

Small eruption on 9th November 1998 of Meakan-dake volcano, Hokkaido

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After the dormancy since the 1996 phreatic eruption, Me-Akan-dake volcano, eastern Hokkaido, erupted at Ponmachineshiri crater on 9th of November 1998. Eruptive volume was estimated to be about 1000 ton, much smaller than that of the 1996 eruption (~12000 ton). The ash consisted of older (altered) rock-fragments (andesite), minerals and clay. However, trace amounts of angular, fresh basaltic andesite fragments containing brown glass. This might indicate that the 1998 eruption was phreatomagmatic one in which chips of solidified new magma were issued together with larger amounts of fragments of older rocks altered hydrothermally beneath the crater.

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