

Croucher Seminar

Germplasm and genetic diversity of Bauhinia blakeana in Guangdong Province and Hong Kong

- Speaker:** Dr. HUANG Jiu Xiang
College of Forestry, South China Agricultural University (SCAU)
- Date and Time:** 26 March 2015 (Thursday) 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
- Chair:** Dr. Lincoln Fok/ Assistant Professor of SES
- Venue:** Integrated Science Laboratory (D3-G/F-05, Tai Po Campus)
- Language** Mandarin

Seminar Outline

As the regional floral emblem, *Bauhinia blakeana* was first found and catalogued in Hong Kong. It is a regional distinctive ornamental tree with a crown of dense foliage and colorful flowers. Its flowers are large, full of brilliant purples and rich scent. In addition, its flowering period can last as long as half a year. *B. blakeana* is a natural hybrid of *B. purpurea* (female parent) and *B. variegata* (male parent). *Bauhinia blakeana* (洋紫荆), *B. purpurea* (羊蹄甲), and *B. variegata* (宫粉紫荆) are wonderful local tree species widely used for landscaping in urban forests and green corridors in Guangdong and have become important woody ornamental trees providing an unique subtropical scenic character for South China. In order to further promote the utilization of germplasm of *B. blakeana* and its sibling species in Hong Kong and Guangdong, this study investigate, collect and evaluate their germplasm based on their ornamental features and adaptability. In this study, SRAP (Sequence-Related Amplified Polymorphism) molecular marker technology was applied to analysis of genetic diversity from different geographical populations in *B. purpurea* and *B. variegata*. The project has great and direct significance to appropriate selection of plant strains, effective development of germplasm and sustainable utilization of *B. blakeana* and its sibling species. The potential results of this project will bridge the research gap in this area.



About the Speaker

Huang Jiuxiang is an Associate Professor of College of Forestry, South China Agricultural University. She received her PhD in botany in the South China Agricultural University. Her major research fields are plant taxonomy, biodiversity protection, selective breeding and sustainable utilization of plant resources. In recent years, she has been in charge of nine scientific research projects, and engaged in more than 20 scientific research projects as a key member. She has published more than 20 scientific research papers, edited 2 textbooks and 6 scientific monographs.