

**BIRD POPULATION IN EIGHT YEARS OLD *Acacia mangium* PLANTATION AT
COMPARTMENT L25 (LAKUTAN) IN SABAH
FOREST INDUSTRIES, SIPITANG.**

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ABSTRACT

Forest plantation has the potential to conserve and maintain the environment and biodiversity. The study was conducted in eight years old *Acacia mangium* plantation at compartment L25 (Lakutan region) in Sabah Forest Industries Sdn. Bhd. (SFI), Sipitang for 21 days. The purpose of the study was to investigate the diversity and density of bird population in eight years old *Acacia mangium* plantation. Five transect lines were established and each transect consisted of six point count. Bird observation was conducted from 0600 hours to 1100 hours daily. Overall, 680 birds from 38 species that represented 17 families were recorded. The Shannon's diversity index and population density of this research showed 2.93 and 40.37 individuals per hectare, respectively. The average stem density, average basal area and average tree height were 760 trees per hectare, 0.3061m² and 15.01m² respectively. The diversity and density of bird population could be influenced by the food resources, feeding guilds of birds and habitats of forest plantation. In *Acacia mangium* plantation, birds such as frugivore and nectarivore were attracted to acacia seeds and flowers whereas abundance of insects in plantation had attracted bird which is insectivores. Adequate food availability in conservation and potential conservation areas might have attracted more birds. To concludes, the bird population density and diversity in SFI (Lakutan) was higher as compared with the past studies that have been conducted in Sabah and Sarawak *Acacia mangium* plantation.