

STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF SMALL BRANIFLS AT  
MAN-MADE AREA OF UNIVERSITY SULTAN HASSAN

YAHYA ABDULLAH

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

UNIVERSITY SULTAN HASSAN TECHNOLOGY  
UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA TERENGGANU  
2007

1100051195 Perpustakaan Sultan Nur Zahirah (PSNZ)  
Universiti Malaysia Terengganu



C/N 4714

L P 5 FST 3 2007



1100051195

1100051195  
Ectoparasites composition on small mammals at mangrove area  
Universiti Malaysia Terengganu / Asuar Ayunni Anuar.

**PERPUSTAKAAN  
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA TERENGGANU (UMT)  
21030 KUALA TERENGGANU**

1100051185

Lihat sebelah

ECTOPARASITES COMPOSITION ON SMALL MAMMALS AT MANGROVE  
AREAS OF UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA TERENGGANU

By  
Asuar Ayunni Anuar

Research Report submitted in partial fulfillment of  
the requirements for the degree of  
Bachelor of Applied Science (Biodiversity Conservation and Management)

Department of Biological Sciences  
Faculty of Science and Technology  
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA TERENGGANU  
2007

1100051195

This project should be cited as:

Asuar, A.A. 2007. Ectoparasites composition on small mammals at mangrove areas of Universiti Malaysia Terengganu. Undergraduate thesis, Bachelor of Applied Science (Biodiversity Conservation and Management), Faculty of Science and Technology Malaysia, Terengganu. 62p.

No part of this project may be produced by any mechanical, photographic, or electronic process, or in the form of photographic recording, nor may it be stored in a retrieval system, transmitted, or otherwise copied for public or private use, without writing permission from the author and the supervisor(s) of the project.



JABATAN SAINS BIOLOGI  
FAKULTI SAINS DAN TEKNOLOGI  
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA TERENGGANU

PENGAKUAN DAN PENGESAHAN LAPORAN  
PROJEK PENYELIDIKAN I DAN II  
*RESEARCH REPORT VERIFICATION*

Adalah ini diakui dan disahkan bahawa laporan penyelidikan bertajuk: ECTOPARASITES COMPOSITION ON SMALL MAMMALS AT MANGROVES AREAS OF UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA TERENGGANU oleh ASUAR AYUNNI ANUAR , no. matrik: UK10406 telah diperiksa dan semua pembetulan yang disarankan telah dilakukan. Laporan ini dikemukakan kepada Jabatan Sains Biologi sebagai memenuhi sebahagian daripada keperluan memperolehi Ijazah Sarjana Muda Sains Gunaan (Pemuliharaan and Pengurusan Biodiversiti) , Fakulti Sains dan Teknologi, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu.

Disahkan oleh: / Verified by:

.....  
Penyelia Utama / Main Supervisor: **WONG CHEE HO**  
Nama: Pensyarah  
Cop Rasmi: Jabatan Sains Biologi  
Fakulti Sains dan Teknologi  
Universiti Malaysia Terengganu  
21030 Kuala Terengganu.

Tarikh: 10/5/07

.....  
Ketua Jabatan Sains Biologi / Head, Department of Biological Sciences

Nama: **DR. AZIZ BIN AHMAD**  
Cop Rasmi: Ketua  
Jabatan Sains Biologi  
Fakulti Sains dan Teknologi  
Universiti Malaysia Terengganu  
21030 Kuala Terengganu

Tarikh: 10/5/07

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

First and foremost I would like to thank to my supervisor Mr. Wong Chee Ho for the patience and guidance throughout completing this project. I am grateful for the expert advice and for the helpful comments and critics on this project.

Not forgotten Mr. Mohammad Embong, the Histology Laboratory Assistance for providing me with the useful information about mounting technique used in my project. I also gratefully acknowledge Zatul Himmah Samsudin for help with field work, and Haryati Abdul Rahman and also Amelia Baizatul Raiha, I thank them for the good comment on this project. I benefited from discussions concerning ectoparasites phylogeny particularly with Christopher Imbaraja.

