

Size Structure and Critical Plant Size for the Flowering of *Ainsliaea apiculata* in Yakushima Island, Japan

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: Size Structure and Critical Plant Size for the Flowering of
Ainsliaea apiculata in Yakushima Island, Japan

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屋久島のキッコウハグマの個体群構造と開花の臨界サイズ

Ainsliaea apiculata SCH. -BIP. (Compositae) is an evergreen understory herb widely distributed throughout the Japan Archipelago, with its southern distribution limit on Yakushima Island (OHWI, 1972). The leaves of this plant on Yakushima are variously shaped in a manner differing from that at other habitats. On this island this species has been divided into six varieties (MASAMUNE, 1934) or four forms (SUGIMOTO, 1957) mainly according to leaf shape. The six varieties are var. *scapifolia* (Tozaki-kikkohaguma), var. *multiscapa* (Tagyo-kikkohaguma), var. *acerifolia* (Momiziba-kikkohaguma), var. *typica* (Kikkohaguma), var. *ovatifolia* (Tamagoba-kikkohaguma) and var. *rotundifolia* (Maruba-kikkohaguma). The four forms are f. *apiculata* (Kikkohaguma), f. *rotundifolia* (Maruba-kikkohaguma), f. *ovatifolia* (Tamagoba-pikkohaguma) and f. *acerifolia* (Momoiziba-kikkohaguma). In addition to leaf shape a remarkable plant size variation of *A. apiculata* is known on Yakushima Island.

However, there are no previous reports on the ecological significance of leaf shape and plant size variation of *A. apiculata* on Yakushima Island. In the present report, we examined the characteristics of size structure and critical plant size for the flowering of *A. apiculata* with reference to leaf shape variation.

Table 1. Study site altitude and number of plants harvested.

Study site	Altitude	Number of plants	
Mt. Aikodake	A1	230m	147
	A2	400	238
	A3	540	253
	A4	720	122
	A5	830	198
	A6	900	87
	A7	1050	290
Mt. Tatyudake	T1	1450	45
Yakusugi Land	Y1	1050	57
Yodogawa Lodge	Y2	1380	378

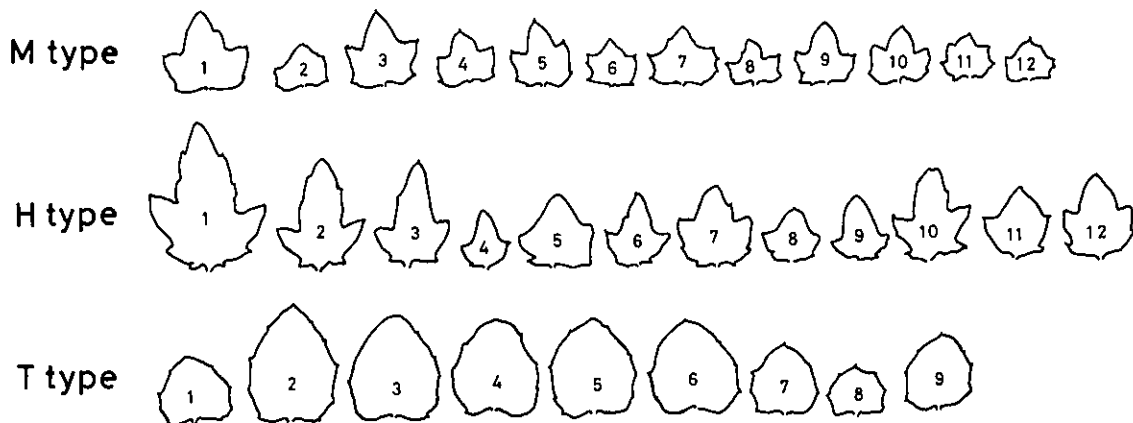


Fig. 1. Examples of the leaf shapes of Momiziba, Hokoba and Tamagoba types of *A. apiculata*. Numerals in the figure were numbered in order of leaf appearance.

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Study Sites

The present research was conducted along a path leading to the top of Mt. Aikodake (altitude 1235m above sea level) and along a road near Yodogawa Lodge on Yakushima Island from July 11 to 17, 1985. Supplementary research was also carried out from December 1 to 4, on Mt.

Aikodake, Mt. Tachudake (altitude 1497m) and Yakusugi Land. The altitude of each research site is shown in Table 1.

