

Can We Use Traditional Japanese Food to Reinvigorate the Depopulated Villages?

There are many charms and precious cultures in the Tohoku area where we lives , But they are in danger of being lost due to depopulation. So we want to try to research what is possible to reinvigorate the area by connecting people who are interested in improving this area.

~About depopulated villages~

Definition of a depopulated village

“A village in which more than half of the population is over 65” .

An aging society with a low fertility rate

→Depopulation→marginal villages

~About Takase district~

A collective area of about 10 villages in Yamagata prefecture.

- The local of an animation movie, “Omoideporoporo”
- Safflower is a special product in Yamagata, Yamagata safflower festival is held in Yamagata.

But the population has gone from 5000people→4000people

- Decline of the number of young people
- Low local awareness



Start up

“Takase Get-up-and-go”

~Our ideas of reinvigorating depopulated villages~



~Products we made~

- we took part a seminar in h30.4. We learned how to cultivate safflower at our school. We planted the seeds in May and harvested and dried the flowers and made herbariums by the time we held our school festival in September.

~About our school festival~

- We made safflower herbariums and soap made from safflower, and we sold them at the school festival.
- We will make brochures which show the charms of Takase district and also about safflower.

~Our past activities~

- We have heard about “Takase district” from Yutaka Yarimizu (The chairman of Yamagata agricultural cooperative) Michiko Hiroko (A member of “Sekiyamakaido forum)
- 1st Field survey in Takase district <Oct,2017> We made an inspection of the Takase district.
- Study tour in Taiwan We visited “Taipei World Trade Center” . Tunghahai University “美食育基地”
- 2nd Field survey in Takase district <Apr,2018> Took part in “Let’ s raise safflower course ”
- Film festival
 - We watched “Omoide poroporo” , it’ s set in the Takase district.
- Took part in 2018 Yamagata safflower festival<Jul.2018>



~Plan for the future~

We will make brochures which show the charms of Takase district and also about safflower.
→Let many people know about the Takase district.



References

<http://www.tochikatsuyou.net>

<http://www.rdpc.or.jp>

<http://www.yamagata-community.>