

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Approach to Biodiversity Conservation

Endorsing the aims of the “Declaration of Biodiversity by Keidanren (the Japan Business Federation),” Mazda promotes initiatives to protect the global environment. In FY March 2012, with the aim of systematically developing its initiatives to protect biodiversity, Mazda conducted an assessment of impacts on biodiversity, and it recognized the significance of the impacts of its business activities and products on the blessings of nature and the environment.

In line with this assessment, the Company established the Mazda Biodiversity Guidelines in December 2012 and has been implementing various initiatives through its business activities aiming at contributing to the conservation of biodiversity and creating a rich, sustainable society that ensures harmony between people and nature. Based on the results of the above assessment of impacts, Mazda takes measures to mitigate its impacts on biodiversity with a particular focus on energy, water and other resources in the areas of products, technology, production, and logistics. Also, to understand the impacts of business activities on ecosystems, the Company has continued to conduct biodiversity surveys with the cooperation of experts. By carrying out biodiversity surveys not only on company-owned lands but also in surrounding areas and on top of that by conducting literature study, Mazda strives to preserve the ecosystem of the entire region.

a

a Process for Assessment of Impacts on Biodiversity

- Step 1: Selecting an assessment target scope (The assessment is made for Group companies engaged in automobile-related business, primarily those with major impacts in the value chain in Japan, although the assumed targets also include overseas companies and affiliates.)
- Step 2: Assessing the levels of the dependence and impacts on ecosystem services, as well as assessing the threat to biodiversity
- Step 3: Identifying business risks and opportunities regarding biodiversity
- Step 4: Identifying priority issues and assessing the current situations of the existing responses
- Step 5: Identifying a direction for future responses

The Mazda Biodiversity Guidelines

【Basic Approach】

Based on “The Mazda Global Environmental Charter,” the Mazda Group, recognizing the blessings of nature and the significance of environmental impacts, contributes to the conservation of biodiversity through its corporate activities worldwide, with the aim of establishing and developing a rich, sustainable society that ensures harmony between people and nature.

【Priority Initiatives】

1. Creation of Environmentally Sound Technologies and Products

We will encourage the creation of technologies and products considering harmony between the environment and our corporate activities, by developing technologies that contribute to cleaner emission gases, reduction of CO₂ emissions, research and development of clean energy-based vehicles, promotion of recycling and biodiversity.

2. Corporate Activities in Consideration of Conserving Resources and Energy

We will promote reduction of substances with environmental impact and effective use of resources, and contribute to conservation of biodiversity, through efficient energy use and resource-saving/recycling activities.

3. Collaboration/Cooperation with Society and Local Communities

We will promote local community-based activities, by striving to establish collaboration/cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders including supply chains, local governments, communities, NPOs/NGOs, and education and research institutions.

4. Awareness Enhancement and Information Disclosure

We will take active and self-initiative actions and disclose and share the achievements widely to society, by striving to enhance awareness of the importance of coexistence between people and nature.

Established in December 2012

Examples of Initiatives

Creation of Environmentally Sound Technologies and Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous evolution of Skyactiv Technology (see p.32) • Electric vehicles (see pp. 32) • Product Development and Design with Consideration for Recycling Needs (see p. 39)
Corporate Activities in Consideration of Conserving Resources and Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the facility operation rate and shortening the cycle time in the production process (see p. 35) • Hub-and-spoke system for transportation of completed vehicles and service parts (see p. 37) • Assessing and considering the impact on biodiversity when constructing a new plant
Collaboration/Cooperation with Society and Local Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting the preservation of forests, support for the protection of wildlife, etc.*1 • Conducting biodiversity initiatives on Company-owned lands
Awareness Enhancement and Information Disclosure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities through the Mazda Foundation*2 • Promoting awareness of social contribution activities and disclosure of information on these activities • Educating employees and raising their awareness • Introducing the activities to the inside and outside of the company through the Mazda Sustainability Report etc.

