

History of Hokuren

- 1919 April Official approval granted to establish Hokuren
- 1923 July Joins Zenkoren
- 1931 April Joins Zenhanren
- 1932 March Completion of warehouse in Tokyo
- 1934 August Notsukeushi (now Kitami) Mint Factory begins operation
- 1935 December Otaru Bean Selection and Starch Factory begins operation
- 1938 November Otaru Seed Sorting Factory begins operation
- 1942 January Merges with Dairy Federation; integrates branches of the Central Union of Industrial Associations, inaugurated as Hokuren
- 1943 December Hokuno established; a branch set up in each Hokkaido Subprefectural district in addition to existing branches
- 1948 June Inaugural general meetings of Hokkoren and Hokuhanren
- 1954 October Registration of incorporation of the Hokkaido Economic Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives completed and established (Hokkoren and Hokuhanren integrated)
- 1958 October Nakashari Sugar Beets Factory begins operation
- 1959 August Name changed to Hokuren Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives
Nakashari Starch Factory begins operation
- 1960 March Beet seed production begins at Memanbetsu
December Start manufacture of beans packaged in small bags and katakuriko starch
- 1961 September Memuro Starch Factory begins operation
- 1962 October Shimizu Sugar Beets Factory begins operation
- 1964 September Completion of No. 1 Hokuren Gas Station (Tanno Town Agricultural Cooperative)
- 1965 May Establishment of Hokuren Market Co., Ltd.
October Opening of Sapporo Rice Station
- 1967 November Opening of Central Poultry Farm (Iwamizawa)
- 1969 May Inauguration of Kumiai Chain
September Hokuren Pearl Rice launched on the market
- 1970 December Kitami Area Grain Preparation Factory begins operation
- 1971 September Opening of Sapporo Egg Distribution Center
- 1972 October First Hokuren Harvest Festival held
- 1973 April All Kumiai chain stores join A Co-op network
August Logo decided upon
November HOKUREN HOME CENTER opens
- 1975 February Research and Development Department founded
- 1976 February Osaka Food Distribution Center opens
- 1977 March Tokyo Food Distribution Center opens
April President Kanichi Ohta assumes position of president of ZEN-NOH
- 1978 September First Green Concert is held
- 1980 April Opening of Mikasa Food Processing Factory
Sapporo Advanced Meat Processing Factory begins operation
November Opening of Hokuren Building
- 1981 January Research and Development Department reorganized to the Agricultural Research Institute
July First second-hand agricultural machinery show held
- 1983 October Opening of Shin Sapporo Gas station/Sapporo Gas Station Training Center
- 1985 August Tokachi Food Plant begins operation
- 1986 May Opening of Tokachi Area Livestock Market
October Opening of Tomakomai Oil Storage Facility
- 1987 April Opening of Hokkaido Green Bio Research Institute Co., Ltd.
July Initiation of office productivity improvement campaign
- 1988 October Opening of Agricultural Research Institute Naganuma Research Station
- 1990 December Opening of Kitami District Livestock Market
- 1991 March Opening of Sapporo Household Goods Distribution Center
June Opening of Takikawa Swine Station
- 1992 February Opening of Ishikari Vegetable Center
August Opening of Takikawa Seed Production Center
October Opening of HOKUREN FUDOKAN
Ishikari Grain Preparation Center begins operation
- 1993 April Start of direct marketing business for beef, in partnership with the Tokyo Metropolitan Area Coop
July Commissioning of "the Hokuren-Marui"
August Pearl Rice Sunagawa Factory Station begins operation
September Establishment of Tokyo Branch Office building
- 1994 October Founding of Hokuren Dream Grand Prize
- 1995 July Transfer of Kushiro Petroleum Base of the National Federation of Agricultural Cooperative Association as an Hokuren Kushiro Oil Storage Facility
August Opening of the Cooking Processing Center
- 1996 July First "Vegetable Land Hokkaido" vegetable trade fair held
September Opening of Paddy-Rice Seed Production Center
- 1997 April Begins relay shipment of vegetables in cooperation with three economic federations
Opening of Agricultural Research Institute Eniwa Research Station
June Commissioning of "the Hokuren-Marui II"
November Opening of the Tokachi Dressed Carcass Market
- 1999 December Completion of Yamanashi Potato Salad Factory
- 2000 October Mikasa Food Plant's frozen cooked rice processing facility begins operation
November Acquires ISO 9001 certification for Pearl Rice Factory
- 2001 March Business tie-up with the Hokkaido Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations
- 2002 May Hokuren Pearl Rice Factory begins operation
- 2003 February Opening of Food Check & Analysis Center
- 2004 March ISO 14001 Certification at the Agricultural Research Institute
December Opening of Kanto Vegetable Center
- 2006 June Renewal commissioning of "Hokuren Marui"
July Renewal commissioning of "Hokuren-Marui II"
December Introduction of Fresh-milk Traceability System
- 2007 June "Hokuren CSR Report" issued
- 2008 April Merger among three A Coops and Hokuren Shoji Co., Ltd.
June Opening of Takikawa Swine Station Center
- 2009 October Reopening of Southern Hokkaido Livestock Market
November Renovated Otaru Seed Plant reopens
- 2010 July "Kururu-no-mori" food and agriculture experience farm opens
- 2011 June Hokuren Cooperative Feed Mills Co., Ltd. Tokachi Factory begins operation
- 2012 February Acquires FSSC 22000 certification for Nakashari and Shimizu Sugar Beets Factories
- 2013 June Publication of "Hokuren Group Report"
- 2014 June Acquires ISO 22000 certification for Meat Processing Factory
- 2015 February New establishment of Agricultural Support Center and Agricultural Support Office
- 2018 May Merger of Sapporo Hokuren Seika Co., Ltd. and Maruka Sapporo Seika Co., Ltd. to form Sapporo Mirai Chuo Seika Co., Ltd.
September Initiation of export operations to China at the Pearl Rice Factory
- 2019 April Celebration of Hokuren's centennial anniversary with a commemorative ceremony and party
- 2020 August Signing of a partnership agreement with Calbee, Inc. to promote agricultural produce grown in Hokkaido