

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
Batang Toru Research Center, North-Sumatra, Indonesia
2. Research project
Preliminary research about feeding behavior of Sumatran orangutan
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2017. 01. 07 – 2017. 01. 21 (15days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Batang Toru Research Center, Dr. Puji Rianti(Bogor Agricultural University), Dr. Takashi Hayakawa
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>I am studying the taste sense of Sumatran orangutan, especially their sour taste. I aim to investigate feeding behavior of orangutan and environments of their habitat in order to understand their taste. This research was preliminarily know condition of the research station and determine the future direction of my study. I tried to observe wild orangutan directly and measure acidity of fruits eaten by the orangutan.</p> <p>01/07 Kansai airport → Changi airport (Singapore) 01/08 Changi airport (Singapore) → Soekarno-Hatta international airport (Jakarta, Indonesia) Visit Ragunan Zoo 01/09 Soekarno-Hatta international airport (Jakarta, Indonesia) → Siborga (Sumatra, Indonesia) Visit office 01/10 Siborga (Sumatra, Indonesia) → Batang Toru Research Center 01/11-17 Research: finding orangutan, collecting fruit and measurement pH of fruit 01/18 Batang Toru Research Center → Siborga 01/19 Visit office 01/20 Siborga → Soekarno-Hatta international airport Soekarno-Hatta international airport → Changi airport 01/21 Changi airport → Chubu international airport</p> <p>In the field station, I went to forest from 9 am to 4 pm. I collected fruits eaten by wild orangutan based on the literature and interview to local assistants. Acidity (pH) of these fruits were measured after identification of species name. I tried to taste these fruits and recorded these taste categories. I collected 6 fruits in this research. Strangely, not all fruits have relationship between pH value and taste categories. Most fruits were sour, bitter and astringent for me while their pH values were low. In addition, it was difficult to measure pH values using pH papers because not all fruits were juicy and sometimes they had color in juice.</p> <p>I found many nests of orangutans and left-over foods. However, I could not directly observe wild orangutans in this research. Some reasons are considered about this result. For example, I had time to find wild orangutans only one week and was not used to observe wild animals. If I improve these problems, I will find them.</p>

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I could directly observe agile gibbons (*Hylobates agilis*) in this research. They ate *Dacrydium beccarii* that is one of fruits eaten by orangutan. I want to study about relationship orangutan and other species. This study may support my study about taste of orangutan.

This is the first time to go abroad in my study. Even though orangutan observation was one of biggest purpose in this research, I could not achieve it. However, the most important point is to understand difficulty of field-work. After consideration about the solution of problem that I got in this preliminary research, I want to visit the place again longer time compared to this time.



Station



Orangutan nest



Myristica sp.



Hylobates agilis



Group photo

6. Others

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