

Chigasaki Wave



Chigasaki Wave Club

ウエーブ
茅ヶ崎 波 倶楽部

Sea breezes are like precious friends, easing your mind, and whispering encouragement to you.

Nozaki Farm – the only Shonan Pomolon grower in the city

When we visited Nozaki Farm in Shimoterao, northern Chigasaki in mid-March, about 1,000 tomato plants in sixteen rows had borne green, yellow and red fruits in its four greenhouses. Major tomato varieties of the firm are normal-sized Rinka 409 and Reiyou, and medium-sized Frutica. In addition, Shonan Pomolon, a medium-sized Italian-Japanese tomato, is also cultivated.

A water solution of fertilizers is supplied from pipes which run through the soil. The moisture content of the soil is monitored all the time, and Toshikazu Nozaki, at the age of 35, the 5th generation of the family, rehydrates it when necessary.

Cables hold bendy tomato plants so that they grow upwards. As tomatoes near the soil grow faster, after picking them, he lowers the plants a little so that the tomatoes just above them come down to near the soil. Mr Nozaki repeats the phased lowering of the plants during the cultivation period. Bees fly around throughout the pollination season. There is more to a modern greenhouse than meets the eye. Since his father's day, tomatoes have been a major produce of Nozaki Farm. However, his family also raise vegetables such as green soybeans in the pod, spinach, broccoli and mustard plants. Most of these products are sold at his shop in Shimoterao 336 on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. These fresh vegetables are popular and sell out quickly. The Waiwai market in Samukawa often sells Shonan Pomolon between January and June.



Shonan Pomolon was developed in 2013 at the Kanagawa Agricultural Technology Center in Hiratsuka. The variety is based on an Italian tomato, and has the advantages of both Italian and Japanese tomatoes. It can be eaten raw, boiled or sautéed. The name "Pomolon" is the combination of **pomodoro**, an Italian word for tomato, and **long**. Pomolon Red contains about 1.5 times as much lycopene as a normal-sized tomato, and Pomolon Gold contains a lot of pre-lycopene. Mr Nozaki has been tackling the cultivation of the Italian-Japanese hybrid for four years. He says the variety is more prone to develop diseases compared to ordinary tomatoes. The tomato harvest season is from November throughout June. Mr Nozaki says farmers can grow crops under ten different conditions in ten years, but can change conditions only ten times in ten years.

Agriculture requires sustained efforts. <https://nozakinouen.com/>



The COVID-19 Pandemic

Since a new type of pneumonia, COVID-19, broke out at China's central city of Wuhan at the end of last year, the disease has been spreading with remarkable speed to all over the world. As of March 27, there were 1,478 cases in Japan, and 105 in Kanagawa. Around ten patients had been found in each of Kamakura and Hiratsuka, but only one in the district covered by the Chigasaki hygienic center by the 27th.

In Kanagawa, primary schools and Junior highs were closed, most events and



concerts were cancelled or suspended, and every public facility was closed until March 31. The photo on the right is Himuroen.

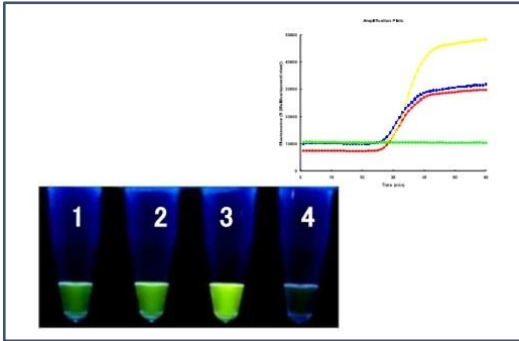
There were about 513,000 patients and 23,500 deaths in 201 countries, areas and territories (the left map from the WHO website on Mar. 27). We now live in one world, and it is growing smaller and smaller.



Quick detection of the new coronavirus will become possible.

The Kanagawa Prefectural Institute of Public Health (IPH), in Shimomachiya, Chigasaki, and the Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (IPCR), in Wako, Saitama, have jointly developed a reagent which makes it possible to detect the deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) of a new type of coronavirus at a high sensitivity. The combination of the reagent and a nucleic acid amplification technique developed by the IPRC was confirmed to provide a highly sensitive rapid diagnostic method for identifying COVID-19 patients.

The IPH isolated three coronavirus strains from infected passengers aboard the cruise ship, Diamond Princess. Then, ribonucleic acid (RNA) was isolated from the strains, and purified. DNA was amplified from the RNA by using a new DNA polymerase developed by the IPCR. This process, which takes 30 minutes at the longest, is much shorter than the current Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) method. * About the IPH, see CWs 22 and 23.