Last but not least, I thank to everyone who had helped me indirectly, my parents and to Mohd Fadhil Anuar, I thank him for being a constant source of motivation for me.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>	ii
<b>LIST OF TABLES</b>	iii
<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b>	iv
<b>LIST OF ABBREVIATION</b>	v
<b>LIST OF APPENDICES</b>	vi
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	vii
<b>ABSTRAK</b>	viii
<b>CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION</b>	1
1.1    Introduction	
1.2    Objectives	
<b>CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW</b>	
2.1    Small mammals	
2.2.1    Evolution of mammals	3
2.2.2    Small mammals classification	4
2.2    Mangroves	
2.2.1    Declining in mangroves	5
2.3    Mangroves and small mammals	5
2.4    Ectoparasites	6
2.5    Taxonomic group of ectoparasites	7
2.6    Small mammals ectoparasites	8
2.6.1    Class Arachnida	8
2.6.2    Class Insecta	9
2.7    Effects of ectoparasites on host	10
2.8    Ectoparasites and disease	11
<b>CHAPTER 3 METHODOLOGY</b>	
3.1    Study site	13
3.2    Sampling area	13

3.3	Fieldwork	15
3.4	Laboratory work	16
3.4.1	Clearing agents	16
3.4.2	Mounting media	17
3.5	Meteorology data	
3.6	Data analysis	
3.6.1	Species abundance	19
3.6.2	Infected index	19
3.6.3	Prevalence	19
3.6.4	Correlation	19

## **CHAPTER 4 RESULTS**

4.1	Small mammals	19
4.2	Ectoparasite identification	22
4.2.1	Mesostigmata	22
4.2.2	Anoplura	23
4.3	Ectoparasite availability according to sampling period	23
4.4	Composition of ectoparasites according to host species	25
4.5	Small mammals infestation rate	25
4.6	Ectoparasites infestation rate	28
4.7	Prevalence of ectoparasites	28
4.7.1	Prevalence of ectoparasites according to host species	28
4.7.2	Prevalence of ectoparasites according to host gender	28
4.8	Abundance of ectoparasites	28
4.9	Relationship of climate factors to composition of ectoparasites	32

## **CHAPTER 5 DISCUSSION**

5.1	Host species	
5.1.1	<i>Paradoxurus hermaphroditus</i>	36
5.1.2	<i>Rattus tiomanicus sabae</i>	36
5.1.3	<i>Rattus tiomanicus jalorensis</i>	36

5.1.1	<i>Rattus exulans</i>	37
5.1.2	<i>Rattus argentiventer</i>	37
5.2	Composition of small mammals	37
5.3	Ectoparasite uniqueness	38
5.3.1	Mites (Mesostigmata)	38
5.3.2	Lice (Mallophaga)	49
5.4	Ectoparasite composition	39
5.4.1	Infestation rate of ectoparasites	41
5.5	Prevalence of ectoparasites	42
5.6.1	Prevalence of ectoparasites according to host species	42
5.6.2	Prevalence of ectoparasites according to host gender	42
5.6	Abundance of ectoparasites	43
5.7	Relationship of climate factors to composition of ectoparasites	44
<b>CHAPTER 6 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION</b>		46
<b>REFFERENCES</b>		48
<b>APPENDICES</b>		54

## **LIST OF TABLES**

4.1	Number of small mammals captured on each sampling period according to species	21
4.2	Number of ectoparasites collected according to sampling period	24
4.3	Rate of ectoparasite infestation on small mammals species	27
4.4	Infestation rate of ectoparasites	30
4.5	Prevalence of ectoparasites according to host species	30
4.6	Prevalence of ectoparasites according to host species	31
4.7	Abundance of ectoparasites according to host species	31

