

The swarm activity started in August 1998 in the Chubu mountain range, central Japan

Tetsuo Hashimoto [1], Kohji Hosono [2], Toshimitsu Tsukakoshi [3], Hitoshi Yamasato [4], Kazumitsu Yoshikawa [5], Akio Yoshida [6]

[1] JMA, [2] Earthq.Info.Predict.Div.,JMA, [3] Earthqu. Predic. Info. Div.,JMA, [4] Earthquake Prediction Information Division, JMA, [5] Japan Meteorological Agency, [6] Earthq. Pred. Inf. Div., JMA

The swarm activity which started on 7th August 1998 near Kamikochi stretched the region to the north along the Chubu mountain range afterwards, reaching to the Nagano-Toyama Prefectural boundary area in September. A number of swarm-like activities have occurred in the mountain range in recent years. However, this is the first time that focal region extended to such a wide area in one activity. The largest shock with an M5.4 occurred on 16 August near Yurigatake mountain and number of earthquakes with M4 or larger amounted to 14 so far. Although a large shock over M4 has not occurred since 20 September, earthquakes with M2 or smaller have been still observed now at the time of late February 1999.