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Title: Investigation of plant growth and flower performance on a semi-extensive green roof

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1 Ayako NAGASE a, Nigel DUNNETT b, Min-Sung, CHOI c 2 3 a Corresponding author 4 a Chiba University, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 1-33, Yayoicho, Inage-ku, Chiba-shi, Chiba, 263-8522, 5 Japan, 6 TEL:+81-(0)43-290-3113 7 E-mail: anagase@chiba-u.jp. 8 9 b University of Sheffield, Department of Landscape, Arts Tower, Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2TN, UK 10 TEL: +44 (0)114 222 0611 11 FAX: +44 (0)114 275 4176 12 Email: n.dunnett@sheffield.ac.uk 13 14 c University of Sheffield, Department of Landscape, Arts Tower, Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2TN, UK 15 TEL: +44 (0)114 222 0611 16 FAX: +44 (0)114 275 4176 17 Email: mschoi2012@googlemail.com 18 Investigation of plant growth and flower performance on a semi-extensive green roof 19 20 Highlights • Plant phenology was investigated over 1 year on a semi-extensive green roof. Flowering times of plants varied between 2 weeks and over 5 months. 23 The growth characteristics were categorized into six patterns. High plant species diversity affect plant growth and flower performance 24 25 26 27 Abstract 28 Understanding of plant growth and flower performance is crucial for appropriate planting design. This study was 29 aimed to understand characteristics of growth pattern and flower performance in green roof plants and how plant 30 species diversity effect these characteristics. A semi-extensive green roof was installed in 2005 and 54 species 31 plant species were planted in 10 cm and 20 cm of the substrate in Rotherham, UK. Thirty-two quadrats (50 cm 32×50 cm) were set up through the combinations of plant species diversity (high and low), planting density (high

33 and low). Percentage of coverage and height of each species were recorded at every month from February to

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