

Developing a New Botanical Description of the Plants in THEi Chai Wan Campus

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Background

THEi has planted a large quantity of vegetation. However, there are no systematic approach in this matter such as a plant list or database for recording the introduced species and their status, and whether the existing location is a suitable location for planting or not. Without proper records of species data, leading to the unfamiliarity to the greeneries from the campus users or related staff and workers.

Developing a new botanical description is a must in large greening areas like a campus in order to provide accurate information of species for reference of workers to related project. It is also convenient for making plant signs in the planters, so that people can get to know the species' information and widen their botanical knowledge.



Research Objectives

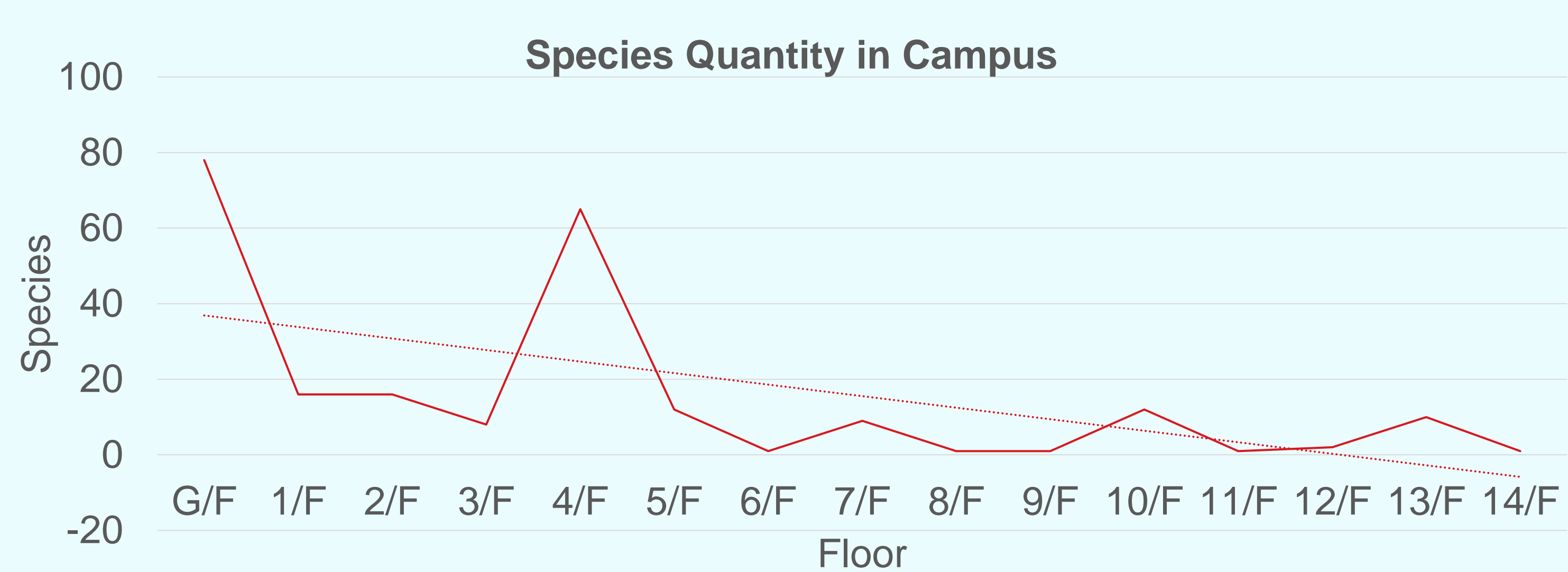
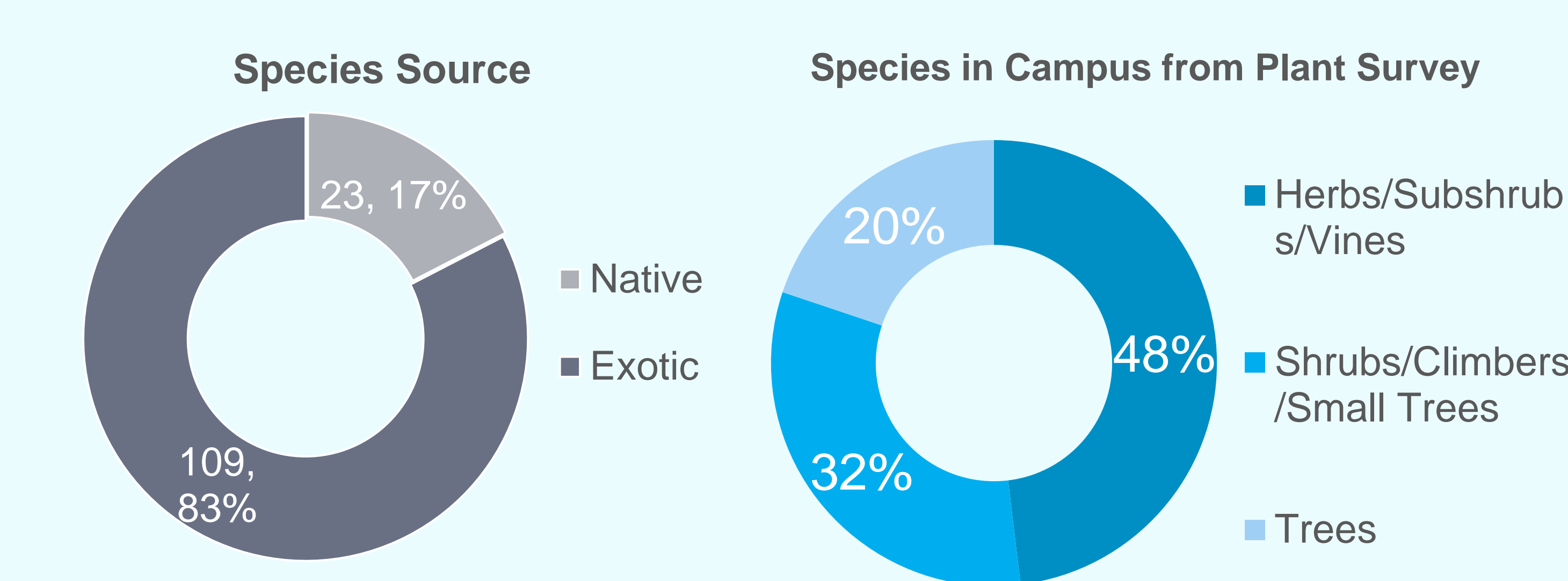
- Find out the campus's previous condition in plant description.
- Conduct a plant survey in the campus.
- Create a Databook including a plant list of the recorded plants.
- Design plant signs for the recorded plants.
- Investigate the current situation of greeneries.

