

## Summary of Specification



**1. Name of the GI + transcription in Latin alphabet or in international phonetic alphabet**

つるたスチューベン (Transcription: Tsuruta Steuben), Tsuruta Steuben

**2. Category of the product for which the name is protected**

Class1 : Agricultural product (Grape)

**3. Applicant – name and address**

Tsuruta Steuben Japan's No.1 Promotion Association

200-1 Aza Hayase, Oaza Tsuruta, Tsuruta Town, Kitatsugaru County, Aomori Prefecture, 038-3503, Japan

**4. Date of first Protection in the country of origin**

May 20, 2019

**5. Description of product**

Tsuruta Steuben has a high sugar content and strong sweetness, and also can be kept for a long time.

The bunch is large with many berries. Each berry is full, and the bunch is tight.

Moreover, the storing techniques have enabled the shipment of Tsuruta Steuben continuing from October when it is harvested to around February of the following year, while maintaining the same taste and freshness.

Tsuruta Steuben is traded at high prices compared to other Steuben, as it is the valuable domestic grapes which is available even after the turn of the year.

**6. Description/delimitation of the Geographical Area and of specific steps in production that must take place in the identified geographic area**

(1) Producing area:

Tsuruta Town and Itayanagi Town (Kohata, Nonaka, Kakeochibayashi, Kashiwagi, Botanmori) in Kitatsugaru County, Nanatsudate in Goshogawara City, and Kashiwakuwanokida in Tsugaru City, Aomori Prefecture

(2) Production method:

① Cultivar

Steuben is used.

② Cultivation Method

(i) “Espalier training” is used.

(ii) “Very long cane pruning” (a length of 1 meter or more of a branch should be left) is used.

(iii) “Strong shoot pinching” (the number of leaves before blossoming should be three to four instead of five in normal pinching) is used.

(iv) “Bags are basically used” when the grapes are stored for a long time.

③ Shipping Standards

Sugar content of 18 degrees or more, M size or bigger.

**7. Link with the Geographical Area**

The producing area of Tsuruta Steuben is situated at almost the same latitude as that of New York where Steuben was developed, and the annual rainfalls and climate conditions are similar. The temperature difference between day and night during the cultivation period is 8 to 10 degrees, and leads to high sugar content.

The unique cultivation method called “Tsugaru Type Improved Training Method” and the storage technology from the experience of apple cultivation have been established.

**8. History / confirmations of on-going production**

Steuben is a variety developed by the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station. It was introduced to Japan around 1952, and the test growing of Steuben started in Aomori Prefecture where the climate conditions are similar to those of New York. Producers mainly in Tsuruta Town established the Tsugaru Grape Association in 1979 to work on the cultivation of Steuben.

As a result of their work, the cultivation method and storage techniques suitable for this region had been established by around 1984 to set the characteristics as Tsuruta Steuben.

At present, the number of commercial farm houses is about 140 units, the cultivation area is about 100 ha, and the amount of production is about 1,100 tons (the actual performance of FY2017), showing its development to a production area boasting the largest volume of production in Japan.

**9. Specific rules concerning labelling and using, if any**

N/A

**10. Control body / control authority responsible for checking the respect of the product specifications**

Control body is Tsuruta Steuben Japan’s No.1 Promotion Association.

In addition, MAFF regularly monitors the condition of quality control in the process of production, through the examination of annual report submitted by Tsuruta Steuben Japan’s No.1 Promotion Association.

**11. Outline of the quality control plan**

Tsuruta Steuben Japan's No.1 Promotion Association will check (1) cultivar, (2) cultivation method, (3) shipment standard and final products. If a producer fails to abide by the specification, Tsuruta Steuben Japan's No.1 Promotion Association will issue a warning and request a correction of his/her production. In case the producer does not follow the warning, Tsuruta Steuben Japan's No.1 Promotion Association stops the shipment of the products as "Tsuruta Steuben". In addition, Tsuruta Steuben Japan's No.1 Promotion Association will prepare an annual performance report and submit it to the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

**12. Information of registered trademark(s) identical or similar to the GI (if applied by the GI holder in other Party's territory)**

N/A