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LAIDLAW SUMMER RESEARCH

DETERMINING BIOCULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF PLANTS FOR THE NEW EAST ASIAN GARDEN

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Introduction

Cornell Botanic Gardens is in the process of designing a new garden, The Garden of Lost Hours, inspired by Chinese, Korean, and Japanese gardening traditions.

Objective

To find biologically suitable and culturally significant plants from East Asian gardening practices to feature in the new Garden of Lost Hours at Cornell Botanic Gardens

Methods

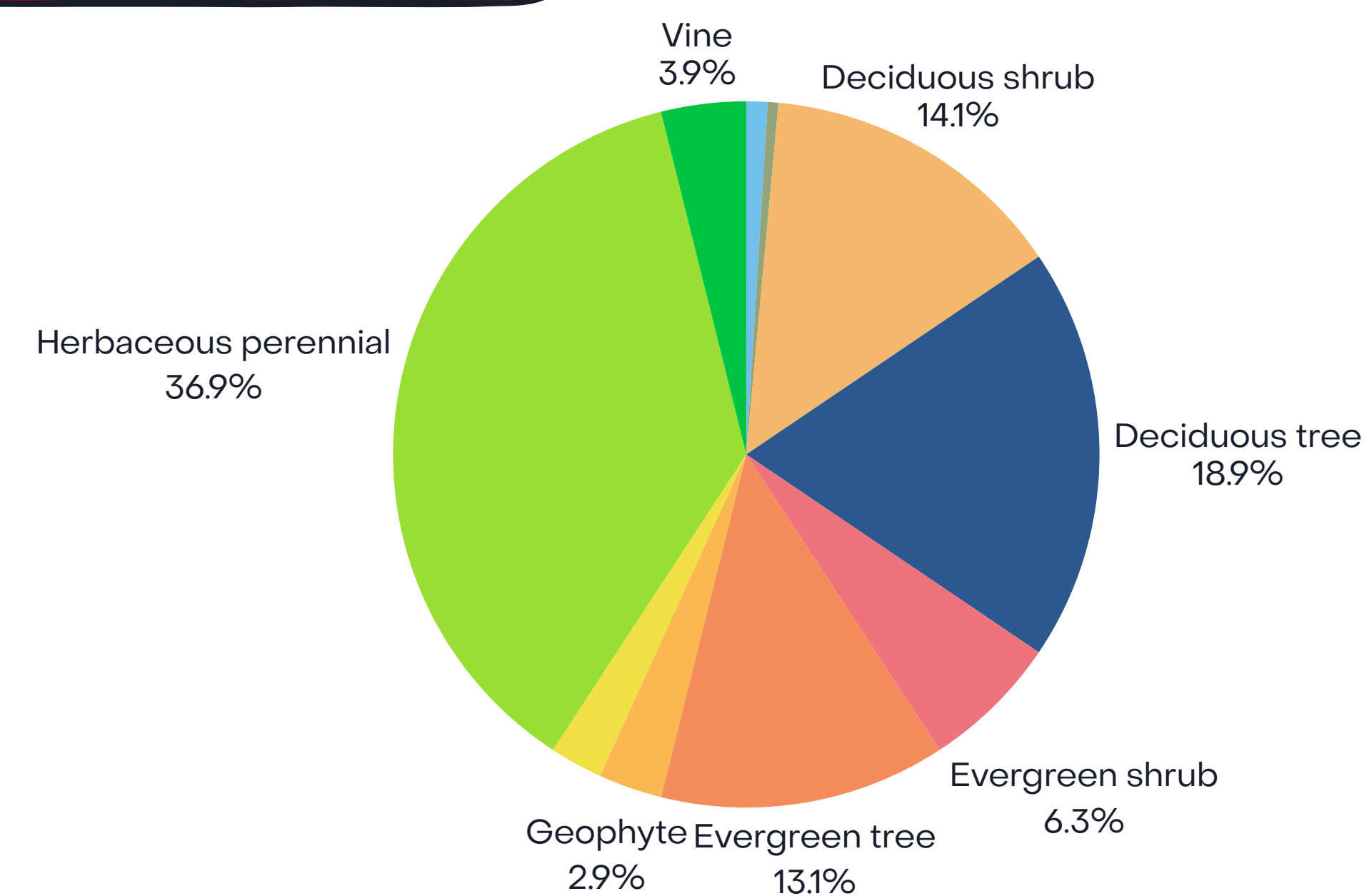
Assessing biological compatibility:



Assessing cultural significance:

Searching libraries at Cornell for books relevant to East Asian gardens, plants, and art

Results



Peony, bamboo, lotus, pine, ginkgo, plum, and peach had high cultural significance

Conclusions

Several highly significant species are suitable for the climate of Ithaca. Several species come in groupings for religious or traditional reasons. All of this information is necessary to design the garden layout this fall.

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