

SABAH BIODIVERSITY CENTRE

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HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



SaBC-BRI,UMS Collaboration: Establishing a Culture Collection of Bacteria from Marine & Conservation Sites of Sabah

International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) 2020

"Summer School Programme 2020: International Project-based Learning Intensive Course in Sabah: Multidisciplinary Approaches to Green Economy"

COVID-19 CHALLENGE: Finding solutions in Tough Time

Access and Export Licence Issuance Report

BIODIVERSITY INSIGHTS: Diversity At The Edge

Communication and Awareness Activities

UMS meteraai k-sama bangun Koleksi Kultur Bakteria dengan SaBC

KOTA KINABALLU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) melalui Institut Penyelidikan Bioteknologi (IPB) kelmarin memeterai satu perjanjian kerjasama dengan Pusat Biodiversiti Sabah (SaBC) bagi membangunkan koleksi kultur bakteria yang sedia ada dan baru dari beberapa lokasi di Sabah.

Menurut kenyataan dari IPB, kerjasama yang melibatkan penubuhan penyelidikan sebanyak RM 500,000 dari SaBC dengan tempoh perjanjian selama setahun ini dilaksanakan dalam satu Majlis Menandatangani Kontrak Penyelidikan antara kedua-dua pihak di Bilik Mesyuarat Lembaga Eksekutif (BEL) Bangunan Canselor UMS.

UMS diwakili oleh Naib Canselor, Prof. ChM. Datuk Dr. Taufiq Yap Yun Hin menandatangani dokumen perjanjian tersebut, manakala SaBC diwakili oleh Naib Canselor, Prof. Datuk Dr. Ismail S. Charles.

Melalui projek kerjasama ini, UMS akan membantu SaBC dalam membangunkan koleksi kultur bakteria yang sedia ada dan baru dari lokasi Pulau Sipadan, Pulau Malud, Pulau Masising, Lembah Danum dan Pusat Konservasi Iribau Canyon.

Projek penyelidikan tersebut dirangka oleh Pengarah IPB, Dr. Zarina Amin sebagai ketua projek dan Prof. Dr. Clemente Michael Wong Vui Ling sebagai ahli projek.



TANDATANGAN... Taufiq Yap menandatangani dokumen perjanjian antara UMS dan SaBC sambil dipertika oleh Gerald Jitoy, kiri dan Dr. Zarina (tiga, kanan) merasmikan gambar bersama kakitangan IPB UMS dan SaBC yang lain.

Dr. Zarina Amin, Naib Canselor UMS, berkata kerjasama ini adalah langkah pertama untuk membangunkan koleksi kultur bakteria yang sedia ada dan baru dari beberapa lokasi di Sabah. Beliau turut berharap agar kemajuan teknologi dan inovasi melalui usaha tersebut, akan memberi manfaat kepada masyarakat Sabah.

Menurut Dr. Zarina lagi, selain daripada proses pengumpulan serta penyediaan katalogi serta penyediaan kultur bakteria yang diperlukan bagi projek kerjasama ini, UMS akan membantu SaBC dalam membangunkan koleksi kultur bakteria yang sedia ada dan baru dari lokasi Pulau Sipadan, Pulau Malud, Pulau Masising, Lembah Danum dan Pusat Konservasi Iribau Canyon.

Projek penyelidikan tersebut dirangka oleh Pengarah IPB, Dr. Zarina Amin sebagai ketua projek dan Prof. Dr. Clemente Michael Wong Vui Ling sebagai ahli projek.

29th May 2020: The signing ceremony of Project on Establishing a Culture Collection of Bacteria from Marine and Conservation Sites of Sabah from Compounds with Industrial and Medical Applications agreement between the Sabah State Government (represented by SaBC) and Biotechnology Research Institute, Universiti Malaysia Sabah (BRI,UMS). The purpose of this project is to help Sabah to produce an inventory of microbes and DNA genomes (of selected strains) from the seas of Sipadan, Mabul, Kapalai and Matakang Islands and the Danum Valley and Maliau Basin Conservation Areas that has potentials in industrial and medical applications.