Nos. 1 to 3: solutions of the coronavirus DNA, No. 4: no DNA

Then, the above reagent developed by the two institutes, a fluorescent labeling probe, was inserted into the amplified DNA so that the DNA became visible when irradiated by ultraviolet rays. (See the photo on the left.) It is possible to judge whether the new coronavirus exists in specimens collected from suspected people by observing the color of the solutions processed by this method. The new method takes about an hour and a half, while the PCR method requires around 5 hours.

This technique is an achievement of a three-year joint study between the two institutes, financially supported by Kanagawa Prefecture. The IPH will continue the research, aiming for practical use. The technique needs to be approved by the government agencies concerned. (Source: the IPH press release on Feb. 27)

People in Chigasaki (15) Fusamochi Koyama

The Yamada Denki building, at the north exit of Chigasaki Station is now under reconstruction (the photo on the right. the site looks ready for construction.). Back in 1914, a big silk mill, called 'the Junsui Kan', meaning 'pure water mill', which originated in Komoro city, Nagano Prefecture, used to stand there.

It was founded by Fusamochi Koyama (1882-1935), who was born as the second son of a small filature owner in Ueda City, Nagano Prefecture. After he married a daughter of Hisaemon Koyama, the founder of 'the Junsui Kan', he helped develop the business of the family. They owned a second house in Chigasaki, because some of them, including Fusamochi, had medical treatment at Nanko-in, a sanatorium in Chigasaki. Noticing the sericulture industry in Chigasaki, he built a facility to purchase silkworm cocoons near the station in 1914.

Later, he bought a plot of around 40,000 m², along the Tokaido Line, built "the Junsui Kan" equipped with around 200 of the latest mill machines, and employed over 200 female workers. He held a grand opening ceremony, inviting hundreds of local volunteers who had contributed to the city development. Also, welcoming parties for female workers from Nagano Prefecture were held by the local citizens.

He not only succeeded in operating the mill, but was also involved in developing the business world in Chigasaki, with establishments such as the Chigasaki Credit Union and the Post Office. Unfortunately, the 1923 Great Kanto Earthquake destroyed 'the Junsui Kan'. It was reconstructed, but was forced to close in 1937 due to a chronic recession of the silk industry and the Great Depression in the 1930s.

His young brother-in-law, Keizo Koyama, an artist who had lived at Nango in Chigasaki, painted 'the Hamaori-sai festival' in 1955. Did you know that the front

curtain of the Chigasaki Civic Hall was modeled after the painting? Also 'Beni Asama Mountain' hangs at the Culture Hall in Komoro City, his hometown. The two paintings form a striking contrast between an ocean and a mountain view, connecting the two cities.



(A bimonthly serial)



*Interested in Japanese proverbs?

1) 古傷は傷みやすい

(FURUKIZU WA ITAMI YASUI)

FURUKIZU means an old wound, **WA** to be, **ITAMI** to cause a person pain, and **YASUI** to be easy to do.

An old wound sometimes causes pain at the turn of the seasons, on a rainy day or windy day. This is because even if the wound looks completely recuperated, in many cases, subcutaneous tissue near the wound has not recovered. And when the temperature or air pressure changes in a short time, nerves in the unrecovered tissue are stimulated.

The saying figuratively means wrongdoings in the past make people feel guilty whenever they remember those behaviors. There are many things which keep annoying people. Even the happiest man will have such memories. Some people may still be tied to the memories of romantic rejection or unrequited love.

Its English equivalents are:

- Old sin breeds new shame.
- Young men's knocks old men feel.
- A scaled head is soon broken.

2) 骨折り損のくたびれもうけ

(HONEORI ZON NO KUTABIRE MOUKE)

HONEORI means to spend a lot of money, time and energy, **ZON** a loss or to go to waste, **NO** a conjunction, meaningless in this sentence, **KUTABIRE** to be fatigued and **MOUKE** to gain.

This saying literally means a man works hard in a vain effort to achieve something, and he only gets tired. The following is an example. You were busy preparing for a hike, but it was cancelled by an approaching typhoon.

This saying is originated from the failure of the owner of a shop selling *konjak*, paste made from *konjak* flour. He was worrying about his products not selling well, and thought over how he could sell more. He tentatively made larger blocks, and they sold briskly. But he did not make any profit, because he sold them at cost. This proverb appeared in Iroha Karuta in the Edo period.

Its English equivalents are:

- Great pains but all in vain.
- As good seek nought as seek and find nought.
- He has his labour for his pains.

History of Chigasaki Chigasaki Village – Jukkenzaka and Nango (1)

It was around 1350 when the name of Jukkenzaka first appeared in history. In 1333, the Kamakura shogunate of the Hojo family went to ruin, and Naoyoshi Ashikaga, a younger brother of Takauji Ashikaga, moved to Kamakura to rule all the Kanto area. However, wishing to restore his family, Tokiyuki Hojo expelled Naoyoshi two years later and occupied Kamakura. It was on July 25, 1335.

