

UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT OF THREE SHOREA SPP FOR SUNGAI MENYALA VIRGIN JUNGLE RESERVE, NEGERI SEMBILAN

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ABSTRACT

In Peninsular Malaysia, Virgin Jungle Reserve (VJR) has been established since the 1950's and are initially known as Permanent Forest Reserve. Due to its status as a Permanent Forest Reserve, the forest has been spared from timber exploitation from the gazetting to the status since 1950. Since then, this forest area changed naturally and this condition is called a Virgin Jungle, meaning it has not been developed or exploited for commercial purposes. This study made use of the abundant tree stands from the family Dipterocarpaceae, genus Shorea present inside the forest reserve. The study was focused on three Shorea species, which all Shorea parvifolia, Shorea acuminata and Shorea leprosula. The objective of this study were to determine the abundance and distribution of these three species and to investigate the difference in basal area and volume of the three Shorea species. The primary data for each species were collected from a belt-transect plot sited at compartment 6 of the forest reserve with covering 2.0 ha. The population density of these three Shorea species, has an average population density for Shorea leprosula of 17.5 trees per hectare, for Shorea parvifolia, 14 trees per hectare and for Shorea acuminata 13.5 trees per hectare. The distribution of trees indicates the adverse characteristic of De iocourt's factor procedure (reverse J distribution) where stems frequencies increase with the increase in DBH. The growth stage distribution has a growth stage distribution of 3.5% small trees, 37.8% medium trees, 58.7% large trees. From the results for each species in this study, it can be concluded that the study area has a high number of medium sized trees as its main forest structure with Shorea parvifolia being the dominant stand with the biggest number of individuals among the other two but with Shorea leprosula having the biggest volume and basal area, followed by Shorea parvifolia and Shorea acuminata. This study will give a guideline for relevant authority on forest inventory and stand structure determination of Sq.Menyala Permanent Forest Reserve.

ABSTRAK

Di Semenanjung Malaysia, Hutan Simpanan Dara (VJR) telah ditubuhkan sejak tahun 1950an dan pada awal nya dikenali sebagai Hutan Simpan Kekal. Oleh kerana statusnya sebagai Hutan Simpan Kekal, hutan ini telah terselamat daripada eksploitasi kayu semenjak pewartaanya sebagai Hutan Simpan Kekal pada tahun 1950. Sejak itu, kawasan hutan ini berubah secara semula jadi dan sekarang dipanggil sebagai Hutan Dara, bermakna ia belum dibangunkan atau dieksploitasi untuk tujuan komersial. Kajian ini dibuat menggunakan dirian pokok dari family Dipterocarpaceae, genus Shorea yang ada di dalam hutan ini, member tumpuan kepada tiga spesies Shorea, Shorea parvifolia, Shorea acuminata dan Shorea leprosula bertujuan untuk menentukan jumlah dan kesebaran ketiga-tiga spesies ini dan untuk menyiasat perbezaan dalam kawasan pangkal dan isipadu spesies Shorea di kawasan kajian. Data primer bagi setiap spesies ini dikumpulkan menggunakan plot "belt-transect" bertapak di kompartmen 6 hutan ini dengan jumlah kawasan meliputi 2.0 ha. Kepadatan penduduk ketiga-tiga spesies Shorea, mempunyai kepadatan penduduk purata untuk Shorea leprosula 17.5 pokok sehektar, untuk Shorea parvifolia, 14 pokok sehektar dan untuk Shorea acuminata 13.5 pokok sehektar. Taburan pokok menunjukkan ciri-ciri buruk prosedur faktor De jocourt itu (terbalik pengedaran J) di mana batang frekuensi meningkat dengan peningkatan dalam DBH. Pengagihan peringkat pertumbuhan mempunyai taburan peringkat pertumbuhan pokok-pokok kecil 3.5%, 37.8% pokok sederhana, 58.7% pokok-pokok besar. Daripada keputusan bagi setiap spesies dalam kajian ini, dapat disimpulkan bahawa kawasan kajian mempunyai bilangan yang tinggi pokok bersaiz sederhana sebagai struktur hutan utama dengan Shorea parvifolia menjadi pendirian dominan dengan jumlah terbesar individu antara dua yang lain tetapi dengan Shorea leprosula mempunyai jumlah terbesar dan kawasan basal, diikuti oleh Shorea parvifolia dan Shorea acuminata. Mengikut keputusan yang didapati bagi setiap spesies dalam kajian ini, ia dapat disimpulkan bahawa kawasan kajian ini mempunyai bilangan yang pokok bersaiz sederhana yang tinggi sebagai struktur hutan utama dengan Shorea parvifolia menjadi dirian dominan dengan jumlah terbesar individu dibandingkan dengan dua spesis yang lain tetapi dengan Shorea leprosula mempunyai jumlah isi padu dan kawasan pangkal terbesar, diikuti oleh Shorea parvifolia dan Shorea acuminata. Kajian ini dijangka dapat member panduan kepada pihak berkuasa yang berkenaan dalam kerja-kerja inventori hutan dan menentukan struktur dirian di dalam Hutan Simpanan Kekal Sungai Menyala, Negeri Sembilan.