The signing ceremonies between UMS and SaBC: Prof Datuk ChM. Dr. Taufiq Yap Yun Hin, UMS Vice Chancellor in the presence of Dr Zarina Amin, Director of BRI,UMS and (SaBC) Dr. Ismail S. Charles, Secretary of Natural Resources Office in the presence of Mr. Gerald Jitony, Secretary of SaBC.



SaBC officers and the project members (from left to right): Mdm. Nayang Liyana Bahari, Mdm. Ken Kartina Khamis, Mr. Gerald Jitony, Prof Datuk ChM. Dr. Taufiq Yap Yun Hin, Vice Chancellor of UMS, Dr. Zarina Amin (Project Leader), Prof Dr. Clemente Michael Wong Vui Ling, Dr. Cahyo Budiman and Mr. Haslan Roslie



22 MAY 2020

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Our solutions are in nature

Happy
International
Day for
Biological
Diversity 2020!

*"The Earth has
music for those
who listen"*

-GEORGE SANTAYANA-

The United Nations proclaimed May 22 as the International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) to increase the understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues. This year's 2020 slogan is "Our Solutions are in Nature". The slogan emphasizes hope, solidarity and the importance of working together at all levels to build a future of life in harmony with nature. As we deal with the pandemic today, let us not forget the Mother Earth is healing. Take a moment to appreciate the nature happening around us, surely every solution is there

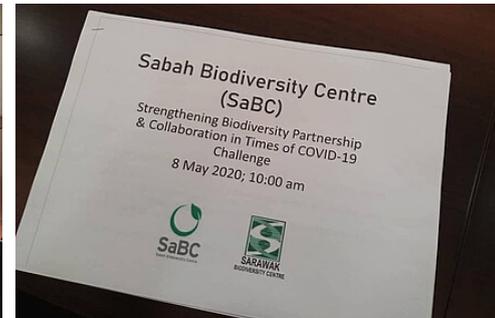
SaBC's New Official Website



COVID-19 CHALLENGE: FINDING SOLUTIONS IN TOUGH TIME

8th May 2020

Video Conference with Sarawak Biodiversity Centre



In conjunction with IDB 2020, with the theme "Our Solutions are in Nature," a video conference entitled Strengthening Biodiversity Partnership and Collaboration in Times of COVID-19 Challenge was held between SaBC and Sarawak Biodiversity Centre (SBC). The video conference was held through Zoom Meeting application and was participated by Mr. Gerald Jetony, Secretary of SaBC. Also in attendance were officers of SaBC. Both parties presented their current activities, projects and possible collaborations which were mainly on biodiversity conservation and research. A video was produced by SBC to commemorate the event (to view the video you can visit SaBC's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSMSTU78k3sOFZxZoSACDXg> (Sabah Biodiversity Centre)

IN TOUCH WITH NATURE:

SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAMME 2020 "INTERNATIONAL PROJECT-BASED LEARNING INTENSIVE COURSE IN SABAH: MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO GREEN ECONOMY"

17th JANUARY 2020
Universiti Malaysia Sabah
(UMS)



Mr. Gerald Jetony was given a gift by Prof. Yoji Natori, as a token of appreciation.

The Summer School Programme 2020 "International Project-Based Learning Intensive Course in Sabah: Multidisciplinary Approaches to Green Economy" is a collaboration between Akita International University, Universiti Teknologi Mara and Universiti Malaysia Sabah. Participants were mostly students from the three universities. The purpose of the programme was not only to study about green economy but also to learn on how to work in international settings. Participants learned to identify interesting issues, conduct field research, and communicate their findings orally and in writing. SaBC was involved in two activities: 1) presentation on Satoyama Initiative in Sabah Context and; 2) field visit to Kg. Kolosunan Inanam - Community-Based Conservation Activities.

