Efforts in university to keep consciousness of disaster caused by The Great East Japan Earthquake for resurrection of agriculture at litate village

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After the Great East Japan Earthquake, the revival of agriculture, the various countermeasures have been conducted for resurrection of agriculture and rural community at the disaster area. On the other hand, the consciousness of the damage caused by the disaster is decreasing, and a lot of people tended not to consider disaster area and the life in such area. The recovery on the mental side of people who live in disaster area is important to the revival from the disaster in addition to recovery of the hardware such as the infrastructure. For that reason, the actual information should be sharing between inside and outside the disaster area, and it is necessary to push forward mutual understanding to get rid of the feeling of being estranged that the inhabitants of the disaster area feel. In addition, to prevent weathering of the consciousness is important for without forgetting disaster prevention awareness to a possible disaster in future.

Authors have held some field trips and rice planting and harvesting events in litate village, Fukushima to be able to grasp the situation of the earthquake disaster and really feel efforts of the reconstruction of the area for the people who attended the events by a meeting and cooperation of local farmers and the authorized NPO corporation Resurrection of Fukushima. As university staffs, we are inviting the student participants in the field trips and events to have a young generation know the tragic situation after the disaster and strength of inhabitants overcoming the damage. We want students to think about what could we do and what should we do for recovering this situation as an own problem. We also assign a report problem to think what agricultural science can do for solving the problems in Fukushima for students, after our classes about the actions of the experts in the disaster area from the field of agriculture. The events in litate village had planned since 2013 with farmers in litate to listen the real story from those farmers. In our classes, we introduce the soil physical and agricultural engineering way to remove radioactive materials and efforts by other specialized fields. Various useful opinions for resurrection of litate agriculture are suggested by students. In this presentation, we introduce the contents of field trips and events, class lecture and some feelings and opinions from students.

Keywords: disaster area by Great East Japan Earthquake, decreasing of damage consciousness, agriculture, field trip