



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.)

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Affiliation/Position	National Institute of Amazonian Research - INPA
Name	Rodrigo de Souza Amaral

1. Country/location of visit
Japan, Yakushima island
2. Research project
Yakushima Field Science Course
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2016. 05. 21 – 2016. 05. 27 (7 days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Dr. Goro Hanya, Professor at Primate Research Institute, Kyoto University
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>During this visit, I participated of the Yakushima Field Science Course executing the project “Behavior and genetic relation in wild sika deer” (DEER TEAM). Therefore, the DEER TEAM was divided in three pairs and during 3 days we collected behavior data from focal deer and other deer engaged in social interaction. The behavior was monitored by scan sampling, every 2 minutes during 2 hours, and the social interactions was recorded ad libitum. Fecal samples were collected from those deer for fecal DNA sampling. Every day the pairs changed to get the opportunity for everybody to share experiences. We also carried out an experiment evaluating the DNA degradation after long-term exposure of fecal samples to different environmental conditions. At the end of the field sampling, we monitored 47 deer of different age class and sex, in a total of 2300 minutes of observation. All behavior data were analyzed and the results were presented during the seminar on the last day of the Course. The genetic data will be analyzed during the Genome Science Course at the Kyoto University. All the results will be compiled in a Scientific Report. With this experience, I improved my skills on field work, and learned how to handle fecal sample for genetic analysis.</p>
 <p>Deer feeding</p>
 <p>Male deer</p>

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Behavior monitoring



Fecal DNA sampling

6. Others

I would like to thank Professor Goro Hanya and the Kyoto University for the opportunity to join this Field Course. It was an amazing experience. I also would like to thank the lecturers, Prof. Naoki Agetsuma, Yoshimi Agetsuma-Yanagihara and Mari Nishikawa, and the DEER TEAM members Ain, Mao, Chikara Mayuko and Kei, for all knowledge shared and all productive discussion about deer behavior.

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