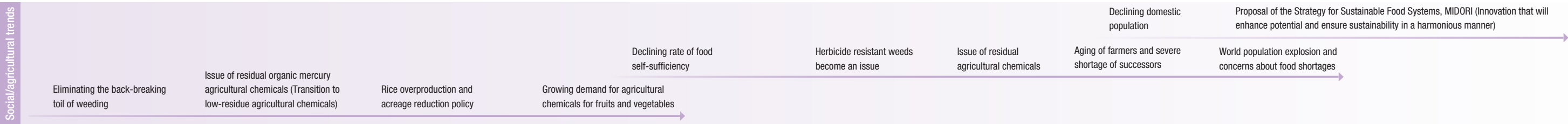


# Kumiai Chemical Group's History

In the course of the more than 70 years since its foundation in 1949, KUMIAI CHEMICAL INDUSTRY (Kumiai) has pursued research, manufacturing, and sales of agricultural chemicals. We will continue our day-to-day endeavor to help address the global issues “global food security” and “environmental conservation.”



**Kumiai Chemical Group's action**

**Foundation to Development of Domestic Agricultural Chemicals (1949 to 1968)**

After WWII, the low productivity of farming became an issue. Therefore, we began to manufacture and sell agricultural chemicals to help resolve food insecurity. We established ourselves as an agricultural chemical manufacturer in Japan such as by launching the first domestically produced agricultural chemical fungicide ASOZIN in 1959 and KITAZIN® in 1965.

**Leaping Forward to Become the Top Manufacturer of Agricultural Chemicals in Japan (1969 to 1989)**

During the period of rapid economic growth in Japan, the agricultural workforce rapidly declined due to changes in the industrial structure, which increased the need for labor-saving in agriculture. We developed the herbicide SATURN®, which was used in 50.4% of the paddy fields in Japan in 1974, becoming the first major product to support the growth and foundation of us. However, owing to the policy of reducing the amount of land devoted to rice cultivation and the sharp appreciation of the yen, our performance remained sluggish after peaking in 1981.

**POINT 2**

**Becoming a Global Research and Development Oriented Company (1990 to 2016)**

While the agricultural chemicals market in Japan become sluggish, stable food supply became a serious issue as the global population exploded. Our early efforts in research and development of products for the global market bore fruit in the 1990s with significant sales growth in the U.S. and Southeast Asia. In 2011, the field crop herbicide AXEEV® was launched and continues to drive our growth.

**Becoming a Cutting-Edge Chemical Manufacturer (2017 to Present)**

We integrated business with Ihara Chemical Industry in 2017 in order to create new value. We have strengthened our organization for the agricultural chemicals business that manages everything from chemical discovery, manufacturing and sales together with the fine chemicals business. By utilizing technologies, we will continue to promote the development of products that meet new customer needs, and accelerate new initiatives for realizing a sustainable society.

