

In the Edo Period, trade was actively carried out between Hokkaido and Honshu (=the main island of Japan). Marine products(herring,kelp,abalone,etc) were brought to Honshu and foodstuffs (salt,sugar,oil,etc), daily necessities (tableware, paper, candles, etc) came to Hokkaido by cargo ships that sailed across the Sea of Japan.

During the Edo Period to the Meiji Period, herring fishing was the major industry around the Sea of Japan coastline near Southern Hokkaido. Herring was the popular fish, not only for food, but also for fertilizer. Herring dishes were provided at luxury restaurants. Herring fertilizers were used in rice fields, cotton fields etc.

For this reason, the Sasanami Family became extremely wealthy!



"Kazunoko" (= herring eggs) is the classic dish for the New Year and celebrations.

