

Cruise Summary

1. Cruise Information

- Cruise ID

NT11-19

- Name of vessel

Natsushima

- Title of the cruise

NT11-19

- Chief scientist [Affiliation]

Satoshi Nakagawa (Hokkaido University)

- Representative of the Science Party [Affiliation]

Satoshi Nakagawa (Hokkaido University)

- Cruise period

9/24/2011-9/27/2011

- Ports of call

Nahashinkou-Nahashinkou

- Research area

Iheya North

2. Overview of the Observation

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In this cruise, we have successfully conducted three HyperDolphin dives at the Iheya North hydrothermal field in the Mid-Okinawa Trough. The main results of these dives are as follows:

1. Dives #1324 and #1325 were done on September 25th. We successfully collected hydrothermal samples, i.e. vent animals (squat crabs), vent fluids, chimney structures, and rocks. Samples were prepared immediately for shore-based microbiological and biogeochemical analyses.

2. Dive #1326 was done on September 26th. Through the dive was shortened because of bad sea condition, we successfully collected deep-sea samples, i.e. vent animals (squat crabs), vent fluids, chimney structures, and rocks, and data, i.e. turbidity, dissolved oxygen, and ionic mercury. Samples were prepared immediately for shore-based microbiological and biogeochemical analyses.