Methodology

- Carry out a questionnaire investigation for feedbacks of staffs and students to greeneries.
- Create plant signs that will be used in the plant description.
- Before any surveys are executed, the surveyor should go over the campus once to familiarize the areas with plants and estimate the time on surveying accurately, as well as predict the approximate species to be described.
- Initiate the official plant survey.
- Edit the Databook and plant list from the data collected.
- Analyze and seek out discoveries to explain the current greening situation and provide solutions.

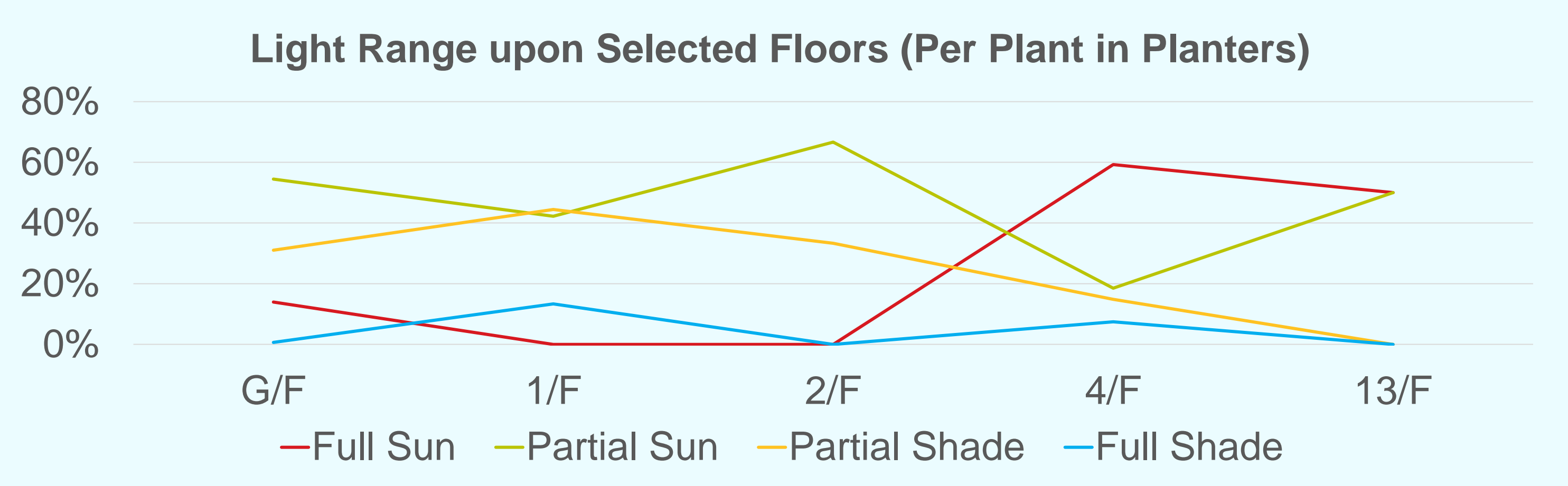
Findings

1. Results from the plant survey:



Over 80% of the species were exotic species and they gathered at G/F, 4/F mainly. Almost half of the species were herbaceous plants/ subshrubs or vines.

2. Discoveries from the survey:



Factors such as building planter orientations, planting material and lighting affects the growth of plants. Unhealthy plants affect persistence of accuracy in plant description due to unhealthy plants will be removed regularly.

Conclusion

- Large variety of exotic species changes randomly, therefore a consistent and regular plant survey is required for up-to-date and accurate information.
- Plant description development before project initiated was not even close to primordial stage.
- Right species at the right place, highly encouraged to plant more native species for the sake of biodiversity and unique experience in plant aesthetic and easier management.