

**DIVERSITY OF FISH SPECIES IN THE TEKAM AND SALAN RIVERS,
JERANTUT PAHANG**

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ABSTRACT

DIVERSITY OF FISH SPECIES IN THE TEKAM AND SALAN RIVERS, JERANTUT PAHANG

Sampling on the diversity of fish fauna were conducted in Tekam and Salan rivers, Jerantut Pahang. Fish were sampled from six stations from three different zones of the rivers, namely the upper site, middle site, and lower site. A total of 16 fish species belonging to seven families were recorded. Analyses based on the number of individuals caught showed that 80% of total catch was represented by the Cyprinids. *Labiobarbus leptocheilus*, *Cyclocheilichthys heteronema*, and *Puntius marginatus* were the most distributed occurring within Tekam river being present in the upper, middle, and lower site of the river, while *Hemibagrus nemurus*, *Pristolepis fasciatus*, *Puntius schwanefeldii*, and *Rasbora lateristriata* were the most distributed within the Salan river occurring in all the zone sites. Overall, fish species diversity, species richness and evenness were higher at Tekam river compared to Salan river, although occurrences was significantly more abundant in Salan river. The causes of the differences could be due to hydrographic conditions such as temperature, pH and dissolve oxygen. In both rivers, temperature recorded ranged from 25°C - 26.9 °C in both. Water pH value varies between 6.52 to 6.97 and dissolved oxygen ranges from 4.93 mg/l to 6.83 mg/l. Thus, river physical and biological factors influence the occurrence, distribution, abundance and diversity of river tropical fishes.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iv
LIST OF TABLES	vi
LIST OF FIGURES	viii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	ix
ABSTRACT	x
ABSTRAK	xi
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background Study	1
1.2 Problem Statement	2
1.3 Significance of The Study	3
1.4 Objectives of The Study	4
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1 Biodiversity of Freshwater Fish in Malaysia	4
2.1.1 Freshwater fish species	5
2.2 Freshwater Fish Habitat and Habits	6
2.2.1 Food fish	7
2.2.2 Structure of rivers	8
2.3 Condition in Freshwater Biome	9
2.4 Tropical Rivers Condition	12
2.4.1 Effect of pollution	13
2.4.2 Threatened fish	15
2.5 Classification of Fishing Gear	16
2.5.1 Gill nets	16
2.5.2 Fishing net	17
2.5.3 Angling	18
2.6 Fish Morphometric Measurement	19
2.7 Different Diversity Indices	21
CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY	
3.1 Materials	22
3.1.1 Chemicals	22
3.1.2 Apparatus	22
3.2 Methods	22
3.2.1 Study area	23
3.2.2 Mapping and distribution	23

3.2.3	Samples collection	24
3.2.4	Data analysis	27
3.2.5	Hydrographic analysis	28
CHAPTER 4: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION		
4.1	Total Collection of Freshwater Fish Species	29
4.2	Fish Distribution	33
4.3	Measurement of Species Diversity	38
4.4	Physical Parameters of River Water	41
4.5	Species Identification and Measurement	45
4.5.1	<i>Belodontichthys dinema</i>	46
4.5.2	<i>Chitala lopis</i>	48
4.5.3	<i>Cyclocheilichthys heteronema</i>	50
4.5.4	<i>Hampala macrolepidota</i>	52
4.5.5	<i>Labiobarbus leptocheilus</i>	54
4.5.6	<i>Luciosoma setigerum</i>	56
4.5.7	<i>Mastacembelus armatus</i>	58
4.5.8	<i>Hemibagrus nemurus</i>	60
4.5.9	<i>Osphronemus exodon</i>	62
4.5.10	<i>Osteochilus vittatus</i>	64
4.5.11	<i>Osteochilus waandersii</i>	66
4.5.12	<i>Pristolepis fasciatus</i>	68
4.5.13	<i>Puntius marginatus</i>	70
4.5.14	<i>Puntius schwanefeldii</i>	72
4.5.15	<i>Raiamas guttatus</i>	74
4.5.16	<i>Rasbora lateristriata</i>	76
4.6	Sampling Stations	78
CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS		81
CITED REFERENCES		83
APPENDICES		89
CURRICULUM VITAE		104

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE	TITLE	PAGE
4.1	List of family and number of individual freshwater fish inhabiting Tekam and Salan rivers.	30
4.2	Fish species distribution based on fish sampling zones of the Tekam and Salan rivers.	33
4.3	Total count and relative abundance of different fish species for Tekam river and Salan river, Jerantut, Pahang.	35
4.4	Total number of fish caught at each of the three sampling sites along Tekam river and relative abundances (%).	37
4.5	Total number of fish caught at each of the three sampling sites along Salan river and relative abundances (%).	37
4.6	Similarity indices fish species of two tributaries, Tekam and Salan rivers, Jerantut, Pahang.	39
4.7	Hydrographic conditions of different stations at the Tekam river.	42
4.8	Hydrographic conditions of different stations at the Salan river.	43
4.9	Morphometric data of <i>Belodontichthys dinema</i>	47
4.10	Morphometric data of <i>Chitala lopis</i>	49
4.11	Morphometric data of <i>Cyclocheilichthys heteronema</i>	51
4.12	Morphometric data of <i>Hampala macrolepidota</i>	53
4.13	Morphometric data of <i>Labiobarbus leptocheilus</i>	55
4.14	Morphometric data of <i>Luciosoma setigerum</i>	57
4.15	Morphometric data of <i>Mastacembelus armatus</i>	59
4.16	Morphometric data of <i>Hemibagrus nemurus</i>	61