## 語り継ぐべき藍染、

# そして語り継がれるデニムの創出

"Awa Genuine Indigo Dye Method" is designated as a "Traditional Art Craft" designated by Ministry of Manufacturing and Industry, and is also designated as "Tokushima Prefecture Intangible Cultural Treasure". In the past, many denim fabrics and products carrying a name of "True Indigo Dye" has been introduced worldwide, however, Kuroki has taken one step further to take a closer look at "Genuine Indigo Dye" once again, in order to convey the quality and glamore of "Genuine Indigo Dye", and categorize it as a single group.

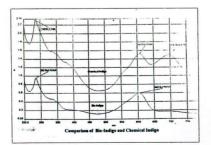


This is traditional Japanese Indigo Dyed denim.

It is a name given to indigo dyed denim, evolved as a new tradition We will convey not only domestically, but also worldwide, the global craftsman's denim. Trademark currently applied for registration.



Certificate designating "Awa Genuine Indigo Dye Method" as Tokushima Intangible Cultural Treasure.



"Graph analyzing Natural Indigo and Synthetic Indigo" by FEAT Laboratory.

### The two significant aspect of natural indigo dye

#### **Joint Knots**

Joint knots are small bump that appears on the surface of the textile due to knots made by tieing the two ends of the threads together. In natural indigo dyeing, the thread is bunched in hanks, and dipped in indigo solution, then raised out of the well in order to oxidize by exposing to air. This dipping and raising of the hanks in indigo well is repeated over 30 times in order to adhere and oxidize indigo dye to the thread.

One person performs this operation repeatedly, but compared to automated rope dye, the amount of final product is very little. Furthermore, this dipping and raising method is quite stressful to the thread, and it snaps at various places of the hank. The thread must be tied back together, and this joint knots create small lumps on the surface of the textile.

#### **Oxidization Patches**

Indigo color is obtained by exposing indigo dye to air for oxidization. In the process, hank is wrung for excess indigo solution, and then exposed to air. However, this leaves part of the thread where enough oxygen (air) cannot be reach to perform full oxidization, resulting in irregular or uneven coloring. This is called "oxidization patch". In the natural indigo dyed denim textile, due to this oxidization patches, light colored warp leaves a few centimeters of vertical lines. This, however, is one of the characteristics of natural indigo dyed denim, proving that it is genuine.



## **Natural Dye**



One and only color denim weaved with thread dyed in organic (such as animal, mineral, and plant) dye in a method carried out from ancient times just like indigo dye. We offer fabrics in hank dye and also in rope dye as we do for indigo dye.

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## **MAP**



## **Hank Dye**

- Succeeding the Tradition -

Manual technique of hank dye for natural indigo is used. Kuroki has nursed and nurtured this denim in order to continue to preserve the Japanese Traditional denim.

## **Rope Dye**

--- Creation from tradition ---

Group of rope dyed products using natural dye such as Indigo from India, and from all over the world. Group of new denim developed from as a new creation from tradition Indigo dye that must be handed down for generations and denim that will be handed down for generations.



