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.)

2017. Jun, 26	
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/M1
Name	Shohei Shibata

1. Country/location of visit

Yakushima Island, Japan

2. Research project

Field Science Course

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2017 May 13 – 2017 May 19

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Dr. Munehiro Okamoto, Dr. Noriaki Nonaka, Dr. Akiko Sawada and Dr. Takakazu

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.

I had the opportunity to attend the Field Science Course. Participants were able to work in one of three groups; monkey and deer distribution group, parasite group and plant group. I belonged to the parasite group.

- May 13: Arrived at Yakushima
- May 14: Examination of parasites in deer and collecting ticks from their skin
- May 15: Examination of parasites in deer
- May 16: Collecting ticks from vegetation and setting trap for rodents
- May 17: Examination of parasite in rodents
- May 18: Presentation
- May 19: Visited Seiburindo

There are very few repots about gastrointestinal parasites of mammals that inhabit Yakushima Island. In this course, we investigated endo-parasites of deer and rodents and ecto-parasites on deer, rodents and vegetation.

Examination of parasites in deer

Our examination were made with the viscera of a local deer in Yakushima. During dissection, we examined gastrointestinal parasites on inner surface by eye. We also examined parasites in the contents of abomasum, small intestine and large intestine under a microscope.

Examination of parasites in rodents

We examined pinworm eggs from the perianal region of trapped rodents by using scotch tape and collected feces left in trap. In the lab, we mixed feces with a sugar solution and examined parasite eggs in the solution under a microscope.

Collecting ticks

We also collected ticks from deer, rodents, and vegetation. We identified their genus based on morphological features.

We analyzed the DNA sequence of ticks and created phylogenetic trees during the Genome Course.

I had never studied parasites. Therefore, this entire course experience was the first time for me. Everything I did was fresh and stimulating.

Our group consisted of 5 students including 3 international students. Although it was not

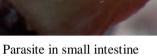
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easy to communicate with them in English especially during discussions, this course was a good opportunity to improve my English.

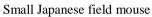


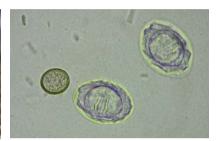




Tick from vegetation







Egg of Nematode

6. Others

I would like to thank the PWS program for supporting this course..

I also would like to express my appreciation to Lecturers of Parasite Group.

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