
ACC021-04

Room: Exhibition hall 7 subroom 3

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Finding of the largest glacier ice of Japan in the Tateyama Mountains, central Japan.

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The Gozensawa perennial snow patch is one of the largest perennial snow patch in Japan. The snow patch is located in the east-facing slope of Mt Oyama (3003m), and its width and length are about 700 m and 200 m, respectively. We measured two longitudinal and two transverse ice radar profiles in mid-September 2009. We identified a large ice body (maximum 30 m in thickness) in all ice radar profiles. It is possible that the ice body is the largest one in Japan. The longitudinal ice radar profiles identify internal layers that dip up-glacier, similar to the thrust structures in the compression zone of a valley glacier. This indicates that the origin of the ice body is glacier ice. To identify ice body activities, we install 25 survey points on the snow patch in October 2009. If we identify the flow of the ice body, the ice body could be regarded as glacier.

Keywords: the Tateyama Mountains, glacier, the Gozensawa valley, ice radar