Methods

Quadrats 1 to 2m in width were set up in areas where *A. apiculata* occurred densely; all the

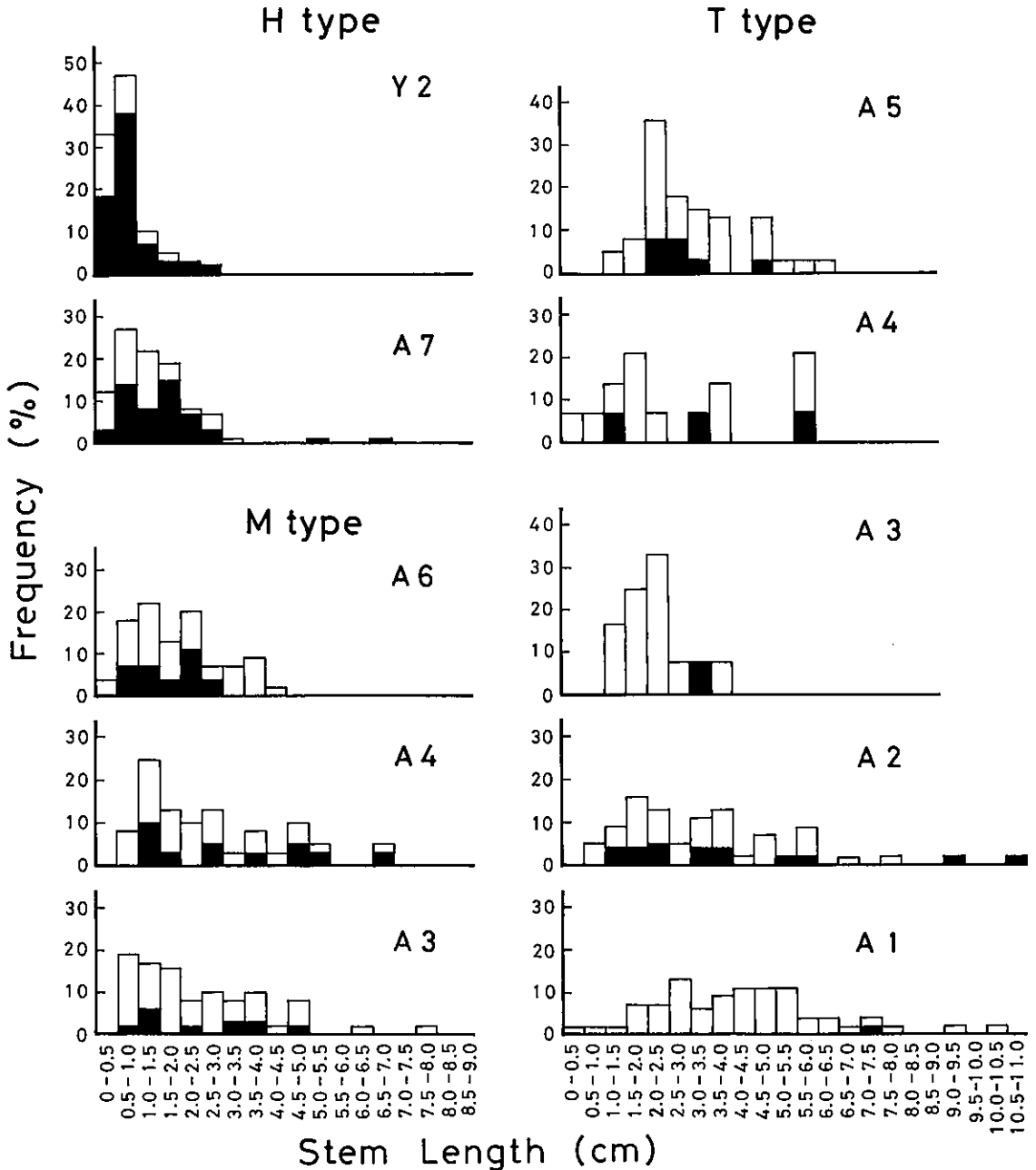


Fig. 2. Frequency of stem length of Momiziba (M), Hokoba (H) and Tamagoba (T) types of *A. apiculata* at various study sites. Solid bars indicate the flowering plants. See Table 1 for abbreviations of study sites in the figure.

plants in the quadrats were harvested. The number of plants harvested from each plot are shown in Table 1. Leaf shape and number, the presence or absence of flower stalks and the diameter of stems below the lowest leaf were measured for each plant harvested. Stem length, leaf area and the weights of plant organs, i.e., flower stalks, leaves, stems, rhizomes and roots, were measured for some of the plants. Stem diameter and leaf area were measured with a digimatic caliper (Mitsutoyo 500-110) and a 0.25 cm² grid net on a transparent sheet, respectively. For the aerial part, measurements were made only using current organs with no consideration given to old leaves or old stems. When the ordinary mode of measurement was not carried out, leaf area and the weight of each organ were estimated on the basis of the allometric relation between the product of stem diameter and leaf number and the weight of each organ for each type at all the sites. In supplementary research, stem diameters and the weights of plant organs for each plant harvested were not measured.

