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Monitoring of atmospheric mercury pollution using carbonized tree and Chinese ink

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We report the results on the Accumulation of mercury by carbonized tree trunk and old paper written by Chinese ink. The mercury accumulated on the trunk of tree disappears during forest fire because of high temperature more than 300C. After forest fire, the carbonized tree trunk free from mercury starts to accumulate atmospheric mercury. The content of mercury accumulated on the carbonized tree trunk seems to be reflect atmospheric mercury pollution at the site after the forest fire. The old paper written by Chinese ink also accumulates atmospheric mercury. Especially in the case of DAIHUKUCHO which has records of the used year, the mercury content of the cover page seems to be reflect the atmospheric mercury pollution of the recorded year at the site.

Keywords: carbonization, Chinese ink, mercury, monitoring, air pollution, forest fire