

The background image shows a grocery store aisle. In the foreground, there are several handwritten price tags on cardboard. One tag lists items like 'キムチ' (Kimchi) for 200 yen, '大ス' (Daiku) for 200 yen, 'ズッキーニ' (Zucchini) for 250 yen, '虹色菜' (Rainbow vegetable) for 200 yen, 'アスパラガス' (Asparagus) for 220 yen, and 'アインゲン' (Ainogen) for 230 yen. Another tag at the bottom left mentions '伊達市' (Itadaki City) and '菅野' (Kagano). The background shows shelves with various products, including bottles of soy sauce and other condiments, and a wall with posters or notices.

FOOD SAFETY AFTER FUKUSHIMA

SCIENTIFIC CITIZENSHIP
AND THE POLITICS OF RISK

Nicolas Sternsdorff-Cisterna

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Food Safety after Fukushima: Scientific Citizenship and the Politics of Risk



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The triple disaster that struck Japan in March 2011 forced people living there to confront new risks within their lives. Sets of citizens considered existing and recently formed organizations where food was sourced from areas a long way away from the nuclear accident or screened to stricter criteria than those needed by the condition. The disaster prompted them to become vigilant about limiting their risk publicity, and meals emerged as an integral area where residents could determine their personal levels of acceptable risk. Food Basic safety after Fukushima examines the procedure by which notions about what is safe to eat were formulated after the nuclear meltdown. Its central argument is usually that as citizens informed themselves about potential risks, they also became savvier within their assessment of the authorities's managing of the crisis. The author vividly depicts a host where trust between food producers and consumers have been shaken, where people sensed uneasy about their food choices and the results they might possess for their kids, and where farmers were forced to cope with the consequences of pollution that was not of their making. Despite the Japanese government's reassurance that radiation publicity would be little and unlikely to impact the health of the general people, many questioned the government's commitment to protecting their wellness. Most poignantly, the reserve conveys the weighty burden now attached to the name "Fukushima" in the popular imagination and explores efforts to resurrect it. Based on comprehensive fieldwork and interviews with citizens groups, mothers' associations, farmers, government officials, and retailers, Meals Safety after Fukushima displays on what social relations were suffering from the accident. The author terms this "Scientific Citizenship," and he implies that the acquisition of scientific understanding for citizens led to a transformed romantic relationship between people and the condition. These organizations enabled residents to exchange information about the disaster, meet food producers, and work to establish systems of trust where meals they considered safe could circulate.



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