Species richness and distribution of the medicinal plants in the Cebu Institute of Technology University campus

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This study was done to identify the medicinal plants found in the campus of the Cebu Institute of Technology University. The information on the medicinal uses of the plants were gathered through extensive literature survey and during the field sampling data were collected by employing list quadrat method. Field guides were used to identify the species name of the medicinal plants. Species that were not directly identified in the field were brought to the laboratory for further diagnosis and character analysis of the specimen. Frequency, percentages, and relative abundance were used to determine the species richness and distribution of the medicinal plants identified. The study had found twenty-three families and thirty species of plants. Poaceae (37.31%), Euphorbiaceae (18.15%), and Lamiaceae (17.34%) families have the most number of species. Plants were categorized into different life forms such as phanerophyte (53.3%), chamaephyte (23.3%), hemicryptophyte (16.7%), and cryptophytes (6.67%). Most of the medicinal species recorded were widely distributed. Different parts of these species, such as leaves, stems, roots, fruit, and whole plant were found to be useful for curing illnesses. The urbanized setting and disturbed nature of the campus still recorded medicinal plants and this implies that these findings can be considered a good starting point for effective in situ conservation of these species. Thus, it requires monitoring to know the recent status, nature, and extent of the plants use by the local communities.

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