

Review of the 8th Symposium on “Why Human Beings are Refreshed by the Fresh Green Odor Emitted by Green Leaves in the Forest!”

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Summary

Since 1957, the author has studied the chemistry and biochemistry of “so called green odor” by a multidisciplinary approach involving synthetic chemistry, natural product chemistry, flavor chemistry, plant biochemistry, physiology, and molecular biology¹⁻⁶⁾. After 1985, the emphasis was on the relationships between the chemical structure and human characteristic response for this green odor⁷⁻¹²⁾. From 1994, this was extended to the theme “Why people are refreshed by the fresh green odor emitted by green leaves in forest!”. To demonstrate under corroboration some effects on stress and of schizophrenic tendencies, research commenced on the effects of green odor on human olfactory receptor neurons and mechanisms of activation of smell sense organs and the impact on immunity. Approaching the 21st century, to further this work, a research project was organized by myself with an interdisciplinary approach combining life science, medicine and aromacology¹³⁻²⁰⁾. Under the auspices of this project, the 1st symposium on “Why people is refreshed by the fresh green odor emitted by green leaves in forest!” was held at Department of Pharmacology, University of Tokyo at December 6th, 1997 under supporting by the NISSAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION²¹⁾. Subsequently, the 2nd on this symposium was held at 1998²²⁾, the 3rd done at 1999²³⁾, the 4th at 2000²⁴⁾, 5th, 2001²⁵⁾, 6th, 2002²⁶⁾, 7th, 2003²⁷⁾, and then 8th, 2004 in the same place, at the first Saturday of December, every year.