## **LIST OF FIGURES**

3.1	Map of UMT	14
3.2	Plot 1	15
3.3	Plot 2	15
3.4	Brushing the back of small mammal	16
3.5	Brushing and collecting samples behind the ears	16
4.1	The number of captured small mammals according to plot	22
4.2	Percentage of infected and not-infected small mammals	29
4.3	Ectoparasites availability compared to mean temperature	33
4.4	Ectoparasites availability compared to mean humidity	34
4.5	Ectoparasites availability compared to mean rainfall	35

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

UMT	= Universiti Malaysia Terengganu
PH	= <i>Paradoxurus hermaphroditus</i>
RTS	= <i>Rattus tiomanicus jalorensis</i>
RTS	= <i>Rattus tiomanicus sabae</i>
RE	= <i>Rattus exulans</i>
RA	= <i>Rattus argentiventer</i>
Sp.	= species
°C	= degree celcius

## **LIST OF APPENDICES**

1	Ectoparasite data sheet	54
2	Hoyer's medium	56
3	Figures of <i>Laelaps</i> species	57
4	Meteorology Data	59

## ABSTRACT

A study on the ectoparasites composition on small mammals at mangrove areas of Universiti Malaysia Terengganu was carried out from August 2006 until January 2007. The objectives were to determine the ectoparasites composition, to compare the prevalence and abundance of ectoparasites among small mammals species and also to establish a checklist of ectoparasites on small mammals of UMT. A total of 131 individuals were collected from their host, consist of two species from Family Laelaptidae and from Family Polyplacidae. *Laelaps sp. 1* was the dominant group followed up by *Laelaps s.p 2* and *Polyplax sp.* was the least. 25 individuals from five species of small mammals were captured, including *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus*, *Rattus tiomanicus sabae*, *Rattus tiomanicus jalorensis*, *Rattus exulans*, and *Rattus argentiventer*. All species of Muridae were parasitized by Laelaptidae, but Polyplacidae were not parasitized on *P. hermaphroditus* and *R. exulans*. *Laelaps sp. 1* showed the highest prevalence between host species. The ectoparasites were more prevalence on males as compared to females. The abundance of ectoparasites was different for each species. The result shows that the composition of ectoparasites is not associated with climatic factors.

**KOMPOSISI EKTOPARASIT PADA MAMALIA KECIL DI KAWASAN PAYA  
BAKAU DI UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA TERENGGANU**

**ABSTRAK**

Satu kajian mengenai taburan ektoparasit di kawasan hutan bakau telah dilakukan di Universiti Malaysia Terengganu bermula Ogos 2006 hingga Januari 2007. Objektif kajian ini adalah untuk menentukan komposisi ektoparasit, membezakan kelaziman dan kelimpahan ektoparasit pada species mamalia kecil yang ditangkap serta menyediakan senarai semak ektoparasit pada mamalia kecil UMT. Sejumlah 131 individu diperolehi daripada perumah terdiri daripada dua spesies ektoparasit dari Famili Laelaptidae dan satu dari Famili Polyplacidae. *Laelaps sp. 1* merupakan spesies paling dominan diikuti *Laelaps sp. 2* dan *Polypax sp.* adalah spesies paling sedikit. 25 ekor mamalia kecil daripada lima spesies ditangkap termasuklah species *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus*, *Rattus tiomanicus sabae*, *Rattus tiomanicus jalorensis*, *Rattus exulans*, and *Rattus argentiventer*. Semua spesies Muridae dijangkiti Laelaptidae, tetapi Polyplacidae tidak menjangkiti *P. hermaphroditus* dan *R. exulans*. *Laelaps sp. 1* adalah species paling tinggi kelazimannya. Ektoparasit lebih tinggi kelazimannya pada perumah jantan berbanding perumah betina. Kelimpahan ektoparasit adalah berbeza pada setiap spesies. Keputusan mendapati komposisi ektoparasit tidak berkaitan dengan faktor klimat.