

Small Mammals from Kuala Atok, Taman Negara Pahang, Malaysia (Mamalia Kecil dari Kuala Atok, Taman Negara, Pahang, Malaysia)

ROBERTA CHAYA TAWIE TINGGA, F. A. ANWARALI*, A.R. MOHD RIDWAN, J. SENAWI & M.T. ABDULLAH

ABSTRACT

*A faunal survey aimed to document small mammals was conducted at Nature Study Centre of Kuala Atok, Taman Negara Pahang from 16th to 23rd May 2008. This survey was part of the Biodiversity Inventory Programme that was organised by the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP). On average, ten mist nets, two four-bank harp traps, 100 cage traps and 40 Sherman traps were set for six trapping nights. A total of 79 individuals from three orders, seven families and 23 species were caught in this study. Of the 23 species, three were frugivorous bats, 15 were insectivorous bats, four were rodents and one was treeshrew. Our sampling site was bounded by Pahang River and mainly covered with lowland secondary forest. This is evidence by the highest abundance of Long-tailed Giant Rat (*Leopoldamys sabanus*) for non-volant small mammals, and Fawn Roundleaf Bat (*Hipposideros cervinus*) for volant small mammals that are adapted to disturbed habitat. The increasing species cumulative curve for Chiropteran indicates that there may be more species yet to be recorded from this study site compared to rodents and treeshrews. Preliminary analysis on the species similarity between our study site to other survey reports in Peninsular Malaysia, positioned Kuala Atok with Krau Wildlife Reserve and Bukit Fraser Forest Reserve that are located adjacent to our study site. This similarity further indicate the importance of future survey in Kuala Atok especially for Chiropterans to properly document the species diversity in this site that may be as rich as other well studied area e.g. Krau Wildlife Reserve.*

Keyword: Biodiversity; Chiroptera; inventory; rodentia; Scandentia

ABSTRAK

*Satu survei mamalia kecil telah dijalankan di Pusat Pendidikan Alam Semula jadi Kuala Atok, Taman Negara Pahang dari 16hb hingga 23hb Mei 2008. Survei ini adalah sebahagian daripada Program Inventori Biodiversiti yang dianjurkan oleh Jabatan Perlindungan Hidupan Liar dan Taman Negara (PERHILITAN). Sebanyak sepuluh jaring kabus, dua perangkap '4-bank harp trap', 100 perangkap tikus biasa dan 40 perangkap tikus Sherman telah digunakan sepanjang survei tersebut. Sebanyak 79 individu daripada tiga order, tujuh famili dan 23 spesies telah ditangkap sepanjang survei ini. Daripada 23 spesies, tiga spesies adalah daripada kelawar jenis pemakan buah, 15 spesies kelawar jenis pemakan serangga, empat spesies tikus dan satu spesies tupai. Kawasan cerapan kami adalah bersebelahan dengan Sungai Pahang dan diliputi oleh hutan sekunder tanah rendah. Kelimpahan yang tinggi Tikus Mondok Ekor Panjang (*Leopoldamys sabanus*) dan Kelawar Ladang Bulat Gua (*Hipposideros cervinus*), menunjukkan bahawa kawasan kajian ini merupakan kawasan hutan yang terganggu. Graf kumulatif spesies yang masih meningkat menunjukkan potensi penemuan banyak lagi spesies yang masih belum direkodkan di kawasan ini, terutamanya bagi spesies kelawar berbanding tikus dan tupai. Analisis peringkat awal bagi kesamaan spesies di Kuala Atok berbanding kawasan lain yang telah dijalankan kajian menunjukkan kesamaan spesies di antara kawasan Kuala Atok dengan Hutan Simpanan Hidupan Liar Krau dan Hutan Bukit Fraser. Kesamaan ini sekaligus menunjukkan kepentingan survei di kawasan Kuala Atok terutamanya bagi spesies kelawar kerana berpotensi untuk mempunyai kepelbagaian spesies yang setara dengan kawasan kajian lain yang terkenal seperti Hutan Simpanan Hidupan Liar Krau.*

Kata kunci: Biodiversiti; Chiroptera; inventori; rodentia; Scandentia

INTRODUCTION

Taman Negara Pahang is situated at the centre of Peninsular Malaysia and it covers three states, namely Pahang (2,477 km²), Terengganu (853 km²) and Kelantan (1,013 km²), giving a total of approximately 4,343 km² (DWNP, 2000a). The highest peak in Taman Negara Pahang is Mount Tahan with 2,187 m above sea level (a.s.l.) and known to be the highest mountain in Peninsular Malaysia. It has wide range

of habitats including lowland that consists of riverine vegetation as well as freshwater swamp, hill dipterocarp forest, lower montane forest and upper montane forest, heath forest and riparian forest. This national park supports large mammals which include elephants, Malayan tapir, gaur, tiger, and sun bear as well as small mammals such as bats, rodents, pangolin and tree shrews (Siti-Hawa et al. 1985). With the presence of such diverse fauna, the primary