

Seasonal change of planktonic foraminifera from sediment trap experiments in the northwestern North Pacific Ocean

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Seasonal change of planktonic foraminifera collected by sediment traps was examined in order to understand the relationship between foraminiferal assemblage and surface ocean environments.

Each planktonic foraminiferal species showed definite seasonal variations and can be classified into four groups and the surface ocean environments in this area can be generalized into 5 types.

Comparison on planktonic foraminifera between northwestern

North Pacific and northeastern North Pacific during normal "cold" mode demonstrates higher fluxes of foraminifera due to higher nutrient concentrations. In contrast, foraminifera assemblage show that large area of the northern North Pacific from Site KNOT to Station PAPA could have similar ocean environments during the "warm" mode affected by El Nino events.