



Oral presentation: O2

**Regional comparison of ants at ports in southern Japan -
monitoring of alien ant species**

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Abstract

Ants were investigated at the ports of mainland Kagoshima prefecture and the Southwest Islands, using honey baits and manual collecting. In this study, 57 ant species belonging to 23 genera in 4 subfamilies were collected. This corresponds to 30 % of the 190 ant species confirmed on the Southwest Islands. Twenty two (38.6%) of the 57 ant species collected were alien ants. Ant species collected from all of the 30 ports surveyed included *Monomorium chinense* Santschi (native). The aliens *Nylanderia amia* (Forel) and *Tapinoma melanocephalum* Fabricius were collected at 25 and 23 ports, respectively. In this survey, the alien ant species *Cardiocondyla obscurior* Wheeler was collected on mainland Japan (at Makurazaki Port) for the first time. Twenty eight species were collected at Miyanoura Port, but only 7 species were collected on the South Quay of Kagoshima Port. The most dominant ant species, as estimated by frequency of occurrence at all of the honey baits (900 baits), was *M. chinense* (341/900, 38%), followed by *Pheidole megacephala* Fabricius (172, 19%) (alien), and *N. amia* (144, 16%). The similarity of species composition calculated by Nomura-Simpson's Coefficients (NSC) was greatest (1.00) between: Yamagawa Port and Miyanoura Port; between Naze Port and Cina Port along with Taira Port; and between Ishigaki Port and Taira Port along with Sarahama Port.

Key words: alien ant species, honey baits, dominant ant species, species composition

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