

PRELIMINARY STUDY ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF BIRAPIN
IN THE TROPICAL RAIN FOREST, SEREM, MALAYSIA

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**A PRELIMINARY STUDY ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF RIPARIAN
VEGETATION AT MERANG RIVER, SETIU, TERENGGANU.**

By

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the requirements for the degree of
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

S	Species richness
E	Species evenness
H	Species diversity
DBH	Diameter at breast height
m	Meter
N	North
E	East
°	Degree
'	Minute
°C	Degree Celsius
%	Percentage
cm	Centimeter
DGPS	Digital Global Positioning System
km	Kilometer
cm ²	Centimeter square

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ABSTRACT

Riparian forest has not been studied in Malaysia. This is due to the lack of knowledge about the ecosystem and the importance of riparian areas. The riparian vegetation at Merang River is not much varying. There were 26 of total sampled species belonging to 18 families had collected during the sampling. Inventory technique was used to measure the distribution of riparian vegetation at Merang River. From the inventory method, only 14 plots were established along the river. The database of PC-ORD had used for data analysis such as species richness, species evenness and species diversity. *Melaleuca leucadendron* have the highest species diversity (1.702) with species richness (7). Despite, *Nypa fruticans* had the greatest number of species evenness with 0.9883.

The objectives of the study are to determine the distribution of the riparian vegetation at Merang River. Besides that, this study was used for to know the density and dominance of the riparian vegetation including determining species richness, species evenness and species diversity using PC-ORD analysis.

ABSTRAK

Hutan riparian masih belum dikaji di Malaysia. Ini kerana kurangnya pengetahuan mengenai ekosistem dan kepentingan kawasan riparian. Tumbuhan riparian di Sungai Merang tidak mempunyai kepelbagaian. Terdapat 26 spesies sampel di bawah 18 famili yang telah dikaji. Teknik inventori digunakan untuk mengira taburan tumbuhan riparian di Sungai Merang. Daripada kaedah inventori ini, hanya 14 plot yang telah dilakukan di sepanjang sungai ini. Pangkalan data PC-ORD digunakan untuk analisis data seperti 'species richness, S', 'species evenness, E' dan spesies diversiti, H. *Melaleuca leucadendron* mempunyai kepelbagaian spesies yang tinggi (1.702) dengan 'species richness' (7). Sementara itu, *Nypa fruticosa* menunjukkan species evenness yang tertinggi iaitu 0.9883. Objektif bagi kajian ini adalah mengetahui taburan tumbuhan riparian di Sungai Merang. Selain itu, kajian ini juga adalah mengenai kepadatan dan tumbuhan dominan di kawasan riparian termasuk 'species richness, S', 'species evenness, E' dan spesies diversiti, H dengan menggunakan analisis PC-ORD.