

Rattan Industry and the Orang Asli

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ABSTRAK

Artikel ini membincangkan kaitan industri rotan dengan kehidupan Orang Asli yang menjadi pengeluar utama bahan tersebut. Banyak kajian yang dibuat telah menunjukkan bahawa kegiatan mengeluarkan rotan untuk pasaran komersil merupakan kegiatan ekonomi yang sangat penting kepada Orang Asli di negara ini. Kepada Orang Asli rotan bukan sahaja merupakan sumber kewangan, malah ia merupakan bahan hutan yang banyak sekali mereka manfaatkan dalam kehidupan mereka. Akibat peningkatan permintaan kepada bahan tersebut di pasaran antarabangsa, maka kegiatan mengeksploit sumber ini telah menjadi berleluasa hingga membawa kepada kepupusan. Kegiatan pembalakan dan juga pembukaan hutan untuk pembangunan tanah telah turut memusnahkan sumber tersebut. Berbagai langkah melindungi sumber ini daripada pupus telah diambil oleh kerajaan. Antaranya kerajaan telah menggalakkan kegiatan menanam semula rotan dan juga mengenakan cukai eksport yang tinggi ke atas bahan yang diperbuat daripada rotan di samping mengharamkan pengeksportan rotan mentah. Namun, langkah tersebut masih kurang berkesan. Sekatan cukai yang dikenakan telah menyebabkan harga barangan daripada rotan melambung tinggi, tetapi keuntungan daripada peningkatan harga ini tidak dapat dinikmati oleh Orang Asli. Sebaliknya, langkah mengharamkan rotan mentah dieksport telah menjejaskan sumber pendapatan Orang Asli, khususnya bagi mereka yang bergantung sepenuhnya kepada bahan tersebut untuk menyara hidup.

ABSTRACT

This article discusses the relationship between the rattan industry and the lives of the Orang Asli, who are the main producers/suppliers. Many studies have shown that rattan collecting for commercial purpose is an important economic activity among the Orang Asli of Malaysia. Rattan is regarded as their source of income besides having many other uses in their lives. Increasing demand in the international market have resulted in increased exploitation of the rattan to the point of extinction. Logging activities and forest clearance for development have also contributed to its destruction. The government have taken steps to protect the rattan including replanting, imposing high export tax on rattan products and export ban of raw rattan.

Unfortunately, these steps are still ineffective and inadequate as they do not actually benefit the Orang Asli.

INTRODUCTION

Trade in rattan has become an important and multi-million dollar industry both in terms of employment and the income generated. Peninsular Malaysia is amongst the world's richest in rattan resource with 8 genera and 104 species recorded. These have been exploited and so now less than 46 species are known to have economic value. Rattan is collected extensively, usually by Orang Asli. Studies have shown that the economic values of rattan in the daily life of the Orang Asli remains significant (Wanda Ave 1988).

SOME MACRO SCENARIOS OF THE INDUSTRY

Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines represent most important rattan producing countries in the South East Asian region. Indonesia provides 90% of the total rattan traded while Malaysia represented 6-7% of the total volume traded in 1980. Although the extent of the rattan resource has yet to be quantified and annual production tends to fluctuate, it has been estimated that Malaysia's annual production has been estimated at up to 10,000 tonnes. The trade is confined mainly to export of both whole and split rattan, mostly *manau*.¹ During the period 1971-1980, export grew from 3400 tonnes to 12,530 tonnes. The main overseas markets were Singapore, Hong Kong, Italy and the Republic of Korea.

There has been significant increase in world demand for rattan and rattan products and this has transformed the industry from a mere traditional handcraft into a multi-million dollar business with lucrative international market. The current world trade in rattan has been valued at RM50 million and close to US1.2 billion if rattan products are included. In 1984, Malaysia exported 3517 metric tonnes of rattan (canes and split) worth RM4 million and this export figure has increased to 6940 tonnes metric valued at RM11.8 million until April 1989. The export of Malaysian rattan furniture has expanded at an even faster rate from RM2.2 million in 1982 to RM35 million in 1988: and some RM24.5 million worth was exported for the first half of 1989.

