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TEMPORAL AND SPATIAL VARIATION IN FEEDING ECOLOGY OF JAPANESE MACAQUES

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Japanese macaques (*Macaca fuscata*) are endemic to Japan and live in habitats ranging from warm-temperate zones (dominated by evergreen broad-leaved forest) to cool-temperate zones (dominated by deciduous broad-leaved forest). Their food environment and climate conditions, such as temperature and snowfall all exhibit temporal (not only seasonal but also yearly) variation. The advancement of ancestral Japanese macaques to the Japanese archipelago should have been enhanced by certain morphological, physiological, and behavioral traits. Among these, regional and temporal variation in the feeding ecology, including food habits, ranging behavior (home range use, daily travel, and sleeping site selection), and activity budgets, can be considered as behavioral traits aimed at adapting to environmental fluctuations there. In this presentation, I will review the studies concerning variation in the feeding ecology of Japanese macaques, focusing on their food environment and climate conditions. Finally, I will discuss several challenges facing future studies of the feeding ecology of Japanese macaques.

Keywords: feeding, *Macaca fuscata*, temperate region, variation