Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2011
(May 22-27 2011 at Makuhari, Chiba, Japan)

HQR023-P11 Room:Convention Hall Time:May 24 14:00-16:30

Last glacial vegetation in Kamishiro, north Nagano, Japan

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Plant fossil assemblages in last glacial stage between 35,240yBP and 29,630yBP from Kamishiro, north Nagano, central Japan were studied. Plant macrofossil assemblages from 5 horizons include Larix kaempferi, Picea jezoensis, Picea sect. Picea, Tsuga, Abies veitchii, Pinus subgen. Haploxylon, Betula ermanii, B. platyphylla, and Alnus hirsuta with herbaceous plants as Carex, Chrysosplenium kamtschaticum, and Stellaria alsine var. undulata. In pollen assemblages, Pinus subgen. Haploxylon, Abies, Picea, Tsuga diversifolia type and Betula were dominant. The composition represents typical composition in LGM in central and northeast Honshu. Occurrence of seeds of Chrysosplenium kamtschaticum with pollen of Abies homolepis type indicates that the refugia of temperate plants had been distributed in mesic places in subarctic coniferous forest under cold and dry climate in last glacial maximum inland Honshu.

Keywords: plant macrofossil, last glacial, refugia, pollen analysis