

# Airborne Monitoring Survey by MEXT and Tochigi Prefecture

July 8, 2011

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports Science and Technology

Tochigi Prefecture

## 1. Airborne monitoring by MEXT and Tochigi Prefecture

MEXT has conducted airborne monitoring within a 100km zone from the Fukushima Dai-ichi NPP (up to around 120km in the southern part of the Fukushima Dai-ichi NPP), so as to ascertain effects over a wide area due to radioactive substances and assess future doses and deposition of radioactive substances in evacuation zones, etc.

The monitoring results so far reveal no areas that show extremely high deposition rates in the northern part of Tochigi Prefecture, but it has been decided to conduct airborne monitoring also in the southern part of Tochigi Prefecture upon request from the prefectural government.

This monitoring will be conducted by the staff of the Japan Atomic Energy Agency and the Nuclear Safety Technology Center using an airborne monitoring system, which is borrowed from the U.S. Department of Energy and is installed in a disaster-prevention helicopter owned by Tochigi Prefecture.

\*1: Airborne monitoring is a technique in which highly sensitive, large radiation detectors are installed in an aircraft, and gamma rays from radioactive substances accumulated in the ground are quickly measured over a large area, in order to check the surface deposition.

## 2. Details of the airborne monitoring by MEXT and Tochigi Prefecture

○Monitoring dates: Around one week, from Monday, July 11

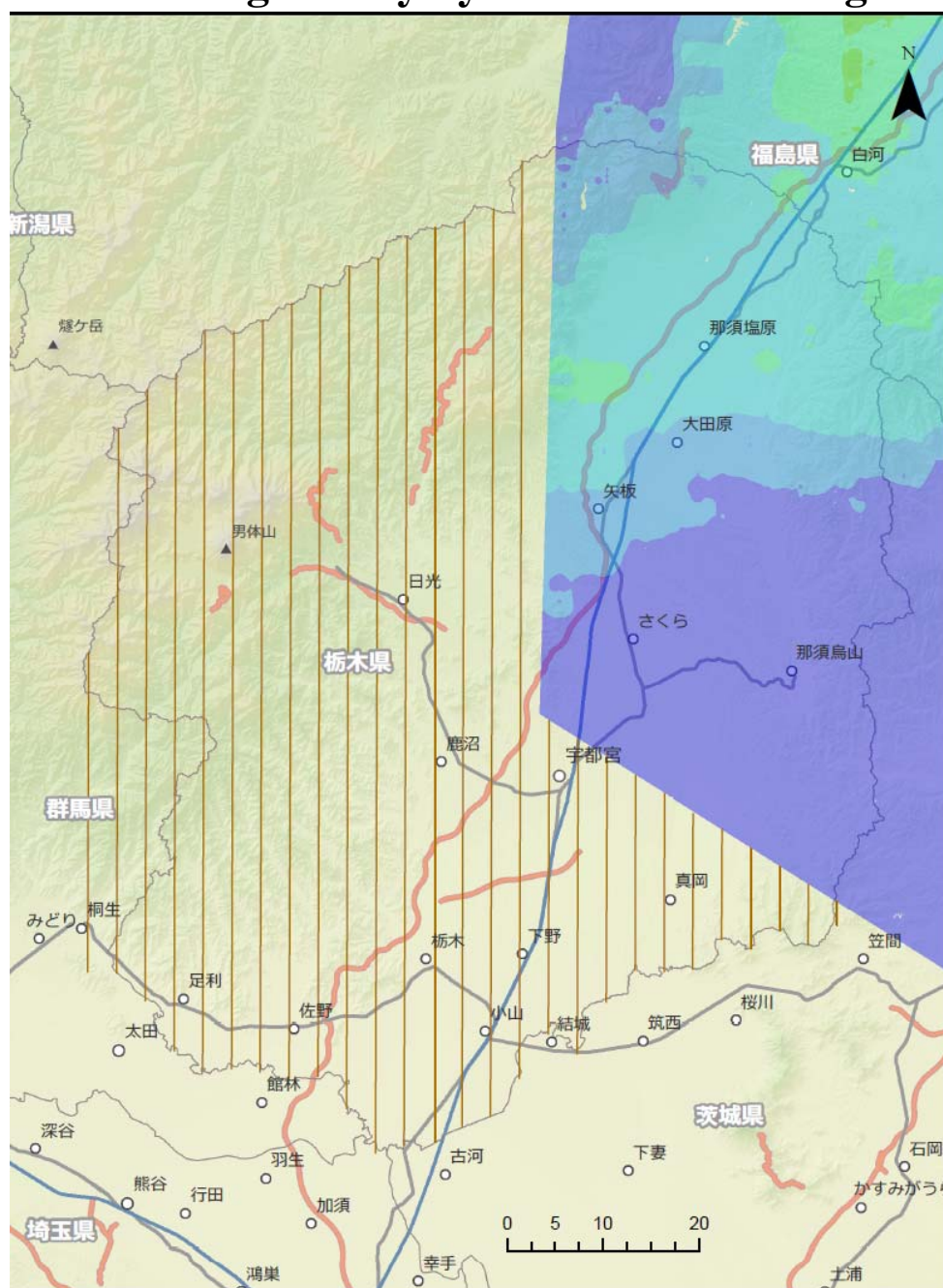
\*Monitoring dates may be changed according to preparation or weather conditions.

○Aircraft: A disaster-prevention helicopter of Tochigi Prefecture (BELL 412EP)

○Items covered: Air dose rate 1 m above the ground surface outside of a 120 km range of the Fukushima Dai-ichi NPP in the southern part of Tochigi Prefecture (see the Attachment) and deposition of radioactive substances on the ground surface

○Method of release of the results: Released by MEXT and Tochigi Prefecture

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\*The monitoring period may be changed according to local weather conditions, etc.

\* In mountainous areas, measurement may not be conducted as low altitude flights are difficult.

### (Monitoring Specifications)

- Monitoring grid: 3km (in densely populated areas and places showing high air dose rates, more detailed monitoring is )
- Target altitude for monitoring: 150–300 m
- Monitoring period: Around one week from July 11
- Items covered: Air dose rate 1 m above the ground surface and deposition of radioactive substances on the ground surface in the southern part of Tochigi prefecture (shaded part)