



大自然裡不能欠缺的小昆蟲 The Importance of Little Insects in the Nature

每種小昆蟲在大自然裡都有著重要角色，縱使一隻不起眼的螞蟻也不例外。然而，我們卻面對著保育生物多樣性的挑戰，因現時有關牠們的可靠資訊非常不足。現時關於生物多樣性的數據，大多數僅限於少數富特色而數量很少的種類。昆蟲的多樣性佔整體動物多樣性約七成，其總生物數量和生態作用，對生態系統和人類都很重要，可惜往往被忽視。

Every insect plays an important role in nature, even if it is a tiny ant. However, the conservation of biodiversity represents one of the greatest challenges faced by us, as reliable data for taxonomic groups representative of biodiversity is insufficient. Most of the biodiversity data are often limited to a few charismatic but species-poor groups. In contrast, groups like insects representing around 70 % of animal diversity are often disregarded, although their overall biomass and ecological roles are critical to ecosystems and humans.



紫莖甲 *Sagra femorata*

大嶼山豐富度和多樣性指數最高動物類群的發現與分佈地圖繪製： 以螞蟻、蜜蜂、甲蟲及胡蜂為例

Discovering and mapping Lantau's most abundant and diverse animals: the case of ants, bees, beetles and wasps

香港大學的團隊將全面調查四個主要昆蟲群體（螞蟻、蜜蜂、甲蟲和黃蜂），以解決現時有關昆蟲數據不足的問題。藉著深入了解大嶼山約1000個物種的多樣性和分佈及牠們對香港保育的重要性。項目採用綜合性垂直分層採樣方法，為生活於大嶼山這四個類群，提供最全面的物種清單，並為進一步的分類和保育研究提供支援。團隊會舉辦教育活動和講座，分享研究成果和收集到的標本，讓公眾了解昆蟲在生態系統中的重要性、其多樣性和在大嶼山人類社會扮演的角色。

The team from the University of Hong Kong will address knowledge gaps & insects through a comprehensive survey of four major insect groups (ants, bees, beetles and wasps), with the aim of gaining insight into the diversity and distribution of about 1000 species on Lantau Island, as well as their conservation importance for Hong Kong. The project will use an integrative and vertically-stratified sampling approach to compile a comprehensive species list of these four groups on Lantau, and to support further classification and conservation efforts. Education programs and talks to share the research results and specimens collected will be conducted to educate the public on the importance of insects within ecosystem, their diversity, role for human societies on Lantau.

