アカバナヒキオコシ

Hachijojima has raised a question as to whether or not *S. kurilensis* has truely been a member of natural communities on this volcanic island. In order to answer to this question, the present preliminary observations were made.

Recently, a new research technique called "plant opal analysis" has been introduced into palaeoecological as well as archaeological studies and has turned out to be a useful means of estatablishing past historical changes in vegetation (SASE and KONDO, 1974; FUJIWARA, 1976; FUJIWARA and SASAKI, 1978). The silica body of the motor cells from grass leaves is known as "plant opal". Often it is abundant among the plant remains from soils. Such silica bodies do not easily decayed. Therefore, because of this characteristic, we can investigate the past vegetational history of certain areas, especially those related to grass communities (SASE and KONDO, 1974).

The silica bodies of the motor cells of *Sasa kurilensis* are readily distinguishable from those of *Sasamorpha borealis* var. *viridescens* and *Pleioblastus Simonii*. Both species grow side by side with *S. kurilensis* on Mt. Miharayama on Hachijima Island. The samples of *Sasa kurilensis* collected from three different localities in Honshu were examined in addition to those from Ohkago and Mt. Miharayama in Hachijojima. All these samples were compared. It is very interesting to note that the ratios between the length and width of the silica bodies of motor cells from the samples of *S. kurilensis* cultivated in Ohkago, Hachijojima are more similar to those from Mt. Nasu in Tochigi Prefecture, Honshu, than to those from Mt. Miharayama, Hachijojima Island. This fact suggests that *S. kurilensis* which is cultivated in Ohkago may have been introduced from Honshu, although there is no exact record; whereas *S. kurilensis* which grows near the summit of Mt. Miharayama, though sporadic, is a native population and may justify INOUE and TANIMOTO's recent viewpoint (1985), regarding the plants in Hachijojima as a local variety of *S. kurilensis*, i. e., var. *Jotanii* KE. INOUE et TANIMOTO.

It also became evident that *Sasa*, *Sasamorpha* and *Pleioblastus* possess different types of silica bodies. *Sasamorpha borealis* var. *viridescens* from Mt. Miharayama, Hachijojima, possesses a different type of silica body from that of *S. borealis* var. *borealis* from Lake Chuzenji, Okunikko, Tochigi Prefecture, and Tomakomai, Hokkaido.

In order to clarify more accurately the origin of *Sasa kurilensis* in the Izu Islands, further detailed future studies are needed.

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○ アカバナヒキオコシ (米山競一) Kyōichi YONEYAMA: A Red Flowered Form of *Rabdosia trichocarpus*

クロバナヒキオコシはその名のとおり，黒紫色の花をつけるが，写真のように赤色の花をつけるものがあり，新潟県南魚沼郡土樽村の蓬峠から報告されている。これを昭和59年10月4日，石川県金沢市菱池町で採集した。

Rabdosia trichocarpus (MAXIM.) HARA f. *erythrantha* (IKEGAMI) HARA in Journ. Jap. Bot. **47**: 201 (1972)

Nom. Jap. Akabana-hikiokoshi (IKEGAMI, 1957)

Hab. Hondo: Hishiike-machi, Kanazawa-shi, Ishikawa Prefect. (leg. Kyōichi YONEYAMA; Oct. 4, 1984; KNA 115388)

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