

## In Memoriam: Hiroshi Hashimoto (1924–2015)

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Dr Hiroshi Hashimoto, Emeritus Professor of Shizuoka University, passed away quietly on 26 February 2015 in Kanagawa, Japan, at the age of 90. He was a distinguished entomologist and authority of Japanese dipterology, and produced many conspicuous achievements, especially on chironomids. He was also an excellent taxonomist of freshwater hydroids.

Dr Hashimoto was born on 20 April 1924 in Tokyo, and received doctoral degree from his alma mater, Tokyo University of Education (Tsukuba University) in 1961. He started his career as a scientist in Shimoda Marine Biological Station, belonged to the Faculty of Science, Tokyo University of Education. His important papers were written at the station. These focused on the taxonomy and the ecology of marine chironomids. His studies on the emergence related to the tidal rhythm and the mating behavior of *Clunio* midges are well known to chironomids researchers.

When transferred to Shizuoka University in 1968, he began to study chironomids living in lakes and rivers. The achievements considerably contributed to the progress of limnology in Japan. The taxonomy of freshwater hydroids was his concern, too, around that time. He (1981) described the polyp and the frustule stages of *Astrohydra japonica* collected from ponds in Japan as a new genus and species in Microhydridae, and reared the minute polyps in the laboratory for ten years. Fortunately, the medusa appeared from it. He gave it Japanese name, *yumenokurage*, derived from Japanese *yume* (dream) and *kurage* (medusa). Then I really felt his passion for science. He developed many students for teachers in primary and middle schools as a professor of the Faculty of Education. I heard that since retired from Shizuoka University in 1988, he had cared for his sick wife, who died in 2014. His students and I pray that their souls may rest in peace.



Dr Hiroshi Hashimoto (1924–2015), photograph taken on 26 August 2006 in Shizuoka City.

Hiromi Niitsuma

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