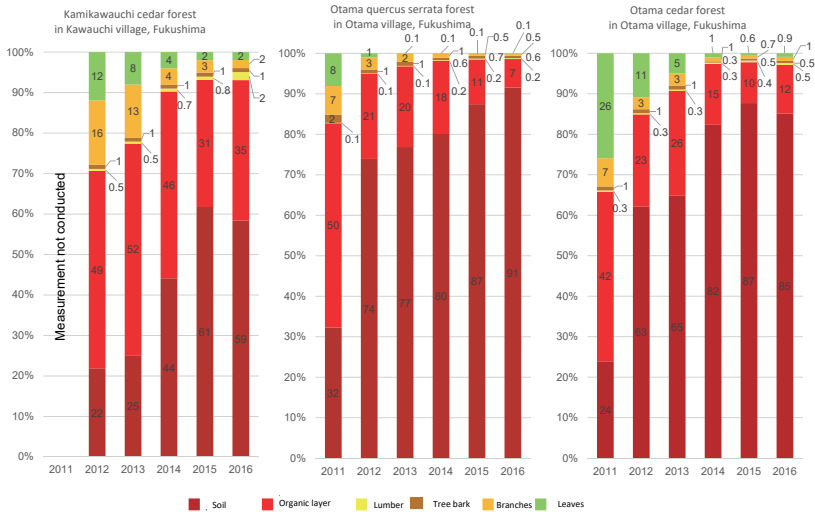


Changes in Radioactive Cesium Distribution in Forests



"Readings of the FY2016 Survey results on the Distribution of Radioactive Materials in Forests," Forestry Agency

Radioactive cesium deposited on trees, leaves and branches, etc. in the surveyed forests gradually transferred into soil from 2011 to 2012 and the percentage of radioactive cesium found in soil increased significantly.

In the surveyed quercus serrata forest and cedar forest in Otama in Fukushima Prefecture, most of the radioactive cesium had transferred into soil in 2016, with the percentage of radioactive cesium in soil accounting for approx. 80% to 90% of the total. Radioactive cesium in organic layer slightly increased in the cedar forest in Otama in 2016 compared with the previous year.

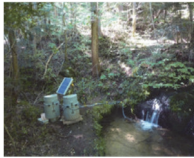
In the surveyed cedar forest in Kamikawauchi in Fukushima Prefecture, there is a larger amount of leaves and branches of trees and a thicker organic layer, as observed in the graph.

Included in this reference material on January 18, 2016

Updated on February 28, 2018

Readings of the Monitoring of Radioactive Cesium in Mountain Streams (2012)

Category	Snowmelt season (March 1 - April 30)		Rainy season (May 1 - July 31)		Autumn season (Aug. 1 - Oct. 31)
Total number of samples	118	(342)	184	(264)	175
Samples wherein Cs was not detected*1	111	(333)	181	(260)	169
Samples wherein Cs was detected*2	7	(9)	3	(4)	6
Concentration of Cs in samples wherein Cs was detected*3: (minimum - maximum) (Bq/L)	1.1~5.9	(1.0~5.9)	1.0~13.1	(1.0~13.1)	1.1~6.8
Percentage of samples wherein Cs was not detected	94.4%	(97.4%)	98.4%	(98.5%)	96.6%



Source: Prepared based on the Readings of the Monitoring of Radioactive Cesium in Mountain Streams (press releases by the Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute on June 12, Sep. 21 and Dec. 20, 2012)

Forestry Agency

Water samples collected from streams from forests in Fukushima Prefecture were inspected but radioactive cesium was not detected in most of them. Radioactive cesium was detected only in some of the samples, such as those collected on days with rainfall. These samples contained suspended solids with insoluble particles. Measurement was conducted again after filtering them and radioactive cesium was not detected in any of those filtered samples.

This suggests that radioactive cesium was detected mainly due to temporary increases in suspended solids, which are often observed when forest streams increase after rainfall.

*1 Detection lower limits for both Cs-134 and Cs-137 are 1 Bq/L.

*2 Samples wherein radioactive cesium was detected all contained suspended solids. As a result of the second measurement of those samples after filtering, radioactive cesium was not detected in any of them.

*3 Concentration of radioactive cesium is the total of Cs-134 and Cs-137 concentrations.

*4 Monitoring points were as follows:

Snowmelt season: Date City, Iitate Village, (Nihonmatsu City, Aizuwakamatsu City, Koriyama City and Hirono Town)

Rainy season: Date City, Iitate Village, (Nihonmatsu City)

Autumn season: Date City, Iitate Village

*5 Values in the table are the readings for Date City and Iitate Village throughout these seasons. Values in the parentheses for the snowmelt season and rainy season contain the readings for the cities and the town in the parentheses indicated in *4 above.

Included in this reference material on January 18, 2016