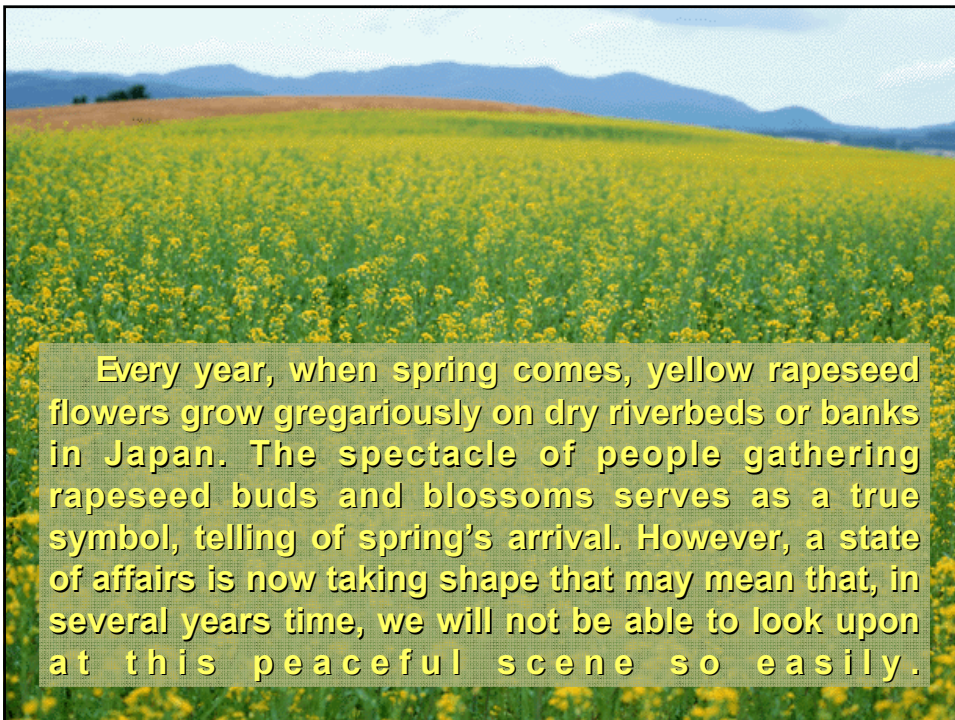


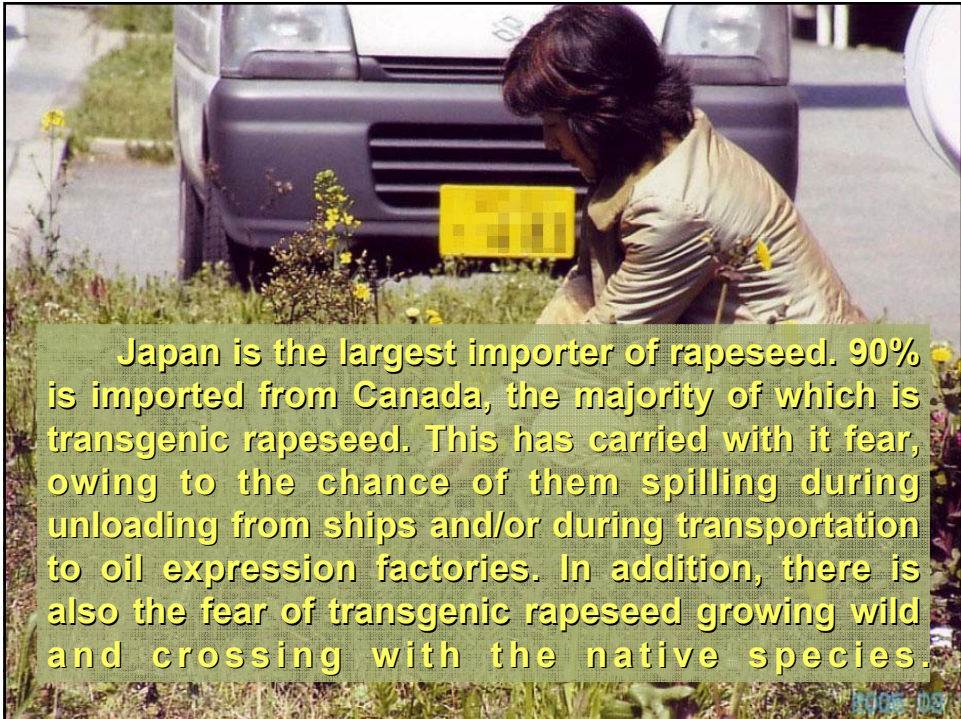
# Report of Investigation Activities on Native Rapeseed

Fiscal 2005

**Green Co-op Fukuoka  
Consumer's Co-operative Union**



Every year, when spring comes, yellow rapeseed flowers grow gregariously on dry riverbeds or banks in Japan. The spectacle of people gathering rapeseed buds and blossoms serves as a true symbol, telling of spring's arrival. However, a state of affairs is now taking shape that may mean that, in several years time, we will not be able to look upon at this peaceful scene so easily.



