

## **Distribution and abundance of Pteroptyx fireflies in Rembau-Linggi Estuary, Peninsular Malaysia.**

### **Abstract**

Prior to this study, no scientific documentation of firefly distribution and abundance in the Rembau-Linggi estuary, Peninsular Malaysia had been made. Therefore, this study provides important baseline information for the conservation of *Pteroptyx* spp. and their habitats. Our study was conducted over six months (2008 and 2009) during which we surveyed the distribution and abundance (percentage cover) of congregating fireflies, *Pteroptyx* spp., in the estuary. We also recorded the plant species on which adult fireflies congregate to mate along the rivers. Our main findings were: 1. *Pteroptyx* spp. populations occupied the lengths of 0.7 - 9 km of the main rivers in the study area. 2. The percentage of *Pteroptyx* population size fluctuated over time. 3. The *Pteroptyx* colonies congregated mainly on four plant species: *Sonneratia caseolaris*, *Rhizophora apiculata*, *Hibiscus tiliaceus* and *Ficus* sp.

**Keyword:** Distribution; Abundance; *Pteroptyx* fireflies; Mangrove forest.