Results and Discussion

In the present study *A. apiculata* was divided into four types according to leaf shape: Momiziba with deep palmate lobes (M type), Tamagoba without distinct lobes (T type), Kikko with shallow lobes (K type) and Hokoba with an elongate terminal lobe (H type). The Hokoba type was found primarily at heights exceeding ca. 1000m and leaf shape resembled that of a scabbard. The K type is regarded as typical *f. apiculata* and the T type may include both *f. ovatifolia* and *f. rotundifolia*. The M and H types may possibly be included in *f. acerifolia*.

All the small plants less than about 3 years of age resembled the K type in leaf shape and large size plants of the K type were rare. Thus, the K type

was excluded from the present analysis. Leaf shapes representative of M, H and T types are shown in Fig. 1.

(1) Frequency distribution of stem length

The stem length of the H type was very short, being in most cases less than 1cm at either site (Fig. 2). In the T type the stem was much longer, mostly 1.5-6cm. In the M type the stem length was intermediate between the H and T types. At lower latitude, larger plants of all three types

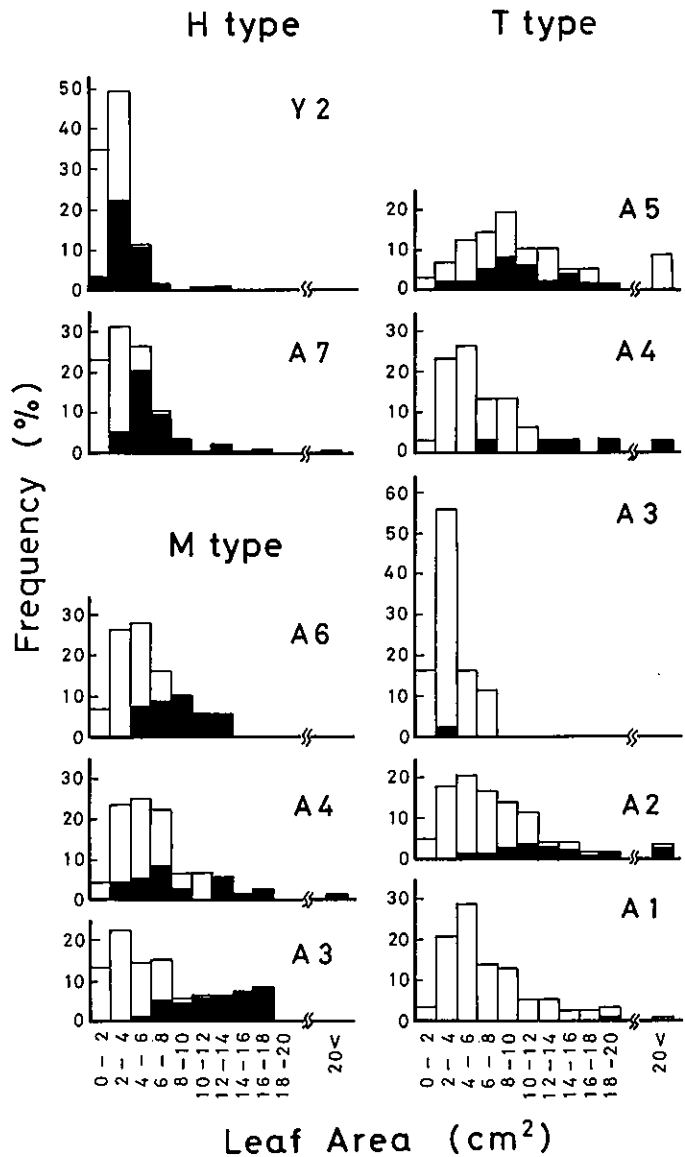


Fig. 3. Frequency of leaf area of Momiziba (M), Hokoba (H) and Tamagoba (T) types of *A. apiculata* at various study sites. Solid bars indicate the flowering plants. See Table 1 for abbreviations of study sites in the figure.

increased.

(2) Frequency distribution of leaf area

In the T type, leaf area was often greater than 10cm^2 (Fig. 3). In the H type, plants with less than 6cm^2 predominated. In plot Y2, 52 per cent of the plants had leaves less than 4cm^2 . In the M type, plant size was intermediate between that of the H and T types. Leaf area decreased in the order of $T > M > H$.