Japan is the largest importer of rapeseed. 90% is imported from Canada, the majority of which is transgenic rapeseed. This has carried with it fear, owing to the chance of them spilling during unloading from ships and/or during transportation to oil expression factories. In addition, there is also the fear of transgenic rapeseed growing wild and crossing with the native species.



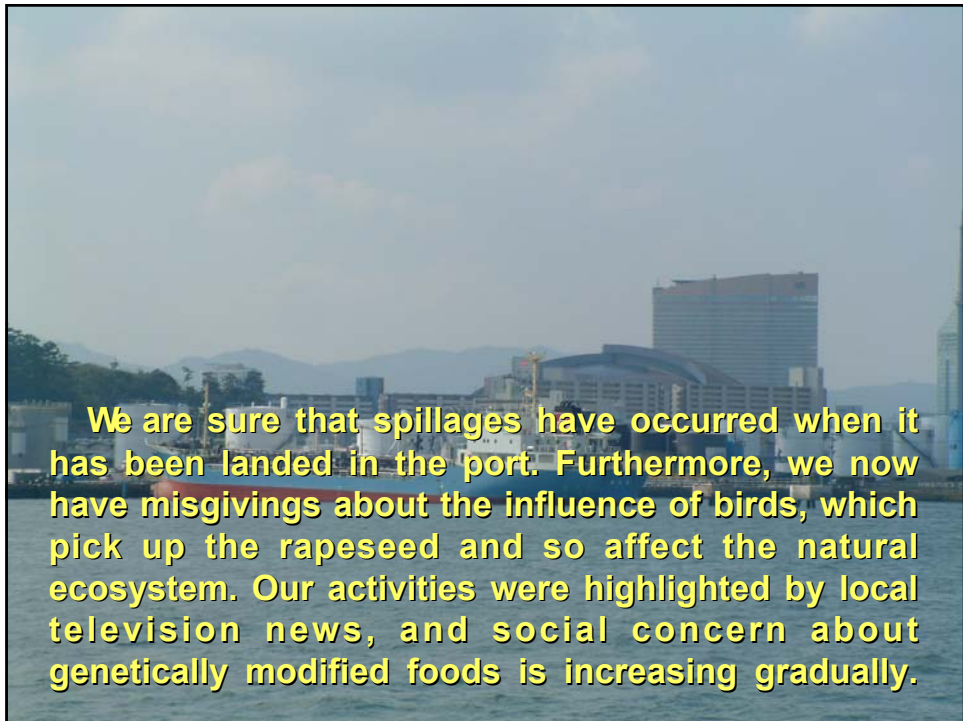
Fukuoka prefecture has a mild climate. The city is located in the southwest of Japan and is surrounded by seacoast. Fukuoka is a major urban center in western Japan, and has a population of 5.06 million. Hakata harbor in Fukuoka is the gateway to Asia.



During the season that the rapeseed blooms, from March to April, we pick them growing in the vicinity of where around 1000 associates are living.



According to the results of an investigation in 2006, transgenic rapeseed was found at 21 out of 504 spots. From this result, we became aware that transgenic rapeseed indeed grows wild and pollutes nature. In particular, the contamination of the whole of Hakata harbor area has spread.



Activities of making “request” and “petition” for preventive measures against crossing to governments and manufacturers.



1. Measures and directions for the prevention of rapeseed spillage during unloading and in transportation.
2. Establish a measure regarding safe food.



**Submit a petition to Fukuoka City Government**



**We visited factories which are importing and pressing oil, along with the manufacturers. At that time, we asked them about factory cleaning and about taking thorough prevention measures to stop falling rapeseeds.**

This year, we also received a report that transgenic rapeseed was found everywhere. As consumers, we want to be assertive to the danger of GM contamination, in order to prevent crossing with agricultural products. We also believe strongly that an appeal about the transgenic problem should be made, to raise public awareness.

