

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.)

2015.6.1	
Affiliation/Position	PRI/M1
Name	Shintaro Ishizuka

1. Country/location of visit
Yakushima, Kagoshima prefecture
2. Research project
Yakushima practice
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2015.5.23-29 (7days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Dr. Sugiura
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>From May 23th to 29th, I joined Yakushima practice. The purpose of this practice was to get an experience of combining fieldwork with laboratory work. In this study we, members of monkey team, investigated whether Japanese macaca is seed disperser or predator for Yamamomo and its relationship with body size of monkeys. In field we collected many feces and measured those diameters to estimate body size of monkeys. And after separating intact seeds and destroyed seeds of Yamamomo in feces, we measured dry weights about both types of seeds. As a result, there was significant positive correlation between diameters and ratio of destroyed seeds. In the future how the feature of Yamamomo fruits affect whether monkeys disperse or destroy seeds should be investigated. And in additional activity we collected invasive DNA samples from feces to use genome practice. This was very good experience because I must use this technique to investigate reproductive system of wild bonobos in future study. And I learned how difficult focal animal sampling is in wild environment. I want to make use of these experiences for future study. In this practice, public language was English. Though I felt necessity to learn English more, I also felt that it is possible to communicate with foreigners even if we don't have so good ability. So from now on I have an intention to communicate with foreigners actively.</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Wild Yakushima macaques</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Fecal analysis</p> </div> </div>

6. Others
This program was supported by PWS Leading Program. I would like to appreciate this program, Dr. Sugiura, the leader of this program, and many stuff.