

## Report on Agri- Reconstruction Project (ARP).

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# **Report on Agri- Reconstruction Project (ARP).**

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After 11<sup>th</sup> March 2011, all of us made every effort to find foods, water and energy for life. Almost of all train and bus service were stopped running. There was no available gasoline in gas stations at Sendai. However, Graduate school of agriculture, Tohoku University started action for support stricken area, and Agri- Reconstruction Project (ARP) was established.

11<sup>th</sup> May, first symposium on ARP was held. 11 specialists who were belonging ARP reported suggestion from their knowledge. About 120 people participated. According to these reports, damages in stricken area were very serious. However, the support for those areas would become more and more important.

300 pamphlet of symposium were printed, and sent to local governments in stricken areas. Simultaneously, web site of ARP activities has been available.

27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> in July, poster session was held in annex library in our faculty. Data of those posters are also available in web site.

Several researches are conducted by specialists from marine biology, soil science, plant breeding/genetics, animal welfare and forestry.

Dr. Osada, who is professor of aquacultural biology laboratory, is researching about artificial high speed raising of oyster seed. These artificial seeds are expected to be supplement for shortage of natural seeds.

Dr. Nanjyo, Dr. Takahashi, Dr. Kanno, Dr. Saito and Dr. Ito, who are member of soil science laboratory and environmental crop science laboratory, have been collecting soil samples from stricken areas. Researchers are suggesting several reconstruction ways which respond to damage level.

Dr. Nishio and Dr. Kitashiba, who are from laboratory of plant breeding and genetics, now selecting rapeseed which could endure the soil damage from salt water. Those rapeseeds will use in “The Rapeseed Project” which is conducted by Dr. Nakai.

Dr. Sato is professor of animal welfare laboratory, take part in the live cow protection project which is carrying out inside 20km area from Fukushima nuclear power plant.

Dr. Seiwa is professor of forest ecology laboratory, planning to reconstruction of domestic forestry. There are large areas which is not appropriate to be paddy field or farm. New style forestry can apply these stricken areas, and it might be creating some chance of employment.

Tohoku University is the nearest and the largest university beside the stricken areas. Graduate school of agriculture is one of the most important cores of support activity in stricken areas. ARP will conduct new support activities for reconstructing agriculture even from now, and send messages for all the countries of the world.

## ***References***

Web site of ARP is available at <http://www.agri.tohoku.ac.jp/agri-revival/> (in Japanese)