Despite the good trade prospect, the resource is faced with shortages and declining future supply. The naturally grown rattans in Malaysia seem to be getting scare because of heavy harvesting, especially those found near the various settlements. However, there has been an

aggressive replanting program to sustain future yield of the commodity (Table 1-3). Both the species (*manau* and *sega*) need an average of 10-15 years before they could be harvested and good world price could affect the implementation of the replanting program. The replanting program could be carried out through integrated crops cultivation to maximise returns. On the other hand, the cost needed to carry out this large scale project could be high and expensive. The estimated total cost during the Fourth Malaysia Plan was roughly around RM1.275 million and this is expected to increase to RM25.5 million under the Seventh Malaysia Plan. Concurrently, the total cost could also be affected by project failure due to lack of data and experience.

TABLE 1. Proposed Planting Programme (hectares)
Fourth Malaysia Plan
(1981-1985)

Species	Year	1983	1984	1985	Total
<i>Manau</i>		400	600	1,000	2,000
<i>Sega</i>		100	200	200	500
Total		500	800	1,200	2,500

TABLE 2. Indicative Plantive Planting Programmes
(hectares) 4th - 7th Malaysia Plan

Species	Year	4MP	5MP	6MP	7MP
<i>Manau</i>		2,000	10,000	40,000	40,000
<i>Sega</i>		200	2,500	10,000	10,000
Total		2,200	12,500	50,000	50,000

TABLE 3. Projected Periodic Rattan
Production (tonnes)

Species	Period	1992-95	1996-200	2001-05	2006-10	2011-15
<i>Manau</i>		-	2,000	15,000	60,000	60,000 +
<i>Sega</i>		325	2,050	7,500	10,000 +	10,000 +
Total		325	4,050	22,500	70,000	70,000

+ Include production from plantations

- established after the Seventh Malaysia Plan (1996-2000)

Royalty on rattan is chargeable under section 53(v) of the Forest Enactment, 1934 and Rule 7 of the Forest Rules, 1935 (FMS cap 153). From 1935 until 1987, the royalty rates were further adjusted to reflect the market value of rattan and proposed steps were taken by the government to regulate the export of local rattan. For example in 1987 royalty for rattan *manau* increased from RM1370/tons to RM2700/tons while RM250/tons for all other species. Despite the high duties on the export of rattan, the export of raw rattan remains high in 1987. Since the implementation of high royalty on rattan did not succeed in curbing the export of rattan, therefore a more serious policy is needed to stop the rattan export and promote downstream activities.

THE RATTAN INDUSTRY AND ORANG ASLI

Apart from its commercial value, rattan plays an important role in the daily life of the Orang Asli community. The rattan is used for house building, basketry, traps and other uses (especially for medicinal purpose).

The sale of the product introduces the money economy to the Orang Asli. Currently, most of the Orang Asli households are involved in the collection of rattan. Rattan canes collected by the Orang Asli are sold directly to the local middlemen or shopkeepers on a weekly basis. These operators act as agents to the main buyers in the major towns such as Jerantut, Kuantan or Kuala Lumpur. The price of rattan ranges from 80 cents to RM1.00 per stick depending on the local market demand.² Under the present circumstances a rattan collector could gather around 80 – 150 stick per trip and this will take a duration of 7 – 10 days in the jungle. The usual complaint has been the need to venture further into the jungle as most supply near the forest fringes have been depleted. This crisis exists due to intensive exploitation of the resources and other factors (will be discussed later).

The local wholesale price/per export price of the product is much higher relative to the price received by the Orang Asli. The difference may be due to the existence of middlemen and the absence of market infrastructure available to the Orang Asli for direct marketing. Wholesale prices/per export price recorded from 1988 to mid 1989 for all categories/sizes on the average ranges between RM4.00 – RM4.50 per stick and during the same period percentage price increase is on the average of 20% – 30%. However, this bullish market trend and increased in price was never transferred to the Orang Asli.

Nevertheless, the collection of rattan still remain as a source of income for the Orang Asli. Commercial collection is done once in 2 weeks

according to the order of the purchaser. But the Orang Asli are only involved in the collection and cleaning up and the rest of the activities like processing and transforming them into finished product are done by the merchants.

SIGNIFICANT FACTORS AFFECTING THE FUTURE SUPPLY OF RATTAN

In recent years, although the trend of Malaysian export of rattan is increasing, the rate of increase is declining. The greatest decline is obvious in certain rattan species which have become rare and this declining trend has also affected other tropical rainforest products. There are about 19 endangered species with 37 species are in a vulnerable/ endangered situation while 78 more are vulnerable to depletion unless conservation measures are taken. The more accesible canes are rapidly becoming exhausted and rare (Appendix 1).

