

Ecological system around the Kinezuka organic farm

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The field trip to the Kinezuka organic farm in Fujieda is my first field trip in FOLENS program. Kinezuka san does organic tea farming and gives people chances to experience farming. It was my first time to see tea farm. And I could get real think of organic farmer. I was especially interested in the harmful effects of pesticide on ecological system in the farm through the field trip.

There is Kinezuka tea farm at the top of hill. The tea leaves are grown without pesticides. At first, Kinezuka san started to condition soil. And he established organic tea farm as of now over 35 years. He told us two big differences between organic and pesticide-use farm. They are amount of the pests and condition of the soil. There are more pests at the farm used pesticide because some spiders eat pests in the organic farm. So, organic farming preserve better the ecological balance for tea farm. And pesticide makes soil solidified. The solidified soil is not good for farming. Kinezuka san also said that weeds never grow on the soil. I was very surprised to big effect of pesticides Kinezuka san find organic farming to be very effective.



Organic farming is good for not only tea taste but also ecological system around the farm. On the contrary, pesticides have negative effects on ecological system. But farming population is growing older. And Kinezuka san said that pulling up weeds is hard work for old farmers, if he does organic farming without pesticide. In reality, we can't do farming without pesticide. So, we should consider how to do farming with little bad effect to ecological system. I suppose that young people get more interested in agriculture. And

increasing young farming population is important. In this way, we can avoid to use excess amount of pesticide because young people pull up weeds instead of old farmer. Increasing young farming population is also good in terms of handing down organic farming know-how. And young farmers maximize the accumulated organic farming know-how on future farming to save our food and ecological system around agriculture.