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MALAYSIA RED LIST

Plants of Peninsular Malaysia Volume 1, Part I







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VOLUME 1, PART I

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GOVERNMENT OF MALAYSIA

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FOREWORD

ur country is blessed with high biodiversity and is recognized globally as megadiverse. The need to sustainably utilise our natural resources and at the same time conserve them is of paramount importance to human well-being and for generations to reap its benefits. However, these resources can only be managed sustainably if there is documentation of species diversity accompanied with the conservation status of the species. This information is crucial not only to resource managers, but also to policy makers who are responsible for determining the long term sustainability of the country's biological resources.

The Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) had produced Malaysia's first national plant Red List – the Peninsular Malaysian Dipterocarpaceae in 2010. A decade had since passed and this updated Red List publication is timely. Specifically targeted to meet stakeholders' need for a concise national Red List document for plants, this book listed 1,293 indigenous taxa and 60 naturalized taxa from 90 families and 308 genera from Peninsular Malaysia. Information on the taxonomy, geographical distribution and ecology of each assessed taxa were collated from the Flora of Peninsular Malaysia project as well as from other flora accounts. Species reassessment was conducted where required to provide updated information.

This publication meets two important targets of the country's commitment towards the conservation of biodiversity. The National Policy on Biological Diversity 2016–2025 in its Target 9 aims to prevent the extinction of known threatened species by 2025, as well as to improve and sustain their conservation. One of the key indicators, which is to develop a National Red Data list, is a necessary tool to allocate priorities for further conservation actions. Supporting this is Target 2 of Malaysia: National Strategy for Plant Conservation, which aims to have all known plant species assessed. The ultimate conservation vision is to safeguard the flora of Malaysia by streamlining biodiversity conservation into national and state policies and plans. For this, I am fully optimistic that this publication will further enhance the country's conservation momentum.

Dr. Khali Aziz B. Hamzah

Director-General

Forest Research Institute Malaysia

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