The main factors that contribute to this depletion have been:

- a) Land development programmes such as FELDA and FELCRA especially in Kelantan and Perak. Apart from the usage of land, forest resources were also affected due to settled farming.
- b) In certain areas, logging and forest clearance are inevitable leading to the destruction of rattan resources. Studies conducted in Sabah showed that about 73% of the rattan resources were damaged by logging activities particularly by the felling and destruction of trees. The same studies also indicated that out of the percentage (73%), potentially economic species were reduced from 78 to 19 stems due to the logging activities.

THE BAN ON EXPORT: ITS EFFECT ON THE ORANG ASLI AND EXPLOITATION OF THE RESOURCES

The idea of banning export was mooted in 1979. However, no bold steps were taken since then. Indonesia started to ban their export in 1984 while Malaysia only began to seriously implement such policy in December 1989.³ Certainly, this was a long wait bearing the fact that rattan had been exposed to extensive exploitation activities. However, the Ministry gave no indication as to whether the ban would be a permanent strategy. Furthermore, one of the prime reason for the ban was to ensure sufficient rattan supply for local furniture companies. Sadly indeed, the need to protect the environment and the meteoric depletion of the resources was hardly emphasised.

There are some potential effects of the ban on the Orang Asli community. This impact will be discussed purely from the theoretical and hypothetical situation based on future market's trend. Firstly, the ban on export will affect the markets supply whereby when there is a decrease in supply, price is likely to increase. But this increase in price is not likely to be transferred to the Orang Asli community as they are more of price taker. Ultimately, further exploitation of the resources is expected due to high price influence.

Alternatively, the ban on export might create a situation of abundant supply of the rattan in the local markets. Assuming the local downstream activities and the capacities of the existing mills remain low, the oversupply might lower the price. This will depress the price received by the Orang Asli. If rattan remain the commercial source of income for the Orang Asli, the decrease in price will lead to more exploitation in order to sustain their acceptable level of income. This will also lead to indiscriminate collection of immature rattan and wasteful utilisation which could also have an adverse effect on future supply. In the longer term, the situation could be aggravated by the growing uncertainty of rattan supply due to the depletion of the natural resource base as a result of the conversion of forest land to agricultural and other land uses.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) Along with the replanting programmes, there is a need to allow the Orang Asli to participate fully in such activities. This will involve a long-term strategy in areas such as managing the resources through systematic regulations and production control, yield regulations and other resource expansion activities. I believe such programmes could pave the way for more extensive participation of the Orang Asli in the marketing and downstream/processing stage of the rattan industry.
- (ii) Appropriate technical assistance should be given to the states/Orang Asli to conserve and manage the natural resources in order to ensure sustained yield.
- (iii) Implement the ban on export with greater emphasis on conservation of the resources and environment. The ban on export should be followed by measures to protect price from being manipulated according to distorted market demand/supply and other unscrupulous acts. There is also a need to structure the policy to reflect scarcity and deplorable nature of the resources.
- (iv) The rattan resources should be brought under sustained yields management and developed in accordance with the dynamic

- production policy to ensure a regular and adequate supply in the near future.
- (v) There is a greater need for an effort towards a development of downstream processing of rattan for a higher products value and an increase in the exchange earning.
 - (vi) Rattan cultivation should be carried out in reforestation programmes/regenerated forest. Concurrently, trial/pilot plantation should be carried out in other suitable areas to develop appropriate expertise and technology and gradually expand to increase production.

CONCLUSION

The economic role of the forest product/rattan among the Orang Asli remain significant over the years. Any trade policy implemented (in the form of export ban) will affect them directly in one way or another. Apparently, the notion behind the ban on export is not based on environmental issues. The commercial reasons remain an important aspect behind the ban. The greatest environmental threat such as depletion of natural/forest products remain crucial as development activities (building of roads, land development schemes, logging and mining) are carried out. For the Orang Asli, such activities have led to a greater loss of their land, loss of most forest resources and greater exposition to the money economy. I think any forward looking strategy to conserve the resources need to be balanced between commercial and conservation needs.

