

Hisasi Aso (CFAI, Tohoku University)

Hisashi Aso is Director of the International Education and Research Center for Food and Agricultural Immunology (CFAI), and Professor of the Laboratory of Functional Morphology, Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Tohoku University. He obtained his PhD from the Department of Bacteriology, Tohoku University School of Medicine in 1986. Following this he was an Assistant Professor of the Department of Physiology I, Tohoku University School of Medicine. He was a Senior Researcher and then a Head Researcher at the National Institute of Animal Industry, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, from 1992 to 2001. Since 2001, he has served at the Tohoku University Graduate School of Agricultural Science. To investigate animal production and health, he has established several cell lines from Japanese Black and Holstein cattle as well as from pigs. His research has focused on the mechanism of spread of the PrP^{SC} (prion) infectivity throughout M cells in the intestine, and the anti-obesity activity of serotonin. He is also currently establishing an early stage detection system and the protective application of probiotics in bovine mastitis.