Hearing the emergency, Takauji rushed to Kamakura along the Tokaido Highway. His troops defeated Hojo's at battle fields on his way down to the provincial capital from western Japan. On August 18, his troop won the battle of the Sagami River. That night they stayed at Jukken zakaya (Jukken liquor shop) kozukeshuku, described an old record. This "Jukken zakaya" was once interpreted as Jukkenzaka in Chigasaki, but recent studies have discovered that the "Jukken zakaya" is the name of a place near Koshigoe in Kamakura. Takauji and his troop did not stop in Chigasaki, but the record tells beyond doubt that Chigasaki at this time became a battlefield, and residents' daily life was quite disturbed.

The pathway going westward on the south of the Youth Hall toward Dairokuten Shrine is called the Ancient Kamakura Highway (the photo on the right). Another pathway running parallel to the highway to its south is said to be an old stretch of the Tokaido Highway. Shinmeigu is faced on the stretch, and in front of the shrine's main building, a *Castanopsis sieboldii* stands (the photo below). It is said the broad-leaved evergreen tree was planted by a man who went to the front



during WWII. Shinmeigu used to be surrounded by tall pine trees.

There are two stones at the right side of the torii of Dairokuten Shrine. They are called *chikaraisi*, or a power stone, which were used to test men's power until the 1900s. Folklore says a person of great strength once lived here and he

succeeded in lifting a *chikaraisi* in Yanagishima, and another near the Nandoki bridge. He brought the two stones as trophies. (the photo on the right)



History of Chigasaki Chigasaki Village – JuKkenzaka and Nango (2)

The area spreading to the west of Jukkenzaka along route one is called Chayamachi. The area was described as Nango tateba in the records of the Edo period. Nango tateba, or Nango rest area, was not an official post station. But travelers and feudal lords with their followers, on their way to and from Edo, ancient Tokyo, dropped in the rest area, located between Fujisawa and Hiratsuka post stations. Feudal lords and their parties used to stay at an inn called Matsuya, and sometimes also at Edoya inn. In those days many shops lined the Tokaido in Chayamachi and people came for shopping from neighboring villages.

On the precincts of Horinzan Kongo-in (the photo below) located near Chayamachi, the first elementary school in Chigasaki Village, Takusho gakusha, opened in 1873, and the village office in 1889. This was because



of Toriido, Kotohira Shrine of Kamimachi, Yagumo Shrine of Nakamachi and Sumiyoshi Shrine of Shimomachi. In the Edo era, there was only Yagumo Shrine in the whole of Nango, but later each district grew bigger, and came to have a shrine of its own.

the area was the center of the village in those days. Since Chigasaki Station began its business in 1898, however, the shopping center has gradually moved toward the station.

Nango consisted of five districts: **Chayamachi** (the photo in the upper right), **Toriido** (the one in the lower right), **Kamimachi**, **Nakamachi** and **Shimomachi**. These districts were simply called Kami, Naka, Shimo and Chatori. Each of them had its own shrine. They were Chayamachi-Dai-Jingu of Chayamachi, Goryo Shrine



The sun sets on the summit of Mt. Fuji on and around the spring equinox in Shonan

The citizens of Chigasaki probably know the sun sets somewhere between Mt. Fuji and Mt. Oyama in spring and summer, and between the Izu peninsular and Mt. Fuji in autumn and winter. Thus, the sun sets on the summit of Mt. Fuji twice a year, as the sunset spot passes the summit from the south in spring and the other way around in autumn.

According to data on the internet, the so-called Diamond Fuji is seen around March 16 in Ebina, March 23 in Samukawa, and April 5 in Chigasaki. The phenomenon is viewed earlier in northern places. While the sunset spot is moving from the north to south after the summer solstice, we can see Diamond Fuji around September 9 in Chigasaki, the 22nd in Samukawa, and the 30th in Ebina. Chigasaki residents can see the phenomenon earlier than people in Ebina, this time.

In Samukawa, the sun sets on the summit on spring and autumnal equinoxes. This is because the latitude of Samukawa, lat. 35.372 deg. N, is close to that of the summit of Mt. Fuji, lat. 35.361 deg. N. That is to say, Mt. Fuji is located almost directly to the west of Samukawa (see the map below), and the sun rises directly in the east and sets directly in the west around equinoxes. Incidentally, it is said ancient people considered today's Samukawa area very special, and built their Samukara Shrine.



The photo on the left was taken on March 25, 2020 in Samukawa, on the left bank of the Sagami River.



Nature in Chigasaki

Flowers came out all at once. Cherry trees started blooming earlier than usual. The land has been covered by green and yellow. From the beach to the northern hill, each district has beauty of its own. These photos show the faces of Chigasaki and its vicinity in spring.



