

Visitors

1. Science Camp 2004

Science Camp 2004, sponsored by the Japan Science Foundation, was held at various institutes to enable high school students to experience advanced science and technology. The Science Camp at NIAES took place from 18 to 20 August 2004, with 12 students. Each student participated in one of three courses: A) Examination of allelopathic interactions between plants, B) Examination of ion behaviors in soil, and C) Observation of microorganisms in plants and soils.

After the opening ceremony, the students underwent an orientation to the Camp and a tour of the Institute's facilities. On the second day, they undertook laboratory or field experiments and observations with Institute specialists in each course. On the third day, the Institute held a meeting where the students presented the results obtained in their courses. The students seemed to have developed even more interest in agro-environmental sciences or advanced science and technology through their experiences. (Photos 1, 2)



Photo 1 Students collecting experimental samples.



Photo 2 Students conducting experiments.

2. Open House Day

The Institute opened its door to the public on 14 April during Science and Technology Week 2004. The visitors included students and various professionals—more than 1300 in total, including some overseas visitors. They studied panel displays on research topics, observed specimens, attended lecture meetings, tried hands-on experiments, and participated in vegetable picking in the field, all of which events were arranged under the general theme “Let’s hand down our rich land and environment to future generations.” The result of a questionnaire that we collected indicated that this event was a great opportunity for the general public to learn about agro-environmental sciences. (Photos 3, 4)



Photo 3 Visitors looking at the research exhibition.



Photo 4 Visitors listening to a staff member's talk on invasive dandelions.