APPENDIX 1
The Conservations Status of Peninsular Malaysia Indigenous Palms

Scientific Name	Local Name	En- demic	Con- serva- tion- Status	Scientific Nama	Local Name	En- demic	Con- serva- tion Status
Areca							
<i>A. latiloba</i>	<i>pinang kaki pelanduk</i>	-	V2	<i>A. obtusifolia</i>	langkap	-	nt
<i>A. ridleyana</i>		+	V2	<i>A. westerhouii</i>	<i>kerjim</i>	-	-
<i>A. triandra</i>		+	V2				
				Borassodendron			
				<i>B. mochadonis</i>		-	V2
Arenga							
<i>A. hastata</i>		-	V2	Calamus	rotan sega air	+	V1
<i>A. hookeriana</i>		-	V2	<i>C. axillaris</i>			
				(<i>C. riparius</i>)			
<i>C. balingcuisis</i>	rotan tanah	-	E	<i>C. speciosissimus</i>	rotan sega badak	-	V2
<i>C. blumei</i>	rotan markas	-	V	<i>C. spectatissimus</i>	rotan semut	-	V1
<i>C. burkillonus</i>	rotan keratlaut	+	R	<i>C. tanakadatei</i>	rotan tekok	+	V2
<i>C. caesius</i>	rotan sega	-	V2	<i>C. tomentosus</i>	rotan tukas	-	V1
<i>C. castaneus</i>	curor	-	V2	<i>C. tumidus</i>	rotan manau tikus	-	V2
<i>C. cockburnii</i>		+	V1	<i>C. ulr</i>		-	R
<i>C. concinnus</i>		-	V1	<i>C. viminalis</i>		-	E
<i>C. conirostris</i>	rotan kerai	-	V1	<i>C. viridispinus</i>	rotan kerai gunung	-	V2

Scientific Name	Local Name	En-demic	Con-servation-Status	Scientific Name	Local Name	En-demic	Con-servation Status
<i>C.corneri</i>	rotan perut ayam	+	V1	<i>C.whitmorei</i>		+	V1
<i>C.densiflorus</i>	rotan kerai	-	V2	Calospatha			
<i>C.diepenhorstii</i>	rotan kerai	-	V2	<i>C.scortechinii</i>	rotan demuk	+	V1
<i>C.endauensis</i>		+	E	Caryota			
<i>C.erinaceus</i>	rotan bakau	-	V2	<i>C.mitis</i>	rabuk	-	nt
<i>C.exilis</i>	rotan paku	-	V2	<i>C.maxima</i>	rebuk gunung		
<i>C.filipendulus</i>	rotan batu	+	V1	<i>C.ohtusa war</i>	giant Mountain fishtail Palm		
<i>C.flabellatus</i> (<i>C.fabelloides</i>)		-	E	Ceratolobus			
<i>C.holttumii</i>	rotan perut ayam	+	V1	<i>C.kingnus</i>		+	V1
<i>C.insignis</i>	rotan batu	-	V2	<i>C.subanggulatus</i>	rotan jere landak	-	V2
<i>C.javensis</i>	rotan lilin	-	V2	Corypha	rotan tapait		
<i>C.laevigatus</i>	rotan tunggal	-	V2	<i>C.utau</i>		-	V2
<i>C.laxissimus</i>		+	V1	Cyrtostachys	gebang		
<i>C.lobbianus</i>	cucor kelabu	-	V2	<i>C.renda</i>		-	V1
<i>C.longisetus</i>		-	V1	(<i>C.lakka</i>)	pinang rajah		
<i>C.longispathus</i>	rotan kunyung	+	V2	Daemonorops	sealing wax palm		
<i>C.luridus</i>	rotan kerai	-	V2	<i>D.angustifolia</i>		-	V2
<i>C.manan</i>	rotan manau	-	V2	<i>D.brachystachys</i>	rotan getah	-	V1
<i>C.minutus</i>		+	E	<i>D.calicarpa</i>	rotan jernang	-	V2
<i>C.moorhousei</i>		+	E	<i>D.didymophylla</i>	lumpit	-	V2
<i>C.multirameus</i>		+	V1	<i>D.geniculata</i>	rotan jernang	-	V2
<i>C.ornatus</i>	rotan dok	-	V2	<i>D.grandis</i>	rotan jahaca	-	V2

