

Tree diversity in the school garden at Saint John's Catholic School BSD, Banten, Indonesia

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School gardens play an important role in both ecological and sociological aspects of the school environment. They thrive as a place for learning outside the classroom, and the introduction of species diversity as well as water and soil conservation. One notable component of the species diversity in school gardens are trees, which have assorted functions, yet all share similar characteristics, namely their woody stem and height typically exceeding one meter. In school areas, specifically in Saint John's Catholic School, trees become one of the foremost components of the school garden environment that can still be further explored. For this reason, this research was conducted to identify and determine the different species of trees and its diversity in the school garden. Through field observation and plant identification, the presence of 31 tree species in the school garden area was indicated, including *Syzygium oleana*, *Swietenia mahagoni*, *Albizia chinensis*, *Pinus merkusii*, and *Polyalthia longifolia*. Though findings show the Myrtaceae family predominates in the school garden, it is still rich with diversity. In regards to this, the Shannon-Wiener index was used to calculate the diversity of the location, resulting in a rating of 2.55. This abundance of trees provides various ecological services, such as shading, food and fruit source, ornament, bird habitat, and medicinal plants. Based on the results of this research, it can be concluded that the diversity of tree species in the school garden at St. John's Catholic School BSD is at a moderate level in reference to the Shannon-Wiener index. Moreover, as a green space, the identified trees yield a variety of functions which benefit the school community.