Farmland in Serizawa



Hana peaches in Satoyama park



Harumeki sakura



Rape blossoms in Serizawa



Owl



Kawazu Zakura on the Koide River



Plum in Shorai-an



Cherry blossoms near Jokenji



Water birds on the Koide River



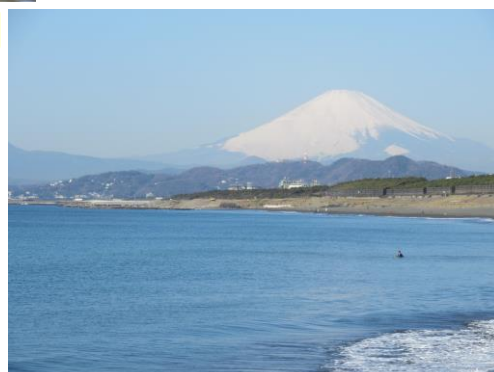
Camellia in Himuroen



Camellia in Himuroen



Cherry blossoms, Chuo koen



Nishihama beach



Yanagishima beach

Events in April and early May

Citizen Gallery (☎ 0467-87-8384) at the exhibition room on the 4th floor of N'EST-CE PAS Chigasaki Admission free!

Photo exhibition "Each eye" by Kagawa Photo Club:

Apr. 1 (Wed) 13:00 ~ 17:00, the 2nd (Thu) to the 4th (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, the 5th (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

The 20th Watercolor sketch exhibition by Shonan Sketch Club:

Apr. 7 (Tue) 13:00 ~ 18:00, the 8th (Wed) to the 11th (Sat) 10:00 ~ 18:00, the 12th (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

The 11th Scenic photo exhibition by Nature Photo Chigasaki:

Apr. 14 (Tue) 13:00 ~ 17:00, the 15th (Wed) to the 18th (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, the 19th (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Photo exhibition "My Sea, my darling flowers and soothing scenes" by Taichi Kametani:

Apr. 21 (Tue) 13:00 ~ 17:00, the 22nd (Wed) to the 26th (Sun) 9:30 ~ 17:00

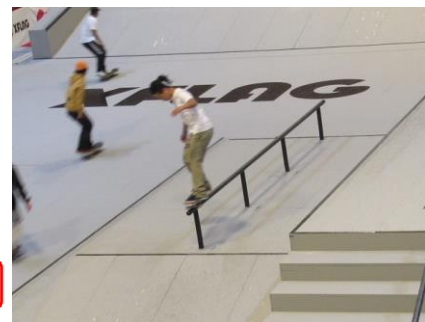
Picture exhibition "the 8th Shosaiten" by Kawasaki Atelier:

Apr. 27 (Mon) 13:00 ~ 18:00, the 28th (Tue) to the May 1 (Fri) 10:00 ~ 18:00, the 2nd (Sat) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Raizin Ark League 2020 in Samukawa Unconfirmed

A skateboard-performance world competition will be held at the gymnasium in Samukawa Chuo Koen from April 24 (Fri) to 26 (Sun).

Participants can earn points for the Tokyo Olympics. (Schedule) on the 24th, preliminaries for men and women, and the quarterfinal for women; on the 25th, the quarterfinal for men, and semifinal for women; and on the 26th, the semifinal for men and the finals for men and women.



The 65th Oka Festival Cancelled

One of the city's four major festivals, Oka Festival, will be held on April 18 (Sat) and the 19th (Sun), earlier than usual.

The 18th (Sat): Concert, Chigasaki brand bazaar and Jokenji Temple Festival

The 19 (Sun): Chigasaki brand bazaar, Mikoshi parade, from 12:30 to 14:00, and Big parade from 13:00 to 15:00.

Chigasaki Industry Fair 2020 Cancelled

The industry fair will take place at the courtyard of comprehensive gymnasium and the Civic Hall on Apr. 18 (Sat) from 10:00 to 17:00. About 70 companies displayed their products and 38,000 people visited last year.

Spring Citizen Festival Cancelled

The 36th Spring Citizen Festival will be held at Chuo Park on Apr. 19 (Sun). About 60 groups will set up their tents. On the stage, citizen groups will dance, play musical instruments and show other performances.

Chigasaki Aloha Market 2020 Cancelled

The aloha market will be held at the Chigasaki ballpark on May 9 (Sat) and the 10th (Sun).



La Corolle concert

Its first concert was originally scheduled for March 8 (Sun), but postponed to May 4 (Mon).

Shonan Festival 2020 will be postponed to Oct. 3 (Sat) and the 4th (Sun)

Another major festival, Shonan Festival 2020, will be held on Oct. 3 (Sat) and the 4th (Sun) on Southern Beach.

There are five key steps to tackle the coronavirus: Hands, Elbow, Face, Distance and Feel



Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon! Stay safe!