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APPROVAL SHEET

I certify that this research project report entitled "Quantitative Assessment Of Three *Shorea* Spp For Sungai Menyala Virgin Jungle Reserve, Negeri Sembilan" by Muhammad Amirul Asyraf Bin Hashim has been examined and approved as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Forestry Science in the Faculty of Forestry, Universiti Putra Malaysia.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT ABSTRAK ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS APPROVAL SHEET LIST OF TABLES LIST OF FIGURES LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS			ii iii iv v viii ix xi
CHAF 1		ODUCTION Background 1.1.1 Tropical Rain Forest in Malaysia 1.1.2 Virgin Jungle Reserve of Peninsular Malaysia. Problem Statement Objectives	1 1 2 3 5 6
2	LITEF 2.1 2.2	RATURE REVIEW State of Malaysian Tropical Rainforest. 2.1.1 Virgin Jungle Reserve of Peninsular Malaysia. The General Information of Three Dipterocarp Species	7 7 8 9
3	3.1 3.2 3.3 3.4	HODOLOGY Study Site Background Data Collection Data Analysis Basal Area Tree Volume Statistical Analysis	14 14 15 17 18 19 19
4	RESU 4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 4.6	JLTS Distribution and population density of <i>Shorea</i> spp. Stand Structure Species Distribution Basal Area Total Volume Statistical Analysis	20 20 23 28 29 30 32
5	DISC	USSION	37
6	CON 6.1 6.2	CLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION Conclusion Recommendation	44 44 45
REFERENCES			46
APPENDICES			52

Page

Appendix A Appendix B Appendix C Appendix D



LIST OF TABLES

TABLE		PAGE
2.1	Estimation of carbon stock in Malaysia	7
2.2	Summary on the timber type, shade tolerance, growth types and growth increment off the three <i>Shorea spp</i>	9
3.1	DBH class used for the study of quantitative assessment of three <i>Shorea</i> spp for Sungai Menyala Virgin Jungle Reserve, Negeri Sembilan	18
3.2	Height class used for the study of quantitative assessment of three <i>Shorea</i> spp for Sungai Menyala Virgin Jungle Reserve, Negeri Sembilan	18
4.1	List of total basal area for <i>Shorea</i> spp. in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	30
4.2	Statistical analysis data of <i>Shorea acuminata</i> in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	33
4.3	Statistic <mark>al analysis data of <i>Shorea leprosula</i> in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.</mark>	33
4.4	Statistical analysis data of <i>Shorea parvifolia</i> in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	33
4.5	Summary of the linear regression result of the three <i>Shorea spp</i> in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan	36
5.1	Average diameter and height of <i>Shorea</i> spp. taken <i>spp</i> in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan	39
5.2	Comparison between growth rate of Shorea acuminata in Sg. Menyala and other sites	42
5.3	Comparison between growth rate of <i>Shorea parvifolia</i> in Sg. Menyala and other sites	42
5.4	Comparison between growth rate of <i>Shorea leprosula</i> in Sg. Menyala and other sites	43

