

Overview of Annual Meeting of IPPS Japan Region 2006[®]

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On 15 and 16 July, the 13th Annual Conference of the IPPS Japan Region took place in Wakayama Prefecture. Professor Nito, the International Director for IPPS Japan Region, served as the Executive Secretary of the Wakayama Conference and obtained cooperation from Kinki University to develop a successful conference.

On the first day, we had a keynote presentation from IPPS Japan Region member Mr. Mamoru Noguchi, who was formerly of National Institute of Hygienic Science in Osaka; the subject of his address was “Search for Medicinal Wealth” (Fig. 1).

He discussed a new method that is used to evaluate for positive effects of herbal dishes using radar charts and discussed its theoretical background in detail. He compared the radar charts for some Kampo medicines (Chinese herbal medicine) as well as herbal dishes that have been prescribed for the same disease. He also introduced cooking recipes for the herbal dishes. Additionally, he showed similar patterns in most cases, and it is concluded from the results that radar charts may be used to assess the biological activities of herbal dishes in comparison with Kampo prescriptions.

Next, we had presentations from other I.P.P.S. members. Copies of these presentations will be published in the *Combined Proceedings* (black book) so the I.P.P.S. members will be able to read and study them.

Unfortunately, we did not have enough time to exchange the members' information because the presentations filled the conference time. Therefore, members were



Figure 1. Mr. Mamoru Noguchi making his presentation.



Figure 2. Kinki University research farm.

not able to talk about what they are doing and what the expectations are for the IPPS Japan Region in front of the members. I feel that it is not enough to only have presentations for the audience at the conference. There should also be conversation and communication between the I.P.P.S. members. Sometimes we find that attendees do not know what kind of background each member has.

A general business meeting was also held. A problem facing the IPPS Japan Region is that the number of members is decreasing every year. To try to solve this problem, we maintain the home page on the Internet web site and send a newsletter to members. During the business meeting we introduced the location for the next annual conference to the membership. The 14th Annual Conference in 2007 will be in Miyazaki Prefecture. The dates of the conference will be the 17th and 18th of November. Dr. Tetsumura, who is a professor at Miyazaki University, will be the executive secretary of the Miyazaki conference. After the business meeting, we had a great time at the banquet with food and drink at a restaurant. It was great time to exchange information and have conversations.

The next day, we toured a grower, Nakatsu Bio Center, and the Kinki University research farm. At the Nakatsu Bio Center we visited with the grower, Mr. Koike. The grower is required to produce a high-quality, safe product and must achieve a stable supply of product. To achieve these requirements, he invests in agricultural growing systems to improve plant production. At Nakatsu Bio Center, they propagate a special kind of lily bulb. In Wakayama prefecture, they are trying to become the leader in the propagation of this special product.

At the Kinki University research farm (Fig. 2), Professor Nito, the director of the IPPS Japan Region and the Secretary of the Executive Committee of the 13th Annual Conference, discussed his research (Fig. 3). Professor Nito is well informed in the field of citrus (orange, mandarin, etc.). They conduct special breeding at the Kinki University research farm. In addition, they grow and conduct research



Figure 3. Professor Nito discussing his research.



Figure 4. Mango research greenhouse at Kinki University.



Figure 5. Research plants in a greenhouse at Kinki University.

on mango (Figs. 4 and 5). Kinki University has a brand and supplies the fruit to the market.

We hope that many members who attended the 13th Annual Conference in Wakayama were satisfied with the conference. Once a year, IPPS Japan members attend the conference from all parts of the country. It is very valuable chance to exchange information among the members. When we attend the annual conference, we hope we will obtain new ideas and they will be helpful in our business or study.

Our industry has been changing day by day. IPPS Japan Region should also be changing day by day. If not, the members will not be satisfied with IPPS Japan Region. The next annual conference will be in Miyazaki prefecture. The most important meaning of I.P.P.S. is the spirit of "SEEK AND SHARE." We hope that the 14th Annual Conference also keeps the spirit of "SEEK AND SHARE" when they develop the conference. The IPPS Japan board hopes that our members make the most of the conference and the meeting.