FACULTY OF BIOLOGY
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# STUDY ON THE SELECTION OF PLANTS FOR SENSORY GARDENS

UNIVERSITY BOTANIC GARDENS
УНИВЕРСИТЕТСКИ БОТАНИЧЕСКИ ГРАДИНИ

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## Why Sensory Gardens?

- Globally, at least 2.2 billion people have a vision impairment or blindness.
- Population growth and ageing, along with behavioral and lifestyle changes, and urbanization, will dramatically increase the number of people with eye conditions, vision impairment and blindness in the coming decades.
- Tasks: Reorienting the model of care/ Creating an enabling environment. (WHO, 2019)

**Sensory gardens:**
**inclusive** and **modern** approach towards the blind and visually impaired.

## Study area

- Fig. 1 University Botanic Garden, Sofia

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- Fig. 2 University Botanic Garden, Balchik: Sensory Garden

Faculty of Educational Studies and the Arts, SU

# Results



Fig. 3 Sensory Garden (Balchik): plant labels

Fig. 5 University Botanic Garden (Sofia) – guided tour

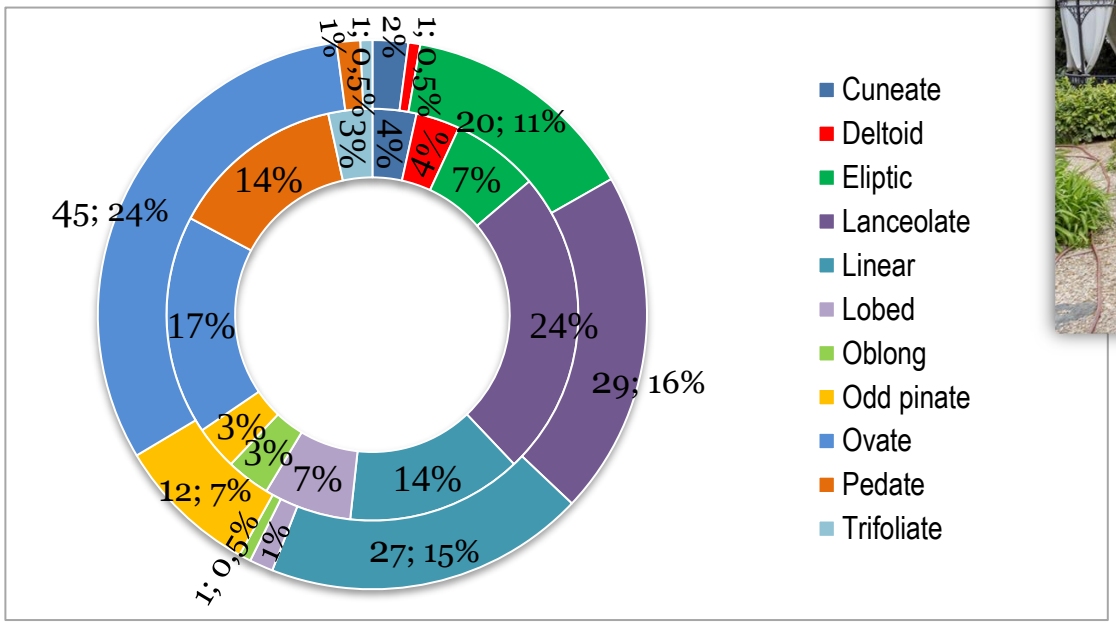


Fig. 4 Tactile Leaf Groups

Fig. 6 Tactile Stimulation: *Piper nigrum* L.

# What's next?

Coming soon …

University Botanic Gardens: 3D Map

University Botanic Gardens: Tactile Map

- ✓ Accessibility services and the guide – meeting individual needs.
- ✓ Braille labels – questionable usefulness.
- ✓ Sectioning through the use of appropriate railing.
- ✓ Species diversity – main source of provided affordances.
- ✓ 3D models and tactile maps.
- ✓ Modern methods for providing information.

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