THE BIODIVERSITY OF LEPIDOPTERAN IN UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA KOTA KINABALU, SABAH

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Final Year Project Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Science (Hons.) Biology In the Faculty of Applied Sciences Universiti Teknologi MARA

JULY 2019

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Firstly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor, Mr. Abdul Manap bin Mahmud for the continuous support of my degree study and related study, for his patience, motivation, and immense knowledge. His guidance helped me in all the time of study and writing of this thesis. I could not have imagined having a better advisor and mentor for my study.

Besides my advisor, I would like to thank the rest of my lecturers especially Mr. Ajimi bin Jawan, Mdm. Siti Sarayati Haji Abdul Mawah, Mr. Hazmi Haji Damit and Dr. Patricia Natin, for their insightful comments and encouragement, but also for the hard questions which helps me to widen my study from various perspectives in this study.

My sincere thanks also go to Mr. Mohamad Hanafi Sadli, who provided me with the materials and apparatus for the study, and who have access to the laboratory and research facilities. Without his precious support, it would not be possible to conduct this study.

I thank my fellow lab mates in for the stimulating discussions, for the sleepless nights we were working together before deadlines, and for all the fun we have had in finishing our thesis.

Last but not least, I would like to thank my family: my parents and to my brothers and sisters for supporting me spiritually and financially throughout writing this thesis and my life in general. Without the team, I would not have the courage to finish this thesis.

Samuel Tiau

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ABSTRACT

BIODIVERSITY OF LEPIDOPTERAN IN UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA KOTA KINABALU, SABAH

This study focused on the biodiversity of Lepidopteran in the forest UiTM Kota Kinabalu with the aim to enrich our knowledge on the diversity of these economically important arthropods in our ecosystem. The study was conducted by five (500 m) line transects to identifying and classifying the Lepidopteran beside determining their species richness by using Shannon-Wiener diversity index and species evenness index. During the study, a total of 74 individuals of Lepidopteran from 19 species was identified that belongs to three families. Species that were identified are Appias lyncida, Catopsilia pomona, Catopsilia pyranthe, Danaus melanippus, Delias hyparete, Euploea mulciber, Eureme hecabe, Hebomia glucippe, Idea leuconoe, Ideopsis vugaris, Junomna almama, Lexias pardalis, Lyssa zampa, Melanitis leda, Mycalesis mineus, Neptis hylas, Parantica melaneus, Precis orithya dan Ypthima pandocus. Results showed that the species found only represents 2% of the Borneo species. Shannon-Wiener diversity index is considered moderate with value of H'=2.752 and the evenness index, E'=0.9346 indicates the species are evenly distributed across UiTM Kota Kinabalu with no obvious dominant species. For future studies, it is recommended to identify endangered species, use the Lepidopteran for environmental monitoring. The conservation of UiTM Kota Kinabalu's ecosystem must be restored back after the wildfire.