(3) Critical plant size for flowering

To examine the relationship between flowering rate and plant size, the harvested plants were arranged in the order of leaf area and then in the order of aerial part weight. They were divided into 10 groups. For each group, the mean leaf area, aerial part weight and the percentage of flowering plants were calculated. The percentage values were used as indicators of flowering rate probability. The leaf area and aerial part weight for flowering were found to increase in the order of $H < M < T$ (Fig. 4). The size for a 50 per cent flowering rate was termed the critical size for

flowering. The critical sizes for both leaf area and aerial part weight clearly became greater in the order of $H < M < T$ (Fig. 5). Moreover, the critical plant size for flowering decreased with increasing altitude within the same types.

Many perennial herbs have a critical size for flowering (e.g. WERNER, 1975; BASKIN and BASKIN, 1979; HIROSE and KACHI, 1982). This critical size is closely related to the intrinsic rate of natural increase (KACHI and HIROSE, 1985). The critical size for leaf area and aerial part weight for the T type was three to five times greater than that of the H type. This suggests large differences in the population maintenance mechanisms among these types.

In conclusion, the size structures and critical plant size for flowering were notably different among the M, H and T types of *A. apiculata* on Yakushima Island. Further studies on especially the physiological ecology of these types are needed to understand why these difference have evolved and are maintained on Yakushima island.

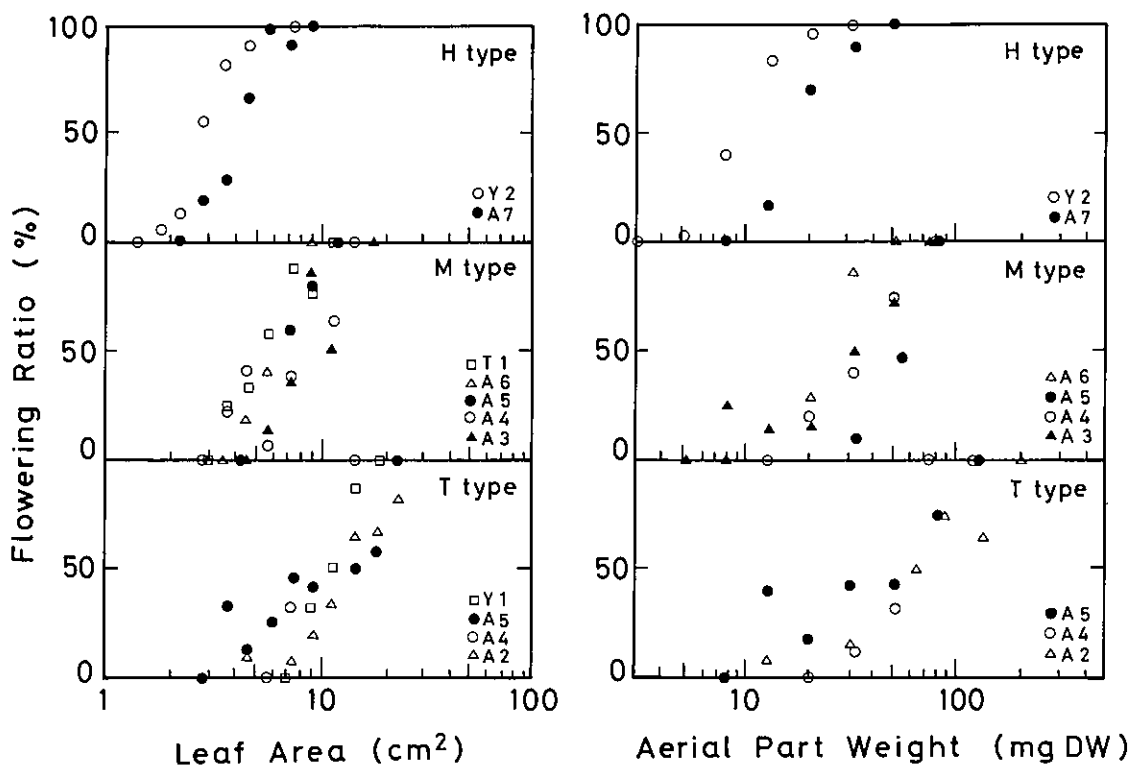


Fig. 4. Relationship between flowering rate and leaf area and aerial part weight of Momiziba (M), Hokoba (H) and Tamagoba (T) types of *A. apiculata* at various study sites. See Table 1 for abbreviations of study sites in the figure.

