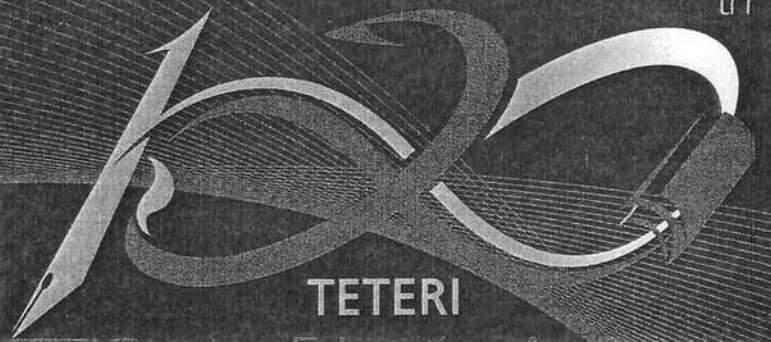


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## THE UTILIZATION OF BOTANIC GARDEN FOR BIOLOGY TEACHER EDUCATION

Boonsanong Chourykaew<sup>1\*</sup>, Sasikarn Chaisaengduan<sup>2</sup>, Jeeraphon Phetchnoi<sup>3</sup>

Plant Biology Research Unit, Faculty of Science and Technology, Phetchaburi Rajabhat  
University, Phetchaburi 76000, Mobile-66840668678, E-mail [address-bsnck@hotmail.com](mailto:address-bsnck@hotmail.com)

### ABSTRACT

Botanic gardens play a unique role in connecting people and plants, providing plants that are often rare in cultivation, provide living laboratories for botanical study and they are vital in conserving plant species that are under threat in the wild. The purpose of this research was to investigate plant diversity in Phetcharawanalai Botanic Garden, Phetchaburi Rajabhat University. Plants were divided into plants that are often rare in cultivation, living laboratories for botanical study and vital conserving plant species that are under threat in the wild. Sixty plants species in 30 families were studied, plants that are often rare in cultivation such as *Bauhinia aureifolia* K.&S.S.Larsen, *Pinus kesiya* Royle ex Gordon, *Melodorum fruitcosum* Lour., *Schumannianthus dichotomus* (Roxb.) Gagnep., *Globba winitii* C.H. Wright and *Ensete superbum* (Roxb.) Cheesman, living laboratories plant for botanical study such as *Nepenthes mirabilis* (Lour.) Druce, *Saccharum officinarum* L., *Oryza sativa* L., *Podocarpus wallichianus* Presl and *Nelumbonucifera* Gaertn., and conserving plant species that are under threat in the wild such as *Afgekia mahidolae* Brutt et Chermisrivathana, *Bauhiniawinitii* Craib, *Canangaodorata* Hook.f.&Thomson var. *fruticosa* (Craib) J.Sinclair, *Goniothalamus laoticus* (Finet & Gagnep.) Ban, *Kerriodoxa elegans* J. Dransf. and *Podocarpus polystachyus* R.Br. ex Endl. Botanic gardens continue to be humanity's scientific, aesthetic and social link to plants. They serve to educate, to explore, to fascinate, to discover and continue to reflect evolving relationship with plant and natural world. Aiso, botanic garden is useful for biology teacher education.