



# Allophane Andosol, major clay minerals

Uozumi farm soil carried the X-diffraction of clay minerals.

Major clay minerals	Clay mixed	Other Minerals		
	Chlorite(Ch)	Quartz(Qz)		
	Gibbsite(Gb)	Plagioclase(Pl)		
Allophane(A)	Illite(It)*	Cristobalite(Cr)		
	Chlorite rocks and 🔤 🚪			
5	Vermiculite(Ch-Vt)*			
	Kaolin mineral(Kn)*			
Table 5-4	* Trace level	(Parino Sarvey Analysis Inc.).		

Japanese Society of Soil Science and Plant Nutrition says "70% of cesium adsorption clay, and its main adsorption of cesium is illite (2:1type clay mineral)"

Uozumi farm soil is a typical Japanese soil : "allophane Andosol". But **illite was only trace levels**. However the amount of cesium was less than 1 / 10 of the soil contamination levels.

Added: Uozumi farm soil's CEC was 49.4me/100g,Humus was 7.41%, Degree of base saturation was 42.7%.

Japanese Society's opinion might be biased. Will not it do not understand the whole picture of the living soil?



### whole picture of the living soil

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## Clay particles form a aggregate structure The 1 with hummus and microorganism

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### Humus-clay-microorganism organic complex 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea



### Humus have high Cesium adsorption power Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

#### Cesium is adsorbed to the carboxyl group of humus Soil microorganisms live in the space Hyumin between the clay particles aggregate Snmr macro-micro aggregate. Humic acid Over 90% of microorganisms are adsorbed on the surface of humus Hydrophilic fulvic acid and clay, which forms living world. Fulvic acid Hydrophobic fulvic acid Clay Aggregate structure is due to humus and metabolic products of coordinate bond microorganisms Humus has been coodinated Carboxyl group <sup>₽</sup> Virus humus Ligand COO-H+(OH-COO- (H2O exchange : The Mart of M & Bacteria Humus Humus 0-H+(OH-) (H<sub>2</sub>O) Filamentous fungi Hydroxy group OC=0Alga COO-Cs+ Protist 1 9 C=0Carboxylate Cation **Humus** Soil animals exchange Soil particles Sllt Macro aggregate Micro aggregate Clay particle $0^{-}Cs^{+}$ 0.1 1 10 100 1,000 Size (µm)

Figure 5-18

**Figure 5-19** Modify Hiradate.S "Soil Humic Substances : their Chemical Structures and Functions "(2007)

Figure 5-20

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### Hypothesis of Japanese Society

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 The 2:1 type stratiform silical acid base mineral has a layer structure, composed of two sheets; one is a silicon tetrahedral sheet that consists of silicon and oxygen, and anoth er sheet is an aluminum octagonal sheet that consists of aluminum and oxygen. The al uminum octagonal sheet is sandwiched in between two silicon tetrahedral sheets.



 As it rains and the sun shines, the radioactive cesium is slowly and repeatedly taken into the sheet of minute mica (illite) crystals. It takes time for the soil to adsorb radioactive Cesium.



# Total power of the humus-clay-microorganism complex

- 1) The cesium is absorbed and fixed by the humus-clay-microorganism organic complex in the soil, and the shift to crops is greatly reduced
- 2) The CEC (Cation Exchange Capacity) of the soil is said to reveal the power to maintain the fertility and the buffer function. It consists of the collective strength of organic the organic humus-clay-microorganism complex.
- 3) It appears that organic farming methods which use humus have high Cesium adsorption power, and also promote the Cesium fixation. This prevents not only absorption by crops but also helps avoid contamination due to the outflow of Cesium from the cultivated land into groundwater and rivers. Thus it must be said that organic farming can play a very significant role in dealing with radioactive contamination.
- 4) Unfortunately, modern agricultural soil science in Japan, based as it is on reductionism and analysis, cannot understand this concept that the organic humusclay-microorganism complex is living soil as a whole. Missing the role and the meaning of humus, they only consider the function of the clay.