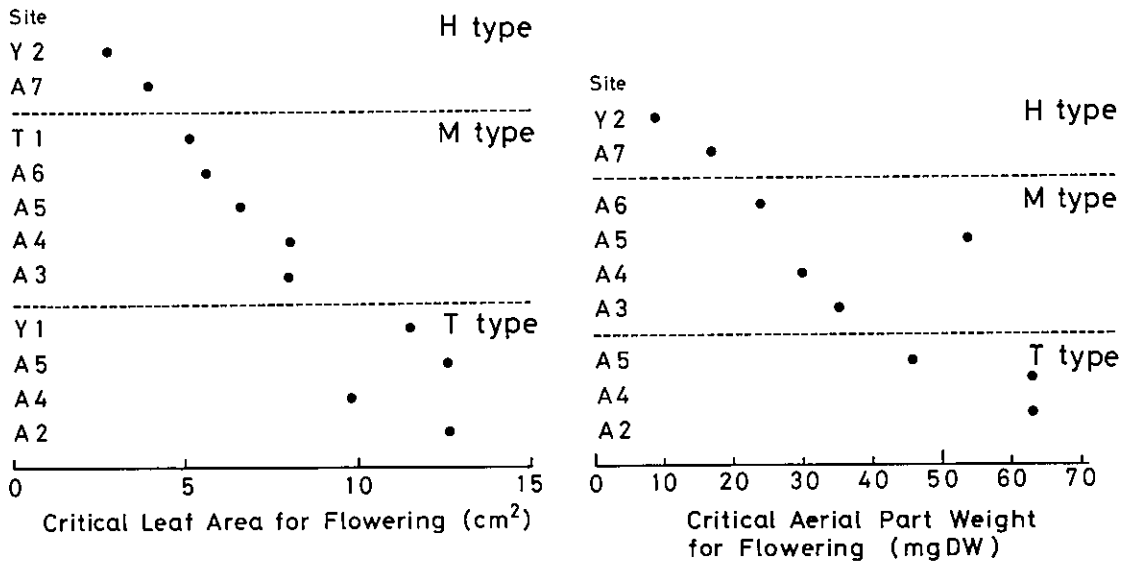


Fig. 5. Relationship between study sites and critical leaf area and critical aerial part weight for the flowering of Momiziba (M), Hokoba (H) and Tamagoba (T) types of *A. apiculata*.

Acknowledgments

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摘 要

屋久島はキッコウハグマの分布の南限にあたり、他の分布地にはみられない葉形の多形現象がみられる。葉形によって、6変種(正宗, 1934)あるいは4品種(杉本, 1957)に分類されている。本研究では、タマゴバ型、モミジバ型、それと狭義のキッコウ型のキッコウハグマについて個体群構造、開花の臨界サイズについて調査した。ホコバ型は約1,000 m以上の高度の所に出現する全体に小型で、葉形が鈍型の個体である。タマゴバ型はタマゴバキッコウハグマとマルバキッコウハグマの品種を含み、モミジバ型とホコバ型はモミジバキッコウハグマに含まれた。また、キッコウ型はキッコウハグマに相当した。キッコウ型については、いずれの型も、約3年齢以下の小個体がキッコウ型となる点や、出現個体数が少なかった点を考慮して解析から省いた。

調査は愛子岳の登山道沿いを中心に、太忠岳の登山道及び淀川林道沿いに点在する個体群について行われ、調査個体群の全個体の茎直径、葉数、花茎の有無を測定し、更に一部の個体については、茎長、葉面積、各器官重を測定した。茎直径と葉数のみを測定した個体の葉面積と各器官重は、(茎直径²×葉

数)との相対成長関係式から推定した。

個体群中の葉面積の大きな個体の割合は、ホコバ型→モミジバ型→タマゴバ型の順に多くなった。莖長も葉面積と同様の傾向を示した。開花の臨界葉面積及び臨界地上部重はホコバ型→モミジ型→タマゴ

バ型の順に大きくなり、タマゴバ型はホコバ型より3~5倍と著しく大きくなった。屋久島のキッコウハグマはホコバ型、モミジバ型、タマゴバ型間で形態および個体群構造、開花の臨界サイズについて明瞭な差異が認められた。(Received July 17, 1987)

正 誤

Vol. XXXV No. 2 p. 84 右上から11行目 Appendi × acinacea → Appendix acinacea

Vol. XXXV No. 2 p. 170 図の説明 s:小根;スケールは1mm長→s:小穂;スケールは1mm長(長田武正描画)

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