

Foraminiferal assemblages changes in the southern Japan Sea, MD01-2407 (Prognostication)

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We are investigating the changes of benthic foraminiferal assemblages in a piston core, MD01-2407 (water depth 932m; core length 55.28m) collected by IMAGES R/V Marion Defresne at the Oki Ridge in the southern Japan Sea. Sediments in this core do not always contain many planktonic foraminifera in dark layers. The sample for foraminiferal analysis were freeze-dried and weighted, and their washed on a sieve with 0.063mm of opening. We examine the samples at an interval of a few meters in this moment. As a result, benthic foraminiferal assemblages consist mainly of *Eilohedra nipponica*, *Islandiella norcrossi*, *Brizalina pacifica*, and *Angulogerina ikebei*. These assemblages are more or less similar to those of last 50,000 years reported by Oba (1980) and Kato (1984). Benthic foraminiferal numbers in a gram are nearly constant at lighter, but decrease at dark layers. On the other hand, planktonic foraminiferal number tends to decrease at dark layers before 80,000 years.

The previous studies suggest that planktonic foraminifera increase at such dark layers as TL-1 and TL-2, but our result is different from it.