

Article on the natural environment of the Senkaku Islands, by Tetsuo TAKARA who had conducted an academic survey of the islands

No.64 Senkaku Islands Travelogue (1)

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Overview

This material is part of a series of articles for children on the nature of the Senkaku Islands, which was contributed to the Sunday Children Edition of Uruma Shimpo by Tetsuo TAKARA, the former president of the University of the Ryukyus, who had conducted an academic survey of the Senkaku Islands in 1950. TAKARA conducted four more surveys thereafter, in 1952, 1953, 1963 and 1968. On each occasion, he provided his students the opportunity to join him on the islands.

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Excerpt [English translation]

Senkaku Islands Travelogue (1)
Islands where you can fish bonito on the shore
Tetsuo TAKARA, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (former Principal of Yaeyama Agricultural High School)

The Senkaku Islands
When you hear about "uninhabited islands," you probably imagine some remote islands far across the sea that feel rather spooky. Last April, I went to some uninhabited islands called the Senkaku Islands to collect insects. Let me tell you where the Senkaku Islands are and what they are like.
It takes about 19 hours to get to the islands in a 10-horsepower, 25-ton fishing boat, traveling north-northwest from Ishigaki Island in Yaeyama. Their location is about 185 kilometers north of Taiwan.
The Senkaku Islands consist of multiple islands, including Uotsuri Island, Kobi Island (Kuba Island), Kitakojima Island and Minamikojima Island. (text omitted)