南大洋アデリーランド沖外洋域における浮遊性刺胞動物の鉛直分布

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Vertical distribution patterns of pelagic cnidarians in the oceanic zone off Adélie Land, East Antarctica

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Pelagic cnidarians play an important role in the Southern Ocean ecosystem. However, little is known of their vertical distribution patterns, especially their diurnal vertical migration. Therefore, we examined their vertical distribution in the epipelagic and upper mesopelagic layers off Adélie Land, to better understand the Southern Ocean ecosystem. Zooplankton were sampled at four stations along 140°E at 60°00′-65°30′S (Stns. D06, D08, D10, and D12 from south to north), 10-15 January, 2011. Discrete depth sampling from eight depth layers (surface to 400 m depth) was conducted using a multiple open/close net system (mouth opening 1 m², mesh size 330 μm). Three net tows were done each day (day, night, and twilight) at each station, with the exception of two tows (day and night) at Stn. D12. In all, we collected nineteen chidarian species from Siphonophorae (11 spp.), Anthomedusae (1), Trachymedusae (3), Narcomedusae (1) and Coronate (3). This study first recorded Paraphyllina ransoni (Coronate) and Erenna richardi (Siphonophorae) from the Southern Ocean. The greatest number of species recorded was at Stn. D08 (18 spp.), and the smallest number was at D12 (6). Abundance was greater, deeper than 200 m, with the greatest (11 spp.) at 250–300 m at Stn. D10 during daytime. Three bathypelagic species were collected from Stns. D08 and D10 in the twilight and night tows only: Atolla wyvillei, Peryphilla peryphilla, and P. ransoni. Dimophyes arctica (Siphonophorae) dominated at all stations (85.4%), followed by Diphyes antarctica (Siphonophorae, 5.1%). We observed no clear difference in abundances between day and night at Stns. D10 and D12, while at Stns. D06 and D08 the abundance at night was 2.5 times higher than during the day. In addition, the number of species increased in the 200–400 m layer at night at Stns. D06 and D08. This is likely to be due to night time upward migration by some cnidarian species, such as D. arctica, which is found below 400 m during the day at the two southern stations.

During mid-summer in the high Antarctic zone, the night is very short, if there is night at all. Furthermore, it does not become completely dark after sunset. Off Adélie Land, very few cnidarians occurred in the epipelagic layer during the day in February 2008 (Toda *et al.* in preparation). There were few cnidarians in the epipelagic layer, from the surface to 80 m depth, at night, which probably reduces the predation risk during the bright night. This study also suggests that there are latitudinal differences in species diversity and the diurnal vertical migration pattern, implying differences in the impact of prey/predator interactions in the Southern Ocean ecosystem, probably by latitude and season.

がみられた。これは、南側の 2 点においては、D. arctica をはじめ、 \mathbf{E} 中 $\mathbf{400}$ m 以深に分布した種が夜間に上層に移動したためと考えられる。

夏季の南大洋の高緯度域では夜間が短く、太陽が沈んだ後も十分に暗くならない場合もある。アデリーランド沖では夏季の日中、表層域にはクラゲ類がわずかしか出現しないことが知られているが(Toda et al. 投稿直前)、夜間にもすべての観測点で 0-80 m にはほとんど出現しなかった。このことは捕食者から逃れるためには有利に働くであろう。本研究から、緯度による多様度の違いや南側の 2 点にのみ日周鉛直移動が認められることなどが示唆され、このことはさらに、南大洋生態系のなかでクラゲ類の及ぼす捕食と被食の影響が緯度や季節によっても異なることを意味している。