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A database on radiocesium dynamics in Fukushima forests

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A wide range of forests were contaminated by the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident. In particular, tracking radiocesium within forest ecosystem is of critical importance. In general, at the time of deposition, raiocesium first deposits on tree leaves, branches, barks, and soil surface, and then the radiocesium moves within forest ecosystems, mainly from aboveground to soil surface and belowground. In addition, a part of radiocesium is absorbed by trees from soil. Understanding the dynamics of radiocesium within forest ecosystems is essential to facilitate the remediation of contaminated forests, and to well document the forest radiocesium contamination by this accident. Many studies were conducted since the accident, but the reports are scattered in journal papers, printed reports by the government of Japan and Fukushima local government, and on the web. We started collation of data of radiocesium concentration and inventory for each part of forest ecosystem (e.g. leaf, branch, mineral soil etc.) from those sources together with ancillary information (e.g. forest characteristics, sampling date, etc.). The collation is ongoing; here, we will present the progress of data collation, and preliminary results of radioecological analysis.