

**A survey of the flora and fauna of
Pulau Punyit, Brunei Darussalam**

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Summary. Pulau Punyit supports only 20 species of terrestrial plants, a feature reflecting the island's small size and harsh environment. These include *Gastonia serratifolia* (Araliaceae), known in Brunei from this island only, and *Melientha suavis* subsp. *suavis* (Opiliaceae), a new subspecies record for Borneo. The herpetofauna is limited to one snake and one lizard. The littoral zone, in contrast, supports a wide variety of algae and invertebrates, many of which are arranged in distinct patterns of zonation. Pulau Punyit, as one of only two offshore islands, represents a substantial proportion of Brunei Darussalam's open coast and hard-substrate littoral biodiversity and, as such, should be protected.

Pulau (= Island) Punyit is one of only two offshore islands in Brunei Darussalam (Agbayani *et al.*, 1992). It is located in the South China Sea (4°58'34" N; 114°50'45" E) (Fig. 1) and