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Excursion Report



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Prepared for: Management and Conservation of Ecosystems class



Introduction

The Management and Conservation of Ecosystems class educates the students of the Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation (IDEC) on planning and conservation methods of Ecosystem. As a part of the class, Prof. Nakagoshi scheduled a field trip to the Hiroshima Botanical Garden on May 24, 2014. The Hiroshima Botanical Garden is located in Saeki-ku, Hiroshima in western Honshū, on the hill facing the Seto Inland Sea. The Garden

was opened to the public on November 3, 1976. The Garden, located on the undulating terrain, covers an area of around 18.3 hectares and grows about 234,000 plant species belonging to 11,400 taxa.



Objectives of the Field Trip

- To know about the different world's renowned Botanical Gardens, and their corresponding plant species.
- To introduce to students botanical collections, activities and conservation functions.
- To know about the Hiroshima Botanical Garden's species and diversity
- To compare Hiroshima Botanical Garden with other Botanical Gardens of the world
- To learn how to propagate Orchids for my research work.



Participants

Prof. Nakagoshi and 15 students of the class from different countries.

Venue: Hiroshima Botanical Garden

Schedule

1. Gathered at the Saijo station at 8:00am, according to the teaching assistant's (TA) instruction.
2. Took the train from Saijo station to Itsukaichi station;
3. Took a bus from Itsukaichi station to the Botanical Garden;
4. Had a 30-minute lecture session at the Research Laboratory about the World's Botanical gardens and the Hiroshima Botanical Garden, which was facilitated by Prof. Nakagoshi;
5. Had a 1-hour practical workshop session about the germination and types of Botanical garden with the cooperation of the Garden's Manager.
6. Free sightseeing in the Garden, and enjoyed having a time at creative courts for visitors of the Garden.
7. Came back to Saijo Station via the opposite of the aforementioned route, started from the bus stop nearest to the Garden at 01:40PM.

Main activity

Prof. Nakagoshi explained about the frontrunner Botanical Garden with their diverse species and reserves. According to him, the Kew Botanical Garden in the United Kingdom has enormous number of species taking the top rank in the world, with 72000 accessions.



species present, methods of propagation and the corresponding care were very relevant to my proposed study.

Afterwards, our group visited several facilities in this order; Cactus display house, Rose garden and Orchids' green house, where we learned about the germination, tissue culture and other methods of plant propagation.

After the guided tour in the garden, the students were given time to do a free sightseeing in the Garden.



Conclusion

As ecosystem plays substantial role in terrestrial environment, it is obvious that botanical gardens play important roles in contributing to nature conservation, research and development. Through this trip, we learned about Japan's contribution to preserve its native species. Therefore, we had a fruitful, useful and unforgettable educational trip at the Hiroshima Botanical Garden.

URL is <http://www.landscape.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/>