CO2 efflux from snow surface in a southern boreal forest in Hokkaido, Japan

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CO2 efflux from soil has been studied many places, however, that from snow surface has not been observed so much due to difficulties in measurement under severe conditions. CO2 efflux from snow surface has been measured in forests at Moshiri, northern Hokkaido, Japan, from November 2004 to April 2005, and discussed on the relations with the physical properties of snow, such as snow depth and porosity. CO2 efflux was measured using a closed-chamber method as well as the CO2 concentrations at the bottom and surface of snow pack, and diffusion coefficient was calculated using the CO2 efflux and the gradient of CO2 concentrations. As a result, in the dry snow period, the diffusion coefficient was decreased with the increases of snow pack depth and density. In the snowmelt period, the diffusion coefficient was not related with snow depth and density, and daily CO2 efflux indicated some relations with daily snowmelt amount.