Scientific Name	Local Name	Endemic	Conservation-Status	Scientific Name	Local Name	Endemic	Conservation Status
<i>C.oxleyanus</i>	rotan minyak	-	V2	<i>D.hystrix</i>	rotan sendang	-	V2
<i>C.padangensis</i>		+	E	<i>D.kunstleri</i>	rotan tahi landak	-	V2
<i>C.palustris</i>		-	V1	<i>D.leptopus</i>	rotan buluh landak	+	V2
<i>C.pandanosmus</i>	rotan pandan wangi	-	V1	<i>D. lewisiana</i>	rotan bacap	-	V1
			V1	<i>D.longipes</i>	lumpit kecil	-	V2
<i>C.paspalanthus</i>	rotan sirikis	-	V1	<i>D.macrophylla</i>		+	V2
<i>C. penicillatus</i>	rotan batu	+	R	<i>D.melanochaetes</i>	rotan cincin	-	V1
<i>C.perakensis</i>	rotan duduk	-	V2	<i>D.micracantha</i>	rotan getah	-	V2
<i>C.pleregrinus</i>		-	V1	<i>D.monticola</i>	rotan jernang	+	V1
<i>C.potystachys</i>	rotan sabong	-	V1	<i>D.oligophylla</i>	rotan getah lumpit	+	E
<i>C.pulaiensis</i>		+	E	<i>D.periacantha</i>		-	V2
<i>C.pyonocarpus</i>	rotan kong	+	R	<i>D.propinqua</i>		+	V1
<i>C.radulosus</i>		+	E	<i>D.sabut</i>	rotan jernang	-	V1
<i>C.ridleyanus</i>	rotan kerai	+	V1	<i>D.scapigera</i>	rotan cincin	-	V1
<i>C.rugosus</i>	rotan perut ayam	-	V1	<i>(D.lasiopatha)</i>			
<i>C.scabridulus</i>	rotan kerai	-	V1	<i>D.sepal</i>		+	V2
<i>C.scipionum</i>	rotan semambu	-	V2	<i>D.verticillaris</i>	rotan getah gunung	-	V2
<i>C.sedens</i>	rotan duduk	+	V2	Eleiodoxa	rotan sabong		
<i>C.senalingensis</i>		+	E	<i>E.conferta</i>		-	V2
<i>C.setulosus</i>	rotan kerai	+	E	<i>(E.scortechinii)</i>	asam paya, kelubi		
<i>C.siamensis</i>		-	V1	Eugeissona			
<i>C.simplex</i>		+	V1	<i>E.brachystachy</i>		+	R
<i>E.tristis</i>	bertam	+	nt	<i>L.speciosa</i>		-	R

Scientific Name	Local Name	En-demic	Con-servation-Status	Scientific Name	Local Name	En-demic	Con-servation Status
Iguanura				<i>L.tahanensis</i>		+	R
<i>J.bicornis</i>		-	V1	Maxburretia			
<i>J.corniculata</i>		+	E	<i>M.gracilis</i>		+	R
<i>J.polymorpha</i>		-	V2	(<i>Liberbaileya gracilis</i>)			
<i>J.wallichiana</i>		-	V2	<i>M.rupicola</i>			
Johannesteijsmannia	daun payung umbrella leaf plam			Myrialepis			
<i>J.altifrons</i>		-	V2	<i>M.paradoxa</i>	rotan kertong	-	nt
<i>J.magnifica</i>		+	E	(<i>M.scortechinii</i>)			
<i>J.lanceolata</i>		+	E	Nenga			
<i>J.perakensis</i>		+	V1	<i>N.grandiflora</i>		+	R
Korthalsia	Common Fishtail Palm			<i>N.macrocarpa</i>		+	V2
<i>K.echinometra</i>	rotan dahan	-	V1	<i>N.pumila</i>		-	V2
<i>K.flagellaris</i>	rotan semut	-	V2	Nypa			
<i>K.hispida</i>		-	V2	<i>N.fruticens</i>	nipah	-	nt
<i>K.laciniosa</i>	rotan semut			Oncosperma			
(<i>K. grandis</i>)		+	V1	<i>O.horridum</i>	bayes	-	nt
<i>K.lanceolata</i>				<i>O.tigillarum</i>	nibung	-	nt
<i>K.rigida</i>				Orania			
<i>K.rostrata</i>	rotans semut			<i>O.sylvicola</i>	ibul	-	V2
(<i>K.scaphigera</i>)				Phoenix			
<i>K.scortechinii</i>	rotan semut			<i>P.paludosa</i>	dangsu	-	V1
				Pholidocarpus			

