

FLORA OF RIPARIAN ZONES AT THE JUNGCHEON RIVER, UIRYEONG-GUN, KOREA

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ABSTRACT

This study of the vegetation of the Jungcheon River in Korea is examined river naturalness and vegetative composition of river riparian zones to identify their most important sources of variation. The vegetation of low water's edge was natural weeds, shrubs, and mixed. The vegetation of flood way was both of natural vegetation and artificial vegetation. Land use in riparian zones was urban, residential mixed. Land use in flood plains beyond river levee was park facilities, playground facilities. The composition of the *Pinus densiflora* and *Pinus thunbergii* was high in the upper regions and the dominant vegetation of low water's edge was *Persicaria longiseta*. At total area, the application of the Braun-Blanquet approach for plant classification in this area is presented in the article. According to the existing phytosociological data, 25 families, 68 genera, 79 species, 10 varieties have been identified. The values of cover-abundance at upper, middle and low regions were 14.87, 11.95, and 10.99, respectively. The loss of natural disturbances in riparian ecosystems due to industrialized land uses must be regarded as one of the main reasons for the decline and extinction of typical floodplain species as well as the loss of biodiversity in this ecosystem. Thus, monitoring for biological diversity of plant species of this river is necessary for an adaptive management approach and the successful implementation of ecosystem management.

Keywords: Braun-Blanquet, Cover-abundance, Jungcheon River, riparian vegetation, river naturalness.