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. 09	, 28
Affiliation/Position	Primate research Institute /M2	
Name	Makiko Take	

1. Country/location of visit

Brazil, Manaus

2. Research project

Study on feeding ecology of 3 species of Amazonian primates in the fragment of the forest

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2016. 1. 29 – 2016. 6. 29 (152days)

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Dr. Wilson Spironello at National Institute of Amazonian Research (Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia, INPA)

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.

Study Aim

My target is 3 species of primates, Pied-tamarin (Saguinus bicolor bicolor: Cebidae), Common squirrel monkey (Saimiri sciureus: Cebidae), and Golden-faced saki (Pithecia chrysocephala: Pitheciidae) living in a fragment of the forest in urban area of Manaus, the biggest city in Brazilian Amazon.

The aim of my study is to answer the questions below;

- 1) What kind of characteristics do 3 primate species have in their diet composition?
- 2) How do those characteristics influence on their state of "competition" or "coexistence"?
- 3) How do those monkeys work as seed disperser?

The aim of this visit

To collect data on things below;

- 1) Focal troop observation;
- 2) Phenology census of fruiting trees;
- 3) Germination experiment of seeds in monkeys' feces;
- 4) Experiments about the fate of post-dispersed seeds;
- 5) Focal tree observation

Progress

I gave up analyzing monkey feces because the chance to get fecal samples was very rare. I also gave up conducting phenology census and focal tree observation because I did not have enough knowledge, experience, and preparation to do it alone. So I focused on doing focal troop observation only.

Unfortunately, I could not collect much data because I had been under the bad weather from the beginning of April. Eventually I decided to return to Japan 2 months earlier than the original schedule. Therefore, the state of achievement was not good enough. At least I learned that following and observing monkeys was very hard work even though it is very simple method.

Others

It was very good opportunity to be familiar with Brazilian culture, such as dancing all night. Brazilian people were very warm and friendly. In April, Prof. Matsuzawa visited me and we had very good time seeing unique Amazonian primates such as uakari or wooly monkey.

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Golden-faced sakis grooming after heavy rain (left) / Uakari and wooly monkey observed at Amazon Eco Park (right)



I put some camera traps in the study site to film monkeys behavior (left) / Photo with Prof. Matsuzawa on the top of the tower in Amazonian rain forest (right)

6. Others

I am grateful to PWS for financially supporting this activity, and for helping to change my schedule suddenly.

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