

学 位 論 文 要 旨	
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題 目	Human-elephant conflict in the traditional dry zone village settlements of Sri Lanka: A study on farm household resilience and adaptation スリランカ中部乾燥地帯の伝統的農村におけるゾウ問題：農家のレジリエンスと適応に関する研究
<p>The drastic depletion and fragmentation of elephant habitats in Sri Lanka's dry zone, owing to smallholder agriculture expansion, has led to intense conflict between the farmers and elephants (IHEC) inhabiting the region. However, our understanding of the factors underlying the adaptive capacity (resilience) and adaptation responses of the farming communities in the face of IHEC is minimal. To fill this knowledge gap, this study, through a socio-cognitive research approach, attempted to gain a comprehensive insight into the factors underlying the resilience and intentions of farm households in adopting long-term sustainable measures against IHEC. The research data were collected from seven traditional village settlements in the dry zone.</p> <p>The study revealed that community and neighborhood-level social networks and socio-economic characteristics of farm households in the traditional tank villages were significantly correlated to household resilience under environmental stress. Although the resilience of farm households against IHEC and other environmental stresses was reportedly high, particularly owing to strong community ties, their adaptation strategies were mostly temporary and inefficient, such as overnight crop-guarding. Contrarily, the study observed a unique collective farming method in a traditional village community that has suppressed the farmers' demand for land. The study revealed the potential of such collective farming methods, rooted in the eroded traditional reciprocal labor system that immensely contributed to maintaining the eco-system in the past, to impede depletion and fragmentation of elephant habitats while substantially strengthening farm household economies.</p> <p>The study investigated whether farm households in other traditional village communities are likely to adopt such long-term measures (i.e., engagement in collective measures or permanent abandonment of crop lands in elephant habitats and switching to alternative income sources). In the last chapter, based on Protection Motivation Theory, the study also developed an empirical model to reveal the socio-cognitive determinants underlying the farmers' likelihood (reflected in their intentions) of adopting long-term adaptation measures. The study revealed that the likelihood was low to average, whereas their intentions to adopt such measures were significantly predicted by the socio-cognitive factors.</p>	