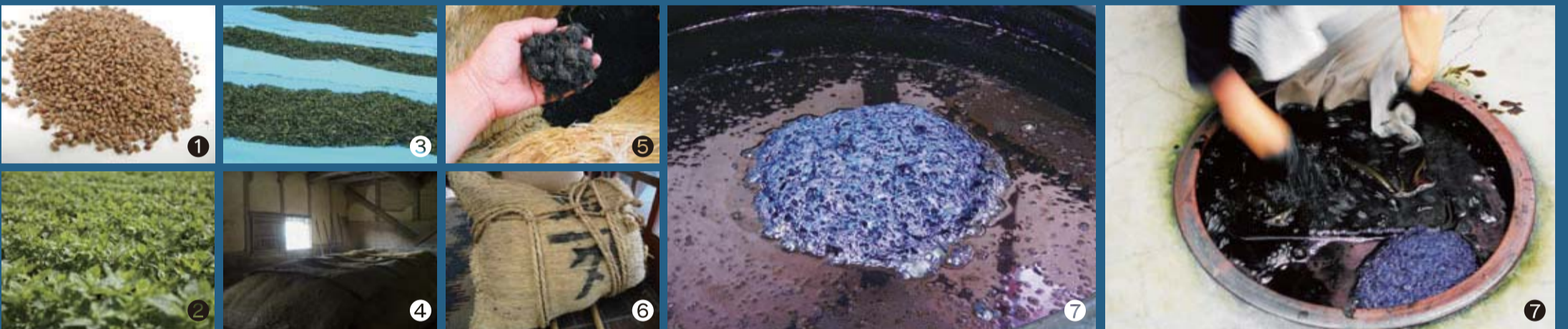


# 阿波藍

AWA AI  
"JAPAN BLUE"  
TOKUSHIMA

# 徳島

*j*objewelry  
Design NAOKO KATO



- 1 Ai seeds: On a day called Taian (most auspicious day in the six-day Buddhist calendar) in March, ai seeds are planted in a seedbed.
- 2 Ai farms: Grown ai leaves are harvested in July and August (twice a year).
- 3 Harvested leaves go through a cutting machine, are separated from stems, well dried under the sun in a process called "Aikonashi" and stored.
- 4 In Autumn, the stored ai leaves are put in "Nedoko (a bed for leaves)," mixed with water (process called "Kirikaeshi") many times until mid-February.
- 5 Ai-zome dye fermented slowly by "Aishi (ai producer)" is called "Sukumo."
- 6 The finished AWA AI products are put into special bags called "Kamasu" with Aishi's trade name seals, and delivered all over Japan.
- 7 The AWA AI products are put into a bottle of ai, fermented by adding wheat and residue of wood ash, and dyed by a dyeing technique called "Tennen-Aku-Hakko-Datte."
- 8 Genuine leathers before and after dye







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