

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.)

2016.10.31

Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/Internship
Name	Zhang Jingyi

1. Country/location of visit
Japan/Yakushima
2. Research project
Testing the trade-off between parasite resistance and the immunosuppressive hormones cortisol and testosterone
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2016. 10. 15 – 2016. 10. 21 (7days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Dr. Sugiura, Dr. MacIntosh, Dr. Liesbeth
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.
Yakushima Field Work Report
<p>During Oct 15th to 21st, 2016, I participated in the Yakushima field course held by PWS program. The participants of this course have the same project, to test the trade-off between parasite resistance and the immunosuppressive hormones cortisol and testosterone. The result of field course would be combined with the result of genome course conducted later. For the field part, we collected feces of Yakushima macaques (<i>Macaca fuscata yakui</i>) and analyzed them to count the number of five kinds of parasites.</p> <p>We arrived at Yakushima on Oct 15th afternoon. As the sun hadn't set, we drove up to the mountain as soon as we laid down our packages. Luckily, we got our first fecal sample when we parked by the road.</p> <p>From Oct 16th to 19th, we were divided into three teams. Each day there were one team stayed in the laboratory to analyzed the fecal sample we got, the other two teams would continue to collect feces, one mostly followed the road to find monkey groups, the other one chased after the monkey group into forest. We have totally gained 90 fecal samples of Yakushima macaques in four days. There were lots of interesting things among monkey, deer and us. For example, because deer would eat monkeys' feces, we had to compete with deer. As for laboratory work, the most exciting moment for me is catching a rare kind of parasite under the microscope.</p> <p>On Oct 20, we were busy with giving out a presentation. After around 8 hours working, we made it. In that period, learning to enjoy teamwork is significant.</p> <p>Besides the field work and lab skills, it's really glad to know so many new friends and to enjoy the beautiful scenes. The memories in Yakushima is so unique and precious that I will keep them in my mind for a long time.</p>

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Fig. 1. Feces collecting



Fig. 2. Yakushima macaque and deer



Fig. 3. Forest work



Fig. 4. Samples processing



Fig. 5 Laboratory team work

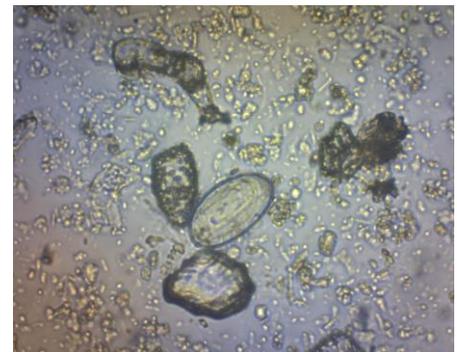


Fig. 6 Gongylonema

6. Others

Thanks a lot to Dr. Sugiura, Dr. MacIntosh, Dr. Liesbeth, Dr. Claire and PWS program!