*1 <https://www.mazda.com/en/sustainability/social/environment/>

*2 Japan <https://mzaidan.mazda.co.jp/> (Japanese only)

United States <https://www.mazdafoundation.org/>

Australia <http://mazdafoundation.org.au/>

New Zealand <https://mazdafoundation.org.nz/>

South Africa <https://www.mazda.co.za/mazda-foundation/foundation/>

Contribution to Resolving Social Issues

Biodiversity Initiatives on Company-Owned Lands

Miyoshi Plant

The Miyoshi Plant has continued to conduct ecosystem surveys within its premises since 2016. In FY March 2021, the Plant conducted a monitoring survey of Aki salamander (*Hynobius akinensis*), which inhabits only parts of Ehime Prefecture and Hiroshima Prefecture and is listed as a rare species in the Red Data Book of the Ministry of the Environment and that of Hiroshima Prefecture, and confirmed the presence of Aki salamander in the pond on the premises.

In the future, the Miyoshi Plant will work to create an environment conducive to harmonious coexistence with various living creatures, including Aki salamanders.

Hofu Plant

The Hofu Plant conducted an ecosystem survey for the first time in 2020 to understand what species inhabit the pond on its premises. The survey confirmed the presence of about 50 kinds of living creatures in the pond, and it has been found that the pond has an environment that is closely connected to the rivers in the region. Based on the results of the survey, the Plant will promote activities that lead to harmonious coexistence with the local natural environment.

Information Provision

The Biodiversity Newsletter is issued regularly to keep employees up to date on the biodiversity initiatives undertaken on Company-owned lands and biodiversity-related news. A total of 10 issues have been published thus far. The newsletter will continue to be issued so that more employees will become interested in biodiversity.

b

b A larva of Aki salamander found at the Miyoshi Plant



C

C Biodiversity Newsletter

生物多様性ニュースレター

VOL.10 2021年3月発行

コロナから考える私たちの暮らしとSDGs

2020年に流行が始まった新型コロナウイルス感染症はまだ勢いが衰えず、じくなられた方は日本国内では7,000人、全世界では200万人を過ぎました(2月14日現在)。私たちがCSR・環境部も、2020年に三次テストコース、防疫工場及び本社で生物調査などを予定していましたが、大きく変更せざるを得ませんでした。久しぶりの「生物多様性ニュースレター」の発行となった今回は、新型コロナウイルスを取り上げます。

コロナは死なない？

コロナ禍での生活を不安にしている原因のひとつは、相手が「見えない」ことでしょう。実際、コロナウイルスはとても小さく、この時期多くの人を悩ますスギ花粉や大腸菌などの細菌と比較していても、その小ささは際立っています(図1)。

多くの人が、ウイルスは微生物の一種と
思っていますが、厳密には生物かどうかとも
あいまいな存在です[1]。生物の定義「には
いくつかありますが、①細胞を持つこと、②
呼吸すること、③繁殖すること、④三つの条
件を満たすというのいずれか一つは、と
ころが、ウイルスはこのうち①②③の条件
を満たしていません。ウイルスの体は、遠

図1 コロナウイルスはこんなに小さかった！

伝信物質(※)とそれを囲むタンパク質だけででき
ていて、呼吸もせず、餌も食べません(図2)。寿
命もないので、壊れてしまわない限り永久に存在
し続け、条件が整うと繁殖だけ行うという不思議
な存在なのです。しかしここでは、「まるで生きて
いるような」彼らも広い意味での微生物と考えて
話を進めましょう。

図2 コロナウイルスの構造

人類の歴史は微生物との戦いの歴史だった！

14世紀末に流行したペスト(鼠死病)はヨーロッパだけで死者2,500万人以上と推定さ
れています。コロナは流行する際に100〜2,000万人の死者を出しました。1918年のス
ペイン風邪による死者は4,000万人で、この数は同時期に起きた第一次世界大戦の死者数の
4倍にもなります。

感染症が昔から人類の悩みのタネだったことが分かるトリアビをひとつ紹介しましょう。
今年もお正月に思いっきり酒を飲んだ方もいると思いますが、これは「福祿寿酒(とそ
えんめんざん)」という薬酒を飲め、無休息災を願う平安時代に始まった行事の名残です。
このお慶の中に「福」とは「殺す」という意味ですね。新年のお祝いにはあまり
相対しなくように思えますが、福祿とは「福(=疫病などの災い)を避ける」という意味で、
疫病などから身を守ることに大きな関心があったためなのです(図3)。

1