Scientific Name	Local Name	Endemic	Conservation-Status	Scientific Name	Local Name	Endemic	Conservation Status
<i>K.tenuissima</i>	rotan dahan tikus			<i>P.kingianus</i>	kepau	+	V2
Licuala	palas	+		(<i>Livistona kinglana</i>)			
<i>L.acutifido</i>		+		<i>P.macrocarpus</i>	kepau	-	V2
<i>L.confusa</i>		+		Pinanga			
<i>L.corneri</i>		-		<i>P.acaulis</i>		+	E
<i>L.ferniginea</i>		+		<i>P.adangensis</i>		+	E
<i>L.glabra</i>		-		<i>P.beccariana</i>		-	V1
<i>L.kemamanensis</i>		+		<i>P.brewsteriana</i>		+	R
<i>L.kiahii</i>		+		<i>P.cleistantha</i>		+	V1
<i>L.kingiana</i>		-		<i>P.disticha</i>		-	V2
<i>L.kunstleri</i>		+		<i>P.fruitcans</i>		+	V1
<i>L.tanuginosa</i>		+		<i>P.glaucescens</i>		+	E
<i>L.longicalycata</i>		-		<i>P.limosa</i>		-	V2
<i>L.longipes</i>		+		<i>P.malaiana</i>	legong	-	V2
<i>L.malajana</i>		+		<i>P.aff.mirabilis</i>		-	V1
<i>L.mirabilis</i>		+		<i>P.paradoxa</i>		+	V2
<i>L.modesta</i>		+		<i>P.patula</i>		-	V2
<i>L.moyseyi</i>		+		<i>P.pectinata</i>		+	V2
<i>L.pahangensis</i>		-		<i>P.perakensis</i>		+	V2
<i>L.paludosa</i>		-		<i>P.polymorpha</i>		+	V2
<i>L.pusilla</i>		+		<i>P.scortechinii</i>		+	V2
<i>L.ridleyana</i>		+		<i>P.simplicifrons</i>		-	V2
<i>L.scortechini</i>		-		<i>P.subintegra</i>		+	V2

Scientific Name	Local Name	En-demic	Con-servation-Status	Scientific Name	Local Name	En-demic	Con-servation Status
<i>L.spinosa</i>		+		<i>P.subbruminata</i>		+	V2
<i>L.tiomanensis</i>		-		<i>P.wrayi</i>		+	V1
<i>L.triphylla</i>				Plectocomia			
Livistona		+		<i>P.dransfieldiana</i>		+	E
<i>L.'endautensis'</i>		-		<i>P.elongata</i>	rotan mantang	+	V2
<i>L.saribus</i>	serdang			(<i>P.griffithii</i>)			
<i>P.mulleri</i>	rotan mantang paya	+	V1				
Plectocomiopsis							
<i>P.Corneri</i>	rotan rilang gajah	+	V1				
<i>P.geminiflora</i>	rotan rilang	-	nt				
<i>P.mira</i>							
<i>P.wrayi</i>	rotan pepe						
Pogonotium							
<i>P.ursinum</i>							
(<i>Daemonorops</i> <i>ursina</i>)		+	V2				
Rhopaloblaste							
(<i>Ptychoraphis</i>)							
<i>R.singaporentis</i>	kerinting walking stick palm	-	V2				
Salacca							
<i>S.affinis</i>	Salak hutan	-	V2				
<i>S.flabellata</i>		+	R				

Scientific Name	Local Name	En- demic	Con- serva- tion- Status	Scientific Name	Local Name	En- demic	Con- serva- tion Status
<i>S.glabrescens</i>	salak	+	V2				
<i>S.graciliflora</i>		+	V1				
<i>S.minuta</i>		+	R				
<i>S.minutiflora</i>		+	V1				

Note

1. For name changes that postdate Chitmore's Palms of Malaya or Dransfield's Rattan Manual, the 'old' name is given in brackets below the 'new' name.
2. Apart from species that are conspicuous and common or are useful, many species are grouped under a common name as in *pinang hutan* for the forest species of *Areca*, *Iguanura*, *Nenga* and *Pinanga*; *palas* for all *Licuala* species, *serdang* for the tall fan palms and so on. For these reasons, many of the palms have no specific common name.
3. Endemic for Peninsular Malaysia includes Singapore.
4. The categories of conservation status are X – extinct, E – endangered, VI – Vulnerable/Endangered, V2 – Vulnerable, R – Rare, nt – not threatened.
5. There are several undescribed taxa, especially in *Livistona*, *Salacca* and *Areca*, which are not included in this list.

NOTES

1. This specie represent the most important and common type found locally which has been commercially exploited.
2. This price range represent the level of price given to Orang Asli by the middlemen/local trader as recorded during my field trip to Chewong community in Pahang, March, 1989.
3. The ban will not affect Sabah dan Sarawak.

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