SURVEY OF PLANT COMMUNITY IN CAYITE STATE UNIVERSITY INDANG, CAYITE

Special Problem

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SURVEY OF PLANT COMMUNITY IN CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY INDANG, CAVITE

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ABSTRACT

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This study focused on the survey of the trees, shrubs, vines, herbs, and grasses from the three sampling sites at Cavite State University namely: NCRDEC, SAKA Farmers Training Center, and Rolle Hall fields. The five transect and quadrats sampling techniques measuring herbs found within the quadrat were identified and counted. Plant materials such as stems, leaves, flowers were collected for herbarium specimen.

A total of 26 plant species comprised of 11 species of trees, four species of shrubs, six species of grasses, three species of vine and two species of herbs were found in the three sampling sites. *Gliricidia sepium* and *Anona muricata* were the most dominant tree species, *Coffea spp.* was the most dominant shrub, *Cyperus rotundus* was the most dominant species of grass, *Piper nigrum* was most dominant species of vines and *Musa sapientum* was the most dominant species of herbs in CvSU.

The three selected land areas of Cavite State University showed a very low diversity which ranged from 0.00 to 0.32 on the value attained in Shannon index.

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INTRODUCTION

Plants are considered as one of the major groups of living organisms in natural ecosystems (Levey et al, 2002). It includes vines, grasses, shrubs, ferns, trees etc. (Chevallier, 2012). They are also known as the most important organisms because of photosynthesis, a process where in plants produce food for other organism and food for themselves (Bennett, 2010).

Plant community is very important to an ecosystem because it provides food and oxygen for the survival of other organisms, uses carbon dioxide to reduce pollution, provides clothing and shelter to other organism and clean and filters water (Bell & Woodcock, 2011). Moreover, they also actively shapes the environment by creating local climates in different ecosystem and reduce the risk of natural disasters such as droughts by retaining groundwater. Conversely, plant roots minimize soil erosion caused by rain and wind by holding the top soil in place and controlling the flow of water (Thompson & Ahern, 2000).