C

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE 3.1	Map of Compartments of Sungai Menyala Virgin Jungle Reserve (VJR), Negeri Sembilan.	PAGE 14
3.2	Belt transect block design, for the study of quantitative assessment of three <i>Shorea</i> spp for Sungai Menyala Virgin Jungle Reserve, Negeri Sembilan	16
4.1	Distribution of <i>Shorea leprosula</i> in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	22
4.2	Distribution of <i>Shorea parvifolia</i> in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	22
4.3	Distribution of <i>Shorea acuminata</i> in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	23
4.4	Diameter class distribution of <i>Shorea</i> spp in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	26
4.5	Height class distribution of <i>Shorea</i> spp in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	26
4.6	Total d <mark>istribution of <i>Shorea</i> spp in Compartment</mark> 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	28
4.7	Total volume distribution of <i>Shorea</i> spp. in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	31
4.8	Total tree volume for each <i>Shorea spp.</i> In Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	32
4.9	Diameter analysis graph of <i>Shorea</i> spp. in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	34
4.10	Height analysis graph of <i>Shorea</i> spp. in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	34
4.11	Basal area analysis graph of <i>Shorea</i> spp. in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.	35

4.12 Volume analysis graph of *Shorea* spp. in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala VJR, Negeri Sembilan.



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

BA Basal Area

DBH	Diameter at Breast	Height
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- FRIM Forest Research Institute Malaysia
- SPSS Statistical Package for the Social Sciences



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The family of Dipterocarpaceae consists of 16 genera, 3 subfamilies and more than 500 species, Dipterocarpaceae is the main species of tropical rain forest in Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei and the Phillippines and it ranges eastwards as far as eastern New Guinea. *Shorea* is one of the genus of Dipterocarpaceae family, with its species numbering near to 200 spread all across South East Asia, and so far away as the Philippine Islands and the Indian Subcontinent, and it dominated the forest canopies of where it is native to *Shorea spp* (Appanah, 1998).

In Malaysia, the species of Dipterocarpaceae was dominant in Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo Island. Dipterocarpaceae in the forest was harvested to produce wood product because the wood was categorized as fancy wood. The timber of dipterocarps (roundwood logs) was 25% from total global consumption of tropical hardwood. While for the *Shorea spp* due to their high quality timber and resin, were highly sought after as valuable commodity for building wood based products. And as such, these genus have been heavily exploited and in danger of extinction as for the moment, one hundred and forty eight species of *Shorea* has been listed as critically endangered in the IUCN list. Recently, the quality and quantity of tropical rain forest were decreasing because of land conversion become forest plantation; illegal logging and shifting cultivation activity. They will increase the loss of biodiversity in both

1

species and genetic levels. On the other hand, the forest function such as carbon sink, hydrology and non-wood product will disappear.

To ensure the survival of this genus, and *Shorea spp* in particular, a lot of In situ and ex situ conservation programmers has been carried out for that sole purpose. One of the conservation program was by transferring some of the seedlings far from mother trees to spread out the species. One of these program was carried out in Sungai Menyala and Kenaboi Forest Reserves, whereby seedlings from three species of Shorea, which were *Shorea leprosula*, *Shorea acuminata* and *Shorea parviflora*, the species from Sungai Menyala Forest Reserves were collected from due to the high quality and progenity from the area to be collected elsewhere, most notably in the Kenaboi Forest Reserve.

