

Research Activity Report
Supported by “Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science”
 (Please be sure to submit this report after the trip that supported by PWS.)

Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/M1
Name	Yuri KAWAGUCHI

1. Country/location of visit
Koshima, Miyazaki, Japan
2. Research project
Koshima Field Science course
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2016. 04. 24-2016.04.030
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Dr. Tanaka and Dr. Tsuji(Primate Research Institute), Mr.Suzumura(Wildlife Research Center)
5. Progress and results of your research/activity (You can attach extra pages if needed)
<p>Please insert one or more pictures (to be publicly released). Below each picture, please provide a brief description.</p> <p>I attended Koshima Field Course. Koshima is well known about Japanese monkeys washing sweet potato. During courses each of us did some observation or field experiment about monkeys.</p> <p>Apr.24th 15:30 : arrived at Koshima and having lecture</p> <p>Apr. 25th AM: Data sampling at Koshima PM: Research Meeting</p> <p>Apr.26th AM: Data sampling at Koshima</p> <p>Apr.27th AM: Observation of horses at Cape Toi PM: Lecture about statistic</p> <p>Apr.28th AM: Data sampling at Koshima PM: Prepare for Presentation</p> <p>Apr.29th AM: Presentation</p> <p>Apr.30th AM: Free observation at Koshima PM: left Koshima</p> <p><u>My Research</u></p> <p>It is known that adult animals are tolerant for infants. However, most studies were carried out just in food sharing condition. Then I investigated how monkeys response to visual /auditory stimuli of conspecific adult and baby. I showed stimuli with wheat and recorded monkeys’ behavior. In Exp.1 I showed 3visual stimuli (adult face, infant face and scramble as control). In Exp.2 I presented vocalization of adult or infant with 3 visual stimuli. In Exp.3 I presented only auditory stimuli.</p>

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I analyzed the frequency of visit each stimuli and average stay duration for each stimuli for Exp.1 and 2. However, no pair (adult vs. infant, infant vs. control and control vs. adult) showed statistical difference. I coded monkeys' behavior during Exp.3. As a result, 1/6 individuals turned back from stimuli in adult-voice condition and 5/16 individuals did so in infant-voice condition. This result may show that monkeys pay more attention to infant vocalization than adult one. This appears unreasonable because infants are harmless compared to adult individuals. Given that if an infant monkey is attacked by other individual and cry the mother rush to chase it, however, infants could be potential danger. The monkeys may have afraid that others “misunderstand” and attacked them. Although no other monkeys were around the stimulus, one monkey actually looked around many times during eating in infant-voice condition.

The results of this study were interesting for me, so I think this experience will enrich my future study.



Stimuli



Monkeys during experiment (Photo by tsuji-sensei)



Experiment (Photo by Tanaka-sensei)

Cape Toi

About 100 wild horses, which are known Misaki-horse, are living in Cape Toi. We went to observed Misaki-horse. It was amazing to see wild horse closely in the foggy hill. I understood the social behaviors of the horses and found them interesting at the visitor center. Studies about the horse's perception have just started. How they see the world? It is a really interesting question.

General

It was lucky to be able to go to Koshima 4 times during courses. Though, we had to finish our study by the noon because of the weather. However, it was nice to take the lecture about statistics or enjoy nature around the station afternoon. We cooked dinner together and played on the beach. Overall, I enjoyed everything in this course and field experiment and observation of the horses have broaden my sight.

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Horses



Beach in Koshima



Party in the last night (Photo by Tanaka-sensei)

6. Others

This course was supported by PWS. I appreciate it. I'd like to thank Tsuji-sensei, Tanaka-sensei, Suzumura-san and all M1 students.