



HEART OF BORNEO SERIES 5
PROCEEDINGS OF
HEART OF BORNEO
SEMINAR
TAMU ABU



Heat of Borneo Series 5

PROCEEDINGS OF SEMINAR

TAMA ABU

FOREST DEPARTMENT SARAWAK

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PREFACE

This Proceedings gives us a glimpse on the findings of the Scientific Expedition to Tama Abu PF made in 2017 which was organized by the Forest Department of Sarawak.

This book is the fifth in a Heart of Borneo Series publication under the Heart of Borneo Project Initiative for Sarawak. It highlights part of the findings of the 2017 expedition that presented during the Heart of Borneo Seminar 2018.

A total of twenty-one papers, that includes flora (11), fauna (9) and one paper each on microbial and geological that part of the findings of the expedition were presenting in this Seminar Proceedings book. While others findings will be include in the pictorial coffee-table book (Heart of Borneo Series 7).

EDITORS

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NOTES ON THE GENUS *MAPANIA* (MAPANIOIDEA; CYPERACEAE) FROM TAMA ABU, SARAWAK

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Abstract

A list of Mapania species from Tama Abu PF of Heart of Borneo (HoB) area is presented in this paper. Tama Abu PF is considered fairly rich with Mapania species. Nine taxa were recorded of which one species is still undetermined.

Keywords: *Mapania, Cyperaceae, Tama Abu, Borneo*

INTRODUCTION

The cosmopolitan sedge family Cyperaceae is the third-largest family in the monocots, after orchids and grasses, with 106 genera and c. 5400 species. A wide variety of habitats are occupied by sedges, from swamps to sand-dunes and tropical forests to high arctic tundra. Several species are ubiquitous weeds which occur in a variety of environments; others are endemic, narrowly distributed and of conservation concern. The family Cyperaceae comprises two subfamilies, Mapanioideae and Cyperoideae. Two tribes are assigned under Mapanioideae, namely Hypolytreae and Chystricheae. *Mapania* Aubl., a genus in tribe Hypolytreae contains a group of mostly forest dwelling sedges which are widely distributed throughout the tropics (Simpson 1992). Borneo and Peninsular Malaysia are considered to be centers of diversity for *Mapania* with 25 and 16 species recorded respectively (Simpson 1992) and new species continue to be discovered (Shabdin et al. 2013a). Shabdin et al. (2013a; 2013b; 2016) added three species into the list and then the number has drastically increased to 43 taxa with many new species discovered in recent years (Miraadilla & Shabdin, 2016; Miraadilla et al. 2016a; 2016b).

Locally known as *lee* by the Saban people of Long Banga or *Ra'ah* by the Penan of Tama Abu, *Mapania* species is not a popular plant collected by botanists or plant collectors due to not attractive or difficult to dealt with (leaf with sharp prickles) as well as for herbarium specimen due to its bulkiness.