

Recent volcanic history of Ontake Volcano, central Japan

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The recent eruptive history of the Ontake Volcano, central Japan, has been revealed by tephrostratigraphy as well as radiocarbon dating. We identified six tephra layers from the Ontake Volcano around the Tanohara, which is the southeast flank of Mt. Ontake-san. The tephra layers are very poorly sorted and mainly composed of altered fine-grained ash including lithic fragment. On the basis of radiocarbon dating and stratigraphical relation, frequency of phreatic-eruptions during the past 6000 years is estimated to 1-2 times/ky. However, the historical eruption records of Ontake Volcano before AD1979 are undiscovered.