

Hiroshima Oysters with no harm

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[Hiroshima and Oyster Farming]

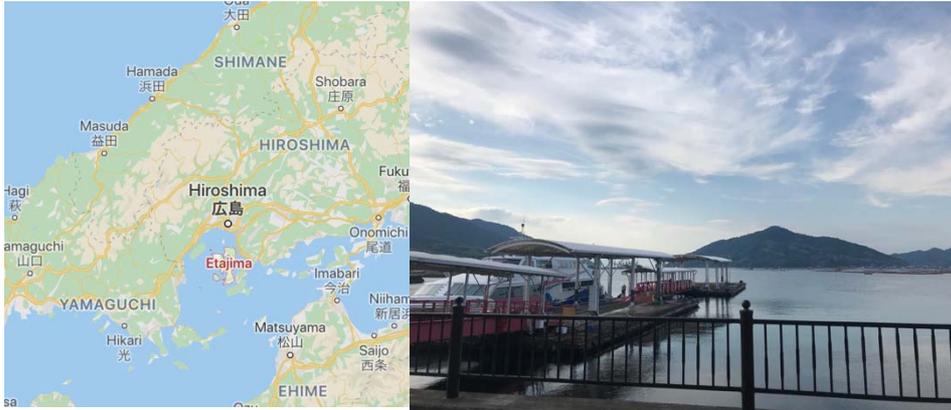
We went to Hiroshima to do field work. Hiroshima is famous for good food, including Hiroshikma-yaki, Momiji manju, and oysters. Hiroshima Oyster has long history. Some shells of oysters were found in shell mound that people living in Jomon era had built. Oyster farmers keep culturing oysters while they have change the way of farming for fitting the era.



For example, oyster farmers had used the way that the left side picture above shows for 30 years from early Showa era. In that way, the pipe made of bamboo was used to make the space between the shells in the process of cultivating oysters. However, plastic pipes that the right side picture shows started to be adopted from about Showa 30 in stead of bamboo pipes. One main reasons of this is that it is possible to produce plastic in a large scale, because it means people can get materials easily with less cost.

[Ocean Pollution Caused by Oyster Farming]

On the first day of field work, we went to Eta Island to do canoeing. Eta island is located just below Hiroshima city. We took a ferry from Hiroshima port to get to the island, which it took about 25 minutes.



While canoeing, we found many plastic pipes floating on the ocean and they were left on the beach as well. It found out that those pipes came from oyster farm that set in shallow places around the island.



The man who taught us how to canoeing said that those plastic pipes is now big problem because plastic is never decomposed unlike bamboo. It remains in the sea and on the beach and some sea animals could eat the piece of those materials.

[Back to Oyster farming that uses Bamboo pipes]

It was mentioned above, bamboo pipes were replaced by plastic pipes for some reasons to meet the demand of consumers for oysters that are good taste and cost. However, ironically, it causes the problem of ocean pollution.

To solve this problem, a company named 株式会社千代松商店 that produces goods made of bamboo started to produce bamboo pipes. This company has been making bamboo goods such as the board of Kamaboko for 120 years. It has been using same way to produce, but at the same time, they adopt new technology that make mass production possible. Some oyster farmers who are conscious of ocean pollution caused by plastic pipes are now using this pipe in the process of cultivating as an experiment. If it succeed, it will help to solve the problem.



[Reference]

・ 広島市水産復興センター

[http://www.haff.city.hiroshima.jp/suisansc/kaki\\_rekisi.html](http://www.haff.city.hiroshima.jp/suisansc/kaki_rekisi.html)

・ 株式会社千代松商店 HP

<https://www.nambushoten.co.jp>