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ABSTRACT

AN ETHNOBOTANICAL STUDY ON MEDICINAL PLANT USED BY *Bajau Sama* ETHNICS ALONG TEMPASUK RIVER KOTA BELUD SABAH

An ethnobotanical study was conducted to document the used of medicinal plant among *Bajau Sama* ethnics at Kota Belud Sabah. This study involved 5 villages along Tempasuk River. The information about the plants was gathered between January 2018 and March 2018 from 20 informants by using semi - structured interviews. It was used to identify the commonly used plants, part used, preparation and its administration of herbal drugs. For analysis of general use of plants, Informant Consensus Factor (ICF) was used in this study. The reported plants were collected, identified and deposited into the UITM Herbarium. The result revealed that there were 60 plants species that belonging to 33 families of plants used. Leaves has been the most dominant plant part used by the villagers (41 species). Zingiberaceae was the most commonly used of plant families with 7 species, followed by Lamiaceae, Solanaceae and Asteraceae with 4 species respectively. This study can be helpful to assist other researchers in recognizing the plant that have potential for medicinal purposes.

kind of disease and also provide food for humankind. According to Singh (2013), medicinal plants in less developing countries were fully utilized in their regular basis as it is the sources of healthcare. Thus, people always rely on plants as it can be easily get and help to treat health disorder. There also have some cases where the communities in Sabah already preserved and cultivate these medicinal plant for their own need.

There are 13 states within Federation of Malaysia and Sabah is the second largest state with highest of around 7.4 million hectares (Muhamed et al., 2014). Bajau is the second largest groups in Sabah after Dusun and Kadazan, so there are 36 tribes (Madan et al., 2014). Bajau-Sama ethnics is located in parts of the Sabah state, such as Kota Belud, Tuaran, Papar