

Preface to Symposium Papers on "Utilization of Resources and Environmental Protection", 11th International Symposium of Integrated Field Science

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**Preface to Symposium Papers on “Utilization of Resources and
Environmental Protection”,
11th International Symposium of Integrated Field Science**

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We, Field Science Center of Tohoku University, hold the international symposium for “Integrated Field Science” (IS-IFS) every year. This year’s symposium was held on August 1-2, 2013, jointly with the 12th Symposium on Animal Production Environmental Science Japan (S-APESJ) at Hotel Matsushima Taikanso. It was supported by the Project of Integrated Compost Science (PICS), the Innovative Research Center for Agricultural Science, the Graduate School of Agricultural Science and Miyagi Prefectural Government.

Among these projects, PICS, the Project of Integrated Compost Science, is the main organizer for this symposium. This project started in 2004. 16 laboratories in Tohoku University and 6 research institutes of Miyagi Prefectural Government worked on the project under the agreement of research collaboration between Tohoku University and Miyagi Prefecture. We have collaborated for the development of new composting systems such as Acidoro-compost, which is produced under acidic condition without emission of ammonia. We have also investigated the effects of the compost on plants, microbial changes in composting processes, functional microbes, life cycle assessments of the processes, and the remote sensing of the field application of composts.

In the symposium, we presented our achievements in almost 10 years, and exchanged opinions with participants, especially with distinguished invited researchers, Professor Hsia from Taiwan, Professor Lee from Korea and Professor Insam from Austria. Representative presentations are included in this issue of Journal of Integrated Field Science. Abstracts of all papers including poster presentations are presented in this collection as well.

I hope that various scientific works in this issue will contribute to advancing our research and developing technology for the utilization of resources to protect our environment.