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## Data Article

## Data on diet and growth by giant panda in zoo Negara, Malaysia



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## ABSTRACT

In this data article we present the determinations of the diet preference and growth of a pair of the giant panda, *Ailuropoda melanoleuca* (David, 1869) from Zoo Negara Malaysia. Once considered as endangered, the captive giant pandas were given with nine species of local bamboo in separate indoor enclosures.

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**Keywords:**

Giant panda  
 Captivity  
 Conservation-dependent species  
 Zoo negara

We recorded data between May 25, 2014 and December 31, 2016 and analysed it based on food preference, the pattern toward food consumption and body weights using SPSS v25.0 (IBM, USA). Data on the bamboo preference, daily average bamboo provided and consumed, and factors predicting of body weight per individual are reported in this article. The data highlight correlation between panda growth (kg) to the part of bamboo consumed (kg) and exhibit the pattern of preferred part of food (i.e.: either the leaf, culm or shoots of bamboo variety) for panda consumptions. The food consumption toward the body weight was modelled using logistic regression analysis to help determine the pattern of food consumption and body weight of giant panda in the future and based on regression model 1, only consumed variable is significance to the model.

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**Specification Table**

Subject area	Ecology
More specific subject area	Dietary and foraging ecology
Type of data	Tables and figures
How data was acquired	Through field works in captivity, direct observation and analysed using SPSS v22.0
Data format	Raw, semi-analysed and analysed
Experimental factors	Analysis of 952 data points of food preference, consumption and body weight from a pair of giant panda from May 25, 2014 until December 31, 2016
Experimental features	The pandas were offered at least two species of bamboo daily. The daily data points were recorded and analysed using SPSS v25.0 [1,2]
Data source location	Zoo Negara, Malaysia (3.2087° N, 101.758° E)
Data accessibility	The data is provided in this article
Related research article	I. Che Ishak, J.J. Rovie-Ryan, M.N. Ramli, C. Li, H. Yang, A.N. Zainudin, A.H. Samsuddin, M.F. Mohamad Yusoff, A. Ibrahim, E.A. Abdullah, N.M. Abdullah, R. Topani, Effects of preference and nutritional values of local bamboo towards growth performance of captive giant pandas ( <i>Ailuropoda melanoleuca</i> ) in Zoo Negara, Malaysia. <i>J. Sustain. Sci. Manage.</i> , 11 (2016) 92–98.

**Value of the Data**

- The dataset presents the diet and growth of a pair of captive giant panda at Zoo Negara, Malaysia.
- Data on daily food consumption can benefit the Giant Panda Research Consortium and target research groups to ensure this iconic species' long term survival for the next generation and recovery of wild populations in China.
- The current food selection shows the seven local bamboo species can be served as a part of diet and nutrition for this conservation-dependent species. These data highlight the important in conserving and cultivating the bamboo species.
- The data provide an essential reference for the management authorities to formulate an adaptive system and to ensure the success of the captive conservation program in Malaysia and elsewhere in the world.
- Data on the bamboo species consumed in selected zoos in the world are useful to the zoos intending to keep this species in captivity.

**1. Data**

The giant panda, *Ailuropoda melanoleuca*, was once known as an Endangered (EN) species since 1990 before been down listed to Vulnerable (VU) in recent assessment [3]. Giant pandas in captivity will be returned to the range state for release to reinforce the wild populations in China. As part of a