

## GUIDELINES FOR THE COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIMENS

### 1. HERBARIUM SPECIMENS

- 1.1. All researchers collecting herbarium, preserved animal and living specimens for research purposes must work in collaboration with the relevant local institution(s)
- 1.2. Specimens collected must adhere to the following mode of distribution:
  - 1.2.1. The first set of specimens must be deposited in the herbarium of the collaborating institution, or any recognised Malaysian herbarium of his or her choice;
    - Herbarium, FRIM, Selangor
    - Herbarium, Sabah Forestry Department, Sabah
    - Herbarium, Sarawak Forestry Corporation
    - Herbarium, Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur
    - Herbarium, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)
    - Herbarium, Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS)
    - Herbarium, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)
    - Herbarium, Department of Biology, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Serdang
    - Herbarium, Faculty of Forestry, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Serdang
    - Herbarium, Forestry Department, Peninsular Malaysia
    - Herbarium, Sarawak Museum
    - Herbarium, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre
    - Herbarium, National Centre for Plant Pest Collection and Repository
    - Herbarium, Department of Agriculture
    - Herbarium, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Penang
    - Herbarium, MARDI, Serdang, Selangor
    - Herbarium, Botanical Gardens, Penang
    - Herbarium, Sabah Parks Department, Gunung Kinabalu, Kota Kinabalu.
    - Herbarium, Department of Sabah Museum.
  - 1.2.2. The second set of specimens must be deposited in the Forest Research Institute Malaysia which functions as the National Herbarium, if the first set of specimens has not yet been so deposited;
  - 1.2.3. The third set of specimens must be deposited in the respective State

- Forestry Department, depending on the research conducted;
- 1.2.4. The fourth set of specimens may be kept for use by the researcher. The Researcher (s) or institutions of his/her choice must obtain prior approval from the relevant authorities in Sabah and Sarawak (i.e. the biodiversity centers and forestry departments in these two states) to collect and keep the specimens and it is considered that all specimens taken are on loan basis; and
  - 1.2.5. Subsequent sets of specimens may be distributed by the researcher in accordance to his/her choice or to any respective specialists in the country or overseas.
  - 1.2.6. For the following groups of plant specimens, it is compulsory that a set be distributed to the following herbaria:
    - Algae - Herbarium, Universiti Malaya
    - Lichen - Herbarium, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
    - Bryophyte - Herbarium, Universiti Malaya
    - Pteridophyte - Herbarium, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
    - Bryophytes - Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS)

## **2. MUSEUM SPECIMENS**

- 2.1. For the collection of preserved animal specimens of fauna, the following guidelines must be adhered to:
  - 2.1.1. All collection of animals should be referred to the Department of Wildlife and National Parks in Peninsular Malaysia, the Wildlife Department in Sabah, and the Forestry Department in Sarawak. In Malaysia, most wildlife species are protected and a license or permit is needed to trap, keep or export whether they are entire specimens or parts of specimens, blood, tissue sample or any form of DNA material;
  - 2.1.2. The collection of fish (as defined in Fisheries Act 1985) should be referred to the Department of Fisheries Malaysia. In the Act, fish covers finfish, shrimps/prawns, squids etc. as well as aquatic plants and certain endangered species such as marine mammals like dugong;
  - 2.1.3. The Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) should be consulted with regard to collection and distribution of insects and other invertebrates.
    - 2.1.3.1. As for the collection and distribution of insects and other

invertebrates, dead or living, in Sarawak and Sabah, prior approval has to be sought from the Controller of Wildlife and Director of Wildlife Department respectively; and

2.1.3.2. Department of Fisheries Malaysia (when fishery-related aquatic invertebrates are collected).

### **3. LIVING SPECIMENS**

- 3.1. Living specimens, both plants and animals including microbes, may be distributed to relevant institutions overseas for the purpose of scientific research with the prior approval of the collaborating and relevant regulatory authorities.
- 3.2. The collaborating agency should ensure that a set of living specimens is deposited in recognised National Botanical Gardens and Zoological Gardens. The collaborating agency should also ensure that the specimens are accompanied by necessary permits (such as Phytosanitary permits, Export permits, CITES permits etc.) and that the materials are appropriately packed to prevent mortality during transit'.
- 3.3. The Quarantine Division of the Agriculture Department (for plants), Department of Fisheries (for fish) and the Veterinary Department and Department of Wildlife and National Parks (for animals) should be consulted in all matters relating to the distribution of living specimens to institutions abroad for scientific research. In accordance with the Sarawak Wildlife Protection Ordinance 1998, the approval from the Controller of Wildlife has to be sought for sending abroad or export of wildlife species.
- 3.4. In the event that living specimens distributed to overseas institutions for the purpose of scientific research are developed into commercial products, the royalty should accrue to Malaysia according to the relevant international conventions in force.