

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.)

2014. MM, DD	
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/M1
Name	Yugo Kawamoto

1. Country/location of visit
Koshima, Miyazaki Pref.
2. Research project
Koshima field course
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2016.4.24 – 2016.4.30 (7 days)
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)
Please insert one or more pictures (to be publicly released). Below each picture, please provide a brief description.
<p>About 100 individuals of Japanese macaques in Koshima have been studied since 1948. We can easily observe them because they are traditionally provisioned. The aim of this course is to learn the method of behavior observation and data analysis in the wild.</p> <p>4/24 Arrival at Koshima station, lecture about Koshima 4/25 Preliminary observation, decision of my study theme in this course 4/26 Data collection 4/27 Observation of horses in cape Toi 4/28 Data collection, analysis, preparation of presentation 4/29 Presentation 4/30 Departure from Koshima station</p> <p>In the first day I had not decided my study theme in this course clearly. Because this is my first field study experience, I did not know how to perform field studies. Therefore, it was difficult to decide my study theme soon. After preliminary observation, I had decided my study theme.</p> <p>I focused on feeding behavior. I observed two characteristics of feeding behavior when monkeys ate wheat on sand. One is hand using. The other is mouth using. I impressed that these behavior characteristics are associated with whether water exists or not. I hypothesized that when water exists, they use hands and that they use their mouth when wheat is on the dry sand. Based on this impression, I decided to study the relationship between feeding behavior and water condition. In addition, I recorded monkeys' class and density of wheat.</p> <p>First, I randomly selected observation area in the feeding area. I wrote 30 cm square and calculated wheat density in this square. Then, I recorded feeding behavior and class of the individual, which was the nearest the square. I presumed that wheat density in the square is same with the place which the individual used. I continued this observation for one hour and obtained data in both sand and water areas. I analyzed these data by chi-square tests.</p> <p>I could not show the relationship between feeding behavior and water existence. However, it was shown that wheat density affects feeding behavior. I revealed that when wheat density was decreased, monkeys used more their hands. Based on these results, I thought that this observation condition has some problems, which may affect results. First, I tried to calculate wheat density in the river and sea, but I could not perform it because wheat is flowed by water. I selected the place covered with water thinly. However, in the second day, water was decreased, and the condition became bad. Moreover, when wheat was decreased, monkeys started to use their hands on the sand. I thought that this may strongly affect the results. I needed to limit time shorter and increase research days to get a better study condition. I thought that the result of relationship between wheat density and feeding behavior was related to feeding efficiency. Monkeys' visual fields were limited when they use their mouth because the distance between their face and ground was</p>

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near. When there were a lot of wheat on the ground, monkey could easily find wheat. Therefore it may be no problem to use their mouth. However, when wheat was decreased, it is difficult for monkey to find wheat.

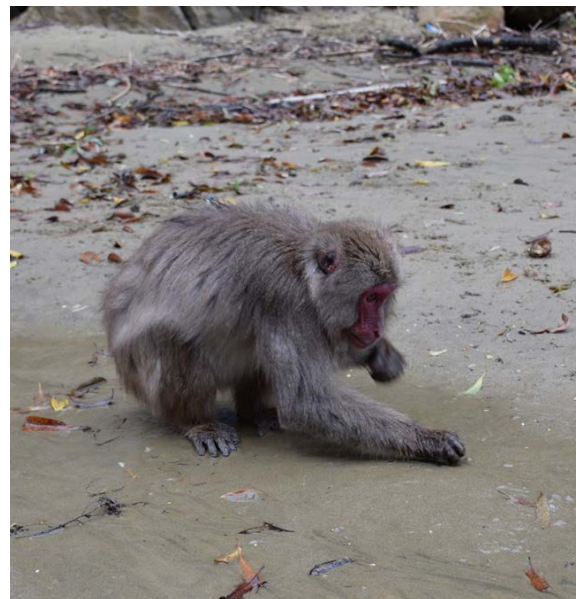
In this course, I learned about the method of behavior observation and data analysis. These are important in my future study. I thought I could get a great opportunity. There are many methods of observation and data analysis. I used a part of them in this course. I need to learn other methods for my study.



The beach in Koshima



Using mouth



Using hands

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In the sea



In the river



Horses in cape Toi



Horses in cape Toi



Group photo

6. Others

I'd like to thank the support of PWS and Tsuji Yamato-sensei, Tanaka Hiroyuki-sensei and Suzumura Takafumi-san.