



HEART OF BORNEO SERIES 5
**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
HEART OF BORNEO
SEMINAR
TAMA ABU**



PROVISIONAL CHECKLIST OF GINGERS FROM TAMA ABU PF

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Abstract

Zingiberaceae species are a diverse group of rhizomatous, aromatic perennial herbs with the centre of diversity in South-east Asia. The *Zingiberaceae* diversity in the Tama Abu Production Forest (TAPF) documented in this paper is a result of the survey during the Heart of Borneo (HoB) Scientific Expedition 2017. A total of 44 species belonging to 12 genera and 2 tribes were collected and recorded. The tribe *Alpinieae* represented by 8 genera and 30 species whilst tribe *Zingiberaceae* with 4 genera and 14 species. *Amomum anomalum*, *Amomum dimorphum*, *Etilingera brevilabrum*, *Etilingera coccinea*, *Globba atrosanguinea*, *Hornstedtia havilandii*, *Plagiostachys strobilifera* and *Zingiber* sp. nov. are considered as common.

INTRODUCTION

Zingiberaceae species are rhizomatous, perennial herbs which are aromatic in any or all of its plant parts. The family *Zingiberaceae* comprises of 57 genera (includes four recently described genera; *Johalia*, *Kedhalia*, *Myxochlamys* and *Newmannia*) and more than 1,500 species worldwide with its centre of diversity in South-east Asia. Malaysia harbours almost 40% of the world genera and close to 30% of the world taxa (Ibrahim et al. 2011). Of these, 19 genera are known to be from Sarawak with over 180 species, includes the genus *Haniffia*, a new geographical record for Sarawak that recently discovered from Kuching Division (Wong et al. 2014). *Zingiberaceae* is diverse in its habit and habitat thriving in shaded forests, in mixed dipterocarp, kerangas, peat swamp, limestone, riverine habitat, secondary forests or alluvial forests with few species in montane and mangrove forests. Majority of the species are terrestrial with some species are occurring as epiphytes on the tree trunks or branches and as well as lithophytes on the rock surfaces.