1.1.1 Tropical Rain Forest in Malaysia

Tropical rain forest in Malaysia which lay along equatorial line is hot and humid throughout the year which annual rainfall was heavy at 2,500 mm (Smith, 1950). The complex diversity of the tropical forest indicates that Malaysian forest was rich in both Flora and Fauna. The dipterocarp forest was one of the main forests in Malaysia other than peat swamp and mangrove forest. Many species under the family Dipterocarpaceae has the utility for valuable timber and it increases our country's economic income. Due to its diversity, many researchers can be done for the species in our forest to bring more benefit for human being. However, there is lack of information regarding the growth requirements for indigenous species in our forest. It has a distinct disadvantage in slow growth rate and purportedly uneconomic in capitalizing them. They were already adapted to the local conditions where the genetic base is easily accessible. Further researches are needed to be carried out to overcome the problem of inadequate collection of seeds based on its accessible genetic base (Ninomiya, 1999).

1.1.2 Virgin Jungle Reserve of Peninsular Malaysia.

In Peninsular Malaysia, Virgin Jungle Reserve (VJR) has been established since the 1950's and are initially known as Natural Forest Reserve (Smith, 1950). According to the Department of Forestry of Peninsular Malaysia, a number of 103 Virgin Jungles have been established in all states of Peninsular Malaysia that covers all types of forest as well as class functions of respective forests. There are more than 120 VJRs covering an area of about 111,800 ha in Peninsular Malaysia (Chan, 2002). Total area of Permanent Forest Reserve in Peninsular Malaysia are numbered approximately 13.19 million hectares. Thus Virgin Jungle Reserves had an area of only around 0.19%.

Ever since the Malaysian Independence in the year 1957, Peninsular Malaysia has experienced a very advanced socio-economic growth in order to develop the socio-economic structure of the people primarily for the poor in rural areas. As such a good number of Forest Reserve areas are converted into agricultural areas and especially, into oil palm plantations in accordance to infrastructure development that correlates with the people's Relocation Plan and this phenomenon had expanded in an orderly and advanced fashion. In the following decades of 1960-1980 this nation was very dependent on the revenues from forestry and agricultural sectors in order to requisition foreign money exchanges for development projects. There were also forest areas that are changed in status in becoming new urban areas, light and medium industrial centers, dams, highways and other multitudes of infrastructures.

Due to the pressure from socio-economic developments and ever changing land use in all the states of Peninsular Malaysia, a few areas of Virgin Jungle Reserves had to be taken out for agricultural, industrial, infrastructure and many other land use purposes for the cause of socio-economic development of the states (Aitken, 1994). More than 30 years prior, Putz (1978) reported that a few Virgin Jungle Reserves was repurposed for the reasons mentioned previously and according to the report, the number of Virgin Jungle Reserves has shrunk to only 86 forests and with a smaller areas of less than 20,000 ha.

In light of this, ever since the establishment of Virgin Jungle Reserve on the year 1950 up until the present day, around 17 forests has been relinquished of its status as Virgin Jungle Reserve from a number of states with a decreased in area of 500 ha or 20% of the total area. Furthermore, efforts to increase the number of Virgin Jungle Reserves by requisitioning new forest areas are painfully slow.

4

1.2 Problem Statement

Quantitative analysis is conducted on *Shorea parvifolia, Shorea acuminata* and *Shorea leprosula* and this analysis will help the management to evaluate the regeneration of new individuals of seedlings to ensure the stock of the species within the forest are not threatened and to evaluate whether there are enough seedling population to enable another relocation of the seedling to other site. Hence, this will help the management in further planning or treatment if necessary.

Base data of the tree basal area for the particular timber species group for Sungai Menyala Forest Reserve are last taken by FRIM on the year 1998, that was 18 years ago, thus are now outdated., The information from the diameter increment models and on the basal area and height of trees will be the basis for further complex models development such as modelling site productivity for tropical forest

1.3 Objectives

The aim of this study was to assess the quantitative values of three Shorea species in Compartment 6 of Sungai Menyala Virgin Jungle Reserve, Negeri Sembilan.Two specific objectives were designed to meet this aim which were:

- To determine the abundance and distribution of Shorea leprosula, Shorea acuminata and Shorea parvifolia. Which are planted in 1968 in Sungai Menyala Virgin Jungle Reserve, Negeri Sembilan
- II. To investigate the difference in basal area and volume of the three *Shorea* species throughout study area.

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