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Dr. Mari Maeda-Yamamoto is an executive scientist at the National Agriculture and Food Research Organization (NARO) and a Professor at the University of Tsukuba, Japan.

Her research interests are studying on physiological functions of green tea, especially in immunological regulation and developments of functional agricultural foods. She joined the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) in 1986, received her Ph.D. from Kyushu University in 1992, and worked as a senior researcher at the Vegetable and Tea Research Institute, director of food function research division, director of Agri-food Business Innovation Center, and director of healthcare innovation research before assuming her current position.

In recent years, her expertise in studying green tea and developments of new agricultural products with function claims have been recognized and received many awards, including the Technology Award from the Japanese Society for Agricultural Chemistry and the Food Immunology Award from the Japanese Society for Food Immunology in 2016, the Food Immunology Award from the Japanese Society for Food Immunology, and the Japan Agricultural Award from the Japanese Society of Agronomy in 2018.