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Tajuk : Interesting Presentations At Two-day Bioversity Day.

Interesting presentations at two-day Biodiversity Day

KUCHING: The Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (SBC) has lined up some interesting public awareness programmes related to biodiversity as sidelines of its Biodiversity Day event on May 18-19.

On Saturday, May 18, three known experts in their respective fields will be talking about flowering plant species, fungi and also orchids.

The talks will kick off at 1pm at SBC's premises in Semenggoh with Peter Boyce, who will talk on flowering plant species found in Sarawak.

Boyce arrived in Sarawak in year 2002 after spending 15 years working at Kew Gardens.

He has since spent the last 12 years in Malaysia and Thailand.

Boyce's talk will be followed by a talk entitled "Diversity of Macro-Fungi in Sarawak" by Prof Sepiah Muid of Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas), whose areas of specialisation is plant pathology and mycology.

Sepiah will talk about the macro-fungi or mushrooms found in Sarawak.

The series of talks for the day will conclude with a presentation by Prof Maziah Mahmood of Universiti Putra Malaysia on orchids.

Maziah's field of expertise encompasses plant biochemistry, plant biotechnology and plant tissue culture.

She also admits to loving orchids which she finds mesmerising.

After 10 years of research on the plant, the professor has made a career out learning about them and working on fragrant orchids.

Maziah is also a co-founder of Orchid Life, a BioNexus status company that produces horticultural products and services internationally.

The following day, public talks will kick off at 2pm with "Wildlife Conservation in Sarawak" by Oswald Braken Tisen, the Sarawak Forestry Corporation deputy general manager.

His presentation will be followed by an awareness talk entitled "Our Rivers and Biodiversity" by the Sarawak Rivers Board.

Each talk is estimated to be an hour long, and those interested in attending are advised to register with SBC by either sending an email to biosar@sbcc.org.my, or by calling 082-510.610 as seats are limited.