on 13 November 2013





NEVER TOO OLD: Ling started his PhD course in 2004 at the age of 53.

KOTA SAMARAHAN: The commitment of former state Forest senior assistant director Ling Wang Choon to the forest department is second to none.

Four years before his retirement in 2008, he embarked on a PhD course to research on the durability and preservation of Sarawak timbers.

Today, Ling is officially a PhD degree holder.

He received his scroll during Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) 17th Convocation Ceremony here yesterday.

The 62-year-old's research findings revealed that timbers of the same botanical groups with higher density were more durable than those with lower density.

He also discovered that timbers that were refractory (less permeable to water) were more durable than permeable timbers.

Ling concluded that current grouping of mixed light hardwoods (MLH) should be revised to increase market value of the local timber.

His study also revealed the need to group timber into very durable (over 10 years) and durable (five to 10 years) as the grouping durable alone can be very misleading.

Source: The Borneo Post