## The topsoil is the farmer's "treasure"

As a fisherman lives from the sea, the farmer scatters seeds on the ground and lives from it

- 1) Some researchers have voiced the opinion that we should not cultivate the polluted soil and instead "scrape away the topsoil and make a mountain"
- 2) The topsoil layer takes about 10 years or more than 10 years to be completed. The fields of organic farming are "a farmer's treasure."
- 3) I regard it as ignorant to claim that topsoil removal will lead to safe farming
- 4) Organic farming cherishes the healthy crops from the rich world of the soil with microbes and humus in abundance, and circulation of organic and inorganic material
- 5) Healthier crops are made from enriching the topsoil linking it directly to the health of crops. By eating such crops, public health will be much improved.
- 6) A farmer who scatters seeds and farms his crops keeping his animals continuously, is maintaining life itself. As a fisherman lives from the sea, a farmer lives from the ground.



- 1) Mother Earth: The formation of aggregate of soil, water retention, breathability will help maintain a rich life in the soil
- 2) Plant health, livestock health, human health: This is organic farming's principle
- 3) An abundance of phytoplankton by fulvic acid iron, an abundance of seaweed and fish and shellfish, reviving the rich sea ... "The forest is the lover of the ocean." Oyster farmer Hatakeyama Shigeatsu, Kesennuma, Miyagi prefecture. Hummus consist of Fulvic acid,Humic acid,and Hyumin.
- 4) Radioactive cesium is fixed and the absorption to crops is prevented
- 5) Use humus to fix the radioactivity which can flow into groundwater, rivers, or the ocean, and the contamination to living organisms is reduced



# Methods to deal with the radioactivity in soil Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

(From the viewpoint of practical agriculture based on actual conditions in the field)

1)By using compost actively we can adsorb and fix radioactive Cesium with humus and clay. This is what helps the farmer avoid a situation where the crops will absorb the radioactive Cesium.

2)Deep tillage lowers the concentration of contamination: (Rotary, plough, subsoiler)

3)Topsoil is not scraped away.

4)Supply zeolite so that Cesium is adsorbed and does not shift to crops



# Deep tillage by 32Hp tractor attached subsoiler

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Subsoiler can destroy the hard subsoil and till the soil about 30-40cm depth then we can reduce the concentration of Cesium.





## After deep tillage subsoiler

The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

rotary





## Promote humus production ! and "Compost Waku-Waku Movement"

- 1) It has been proven in the world of organic farming since A. Howa rd that humus is the key to the health of crops, animals, and hum an beings
- 2) Humus fixes cesium and radioactivity ceases to be absorbed into crops. We should promote the production of compost to produce more humus.
- 3) We should promote and extend organic farming and encourage t he conversion of the agriculture of Japan which is exposed to rad ioactive contamination. Citizens are becoming involved in conver sion campaigns to understand the importance of resource circula tion and to not waste energy. We call this campaign the Compost Waku-Waku Movement. (Note: Jp. Waku-waku means excited, th rilled)



## Enhance immunity in our body !

- 1) Many people are anxious about the influence on their health from radioactivity
- 2) Our best defense against getting sick from radioactive contamination is to strengthen the function of our immune systems.
- 3) In order to boost the immune system, we should eat healthy crops and healthy living beings (livestock, animals) and have healthy human relationships. Organic agriculture is the foundation, and there is no other way to become healthier.
- 4) Soil and health: We can only maintain our health by continuing to eat organic foods filled with the vitality of the ground. In Japanese, we have the expression "身土不二" (Shin-do-fu-ji) which means, "We should not think that the body and soil are separated." It is an ancient message from our ancestors, teaching us that we should eat the foods produced locally in the area and foods which the body request according to the season.
- 5) If we are anxious about radioactivity and not eating properly due to lack of appetite, it will be impossible to maintain our health. It is very important to continue eating the traditional foods of Japan, such as a lot of green vegetables with vitamins and minerals and fiber, in addition to fermented food, such as miso (soy bean paste) and soy sauce, or seaweed and cereals.





The 17th IFOAM OWC 2011 Gyeonggi Paldang, Korea

# Conclusion



## Conclusion

- 1) We found the power of the humus-clay-microorganism complex, and its buffer capacity to bind and fix radioactive materials. Cesium transition is less to crops. We are convinced that the foundation of all health is the humus of the soil.
- 2) After the great earthquake, tsunami and nuclear accident in Japan, we are certain that there will be much more cooperation. There is a sense of revival and regeneration as we consider the links between forests, farms and ocean. We have realized that we had forgotten how to live properly. We now have the feeling that we need to help each other.
- 3) Let us ignite the cooperative spirit that cultivated in the organic agriculture movement.
- 4) Now is the time to promote organic agriculture with strong confidence. This is our message to the world.

Thank you. **감사합니다** 

