

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.)

	2018.08.31
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/M2
Name	Xiaochan Yan

1. Country/location of visit
Indonesia, Sulawesi
2. Research project
Field work of <i>Macaca nigrescens</i> in Sulawesi Island
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2018. 8. 5 – 2018.8.11 (7days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Dr. Bambang Suryobroto, Dr. Kanthi Arum Widayati (Lecturer, Bogor Agriculture 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 conducted research on <i>Macaca nigrescens</i>, closely relative to <i>Macaca nigra</i>. I collected saliva samples and conducted avoidant behavioral experiment. The schedule was following,</p> <p>2018/8/5 Left for Jakarta 2018/8/6 Arrived at Manado, Sulawesi 2018/8/7-9 Field work in Gorontalo and Manado, northern Sulawesi 2018/8/10 Backed to Manado 2018/8/11 Left for Japan</p> <p>From August 6 to 11, I visited Sulawesi Island accompanying by Dr. Bambang, Dr. Kanthi. During this trip, I enhanced my skills of taking saliva from monkeys and conducting behavioral experiment. It’s a chance for me to get very close to monkeys and have communication with them. Based on previous studies on PTC and salicin avoidant behavioral experiments, 2 mM PTC and 40 mM salicin were adopted to test avoidant behavioral. Totally, 10 individuals participated in my experiment, 1, 6, 3 of <i>Macaca nigra</i>, <i>Macaca nigrescens</i> and <i>Macaca hecki</i>, respectively. Surprisingly, one individual of <i>Macaca nigrescens</i> showed non-sensitivity to PTC, which was not found in our previous result. So far, by studying bitter taste receptor TAS2R38 in total four species in northern Sulawesi, we found that <i>M. tonkeana</i> and <i>M. nigra</i> exhibited independent evolution of PTC non-sensitive phenotype. In the near future, I will conduct genetic analysis of the individual of <i>Macaca nigrescens</i> to carry out the genetic mechanism of non-sensitive phenotype. Then, I can discuss the evolution of bitter taste in the four species.</p> <p>In addition to monkeys, I tested bitter sensitivity of Cuscus, a large marsupial species. It showed entire acceptance to PTC and salicin. Saliva sample was collected as well.</p> <p>Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to Dr. Bambang, Dr. Kanthi and Dr. Terai, without their help, I cannot conduct my experiment. Thank PWS a lot for supporting this trip.</p>

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Fig 1. Juvenile of *M. nigrescens*



Fig 2. Building relationship with infant



Fig 3. Welcome to Indonesian National Revolution day



Fig 4. Captive cuscus

6. Others