

## Seasonal variability of planktonic foraminifera: Results from the central North Pacific Ocean sediment trap experiments.

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Planktonic foraminifera, calcareous shell producing zooplankton, were examined for their fluxes in order to clarify temporal and regional variations of their production in the upper ocean related to hydrographic conditions. Three time-series sediment traps were deployed in the central North Pacific along 175E for about one year beginning in June 1993. Seasonal variations of each species and ambient hydrography suggested that food availability and surface thermal structure were main factors for the production of planktonic foraminiferal species at each site.