

Project Update: February 2009

The first Survey was conducted in February 2009, located in Telaga Bodas Nature Reserve (northern slope of Mt. Galunggung). About seven days were completed for surveying the area. More than 31.8 km of tracks have been surveyed. A total of 11 *Syzygium* species have been identified. None of them represented *S. ampliflorum* that we were looking for. Thus, *S. ampliflorum* still remain undiscovered during this survey, even though the area was the type locality of the species.



The forest at the altitude about 1300-1500 has been converted to an agriculture area. As we have mentioned in our preliminary survey, the villagers in the mountain edge used the land to plant vegetables such as cabbages, chillies, and tomatoes. Therefore, we suspected that land conversion was the main factor that threatens this species. However, during the survey we found other disturbance that presumably became a threat to *S. ampliflorum* and other *Syzygium* species in this area. This disturbance was tree cutting (not exploitation).

Apparently, some villagers were probably hunting animals in the forest besides working as farmers. We met several people, who spent several nights inside the forest for hunting the animals such as mouse deer (*Muntiacus muntjak*), malayan pangolins (*Manis javanicus*) and wild boar (*Sus scrofa*). During the night, the hunter made a fire flame using *Syzygium* trees. Therefore, we found several *Syzygium* trees which have been cut down. Rather than being exploited, the activities of the hunter by cutting the tree could be more dangerous to the population of *Syzygium* spp in this area.



In the next survey besides searching the targeted species, we will also collect other *Syzygium* species that have not conserved in the botanic garden as the effort of plant conservation in Indonesia.

Below is the list of identified *Syzygium* spp in Telaga Bodas Nature Reserve.

1. *S. pyriformum*
2. *S. laxiflorum*

3. *S. racemosum*
4. *S. acutaum*
5. *S. melanosticta*
6. *S. lineatum*
7. *S. pachyrrachis*
8. *S. antisepticum*
9. *S. nervosum*
10. *S. splendens*
11. *S. Winckelii*

In this survey we collected 12 seedlings of 4 species (*S. acutaum*; *S. glomeruliferum*; *S. winckelii* and *S. splendens*) to be cultivated in our ex-situ conservation (Bogor Botanic Garden). Unfortunately, during the adaptation phase in the nursery those seedlings were not able to survive.