Mr. Gerald Jetony, presented a lecture entitled 'Satoyama Initiative in Sabah Context' to the participants of the Summer School Programme 2020: "International Project-Based Learning Intensive Course in Sabah: Multidisciplinary Approaches to Green Economy" at the Faculty of Business, Economics and Accountancy, UMS.

21st JANUARY 2020
KG. KOLOSUNAN,
INANAM



Activities that were carried out at Kg. Kolosunan, Inanam:

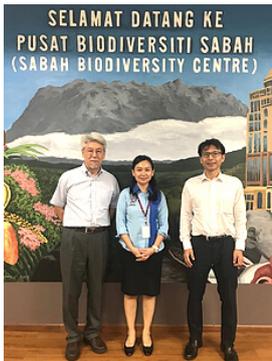
- Introduction on Kg. Kolosunan, Inanam, Community-Based Conservation Activities
- Paddy harvesting demonstration
- Handicraft demonstration
- Water quality activities (utilizing biological indicators - dragonflies and freshwater fishes)
- Introduction on Tagal



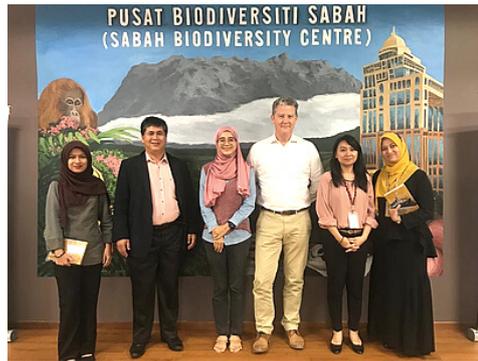
PARTICIPANTS OF SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAMME 2020

Representatives from SaBC:
1. Mdm. Alessandra Markos
2. Mdm. Nur Zaahrah Karim

Visit by NGOs and International Research Institutions



28th January 2020 - A visit from JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) Dr. Motohiro Hasegawa, JICA Senior on Biodiversity and Ecosystems and Mr. Yasuo Takahashi, Vice-Minister for Global Environment Affairs, Ministry of Environment.



5th February 2020 - Courtesy visit from Mr. Julian Hyde (General Manager) and Mdm. Nadhirah Rifai (Programme Manager) from Reef Check Malaysia.



19th February 2020 - A visit from Dr. Takashi Kamada (Shizuoka Institute of Science and Technology), Mr. Takahiro Goto (President of Sakamoto Bio Co. Ltd) and Mr. Julius Kulip (ITBC, UMS) to discuss on the potential of Manufacturing Herbal Products.

Important Meetings

Online Access and Export Committee (JKAE) Meeting

19th May 2020



For the first time, the Access and Export Licence Evaluation Committee Meeting was held online by using Google Meet meeting application. The meeting was held during which the Malaysia Movement Control Order (MCO) was implemented due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Gerald Jetony, Secretary of SaBC.

9th June 2020

Introduction Meeting with Pongo Alliance

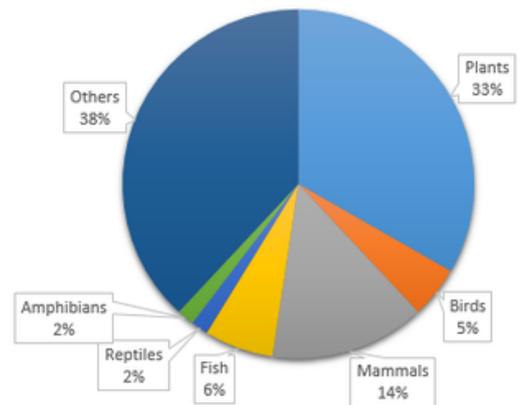


An introduction meeting was held between SaBC and PONGO Alliance. The objective of the meeting was to introduce PONGO Alliance activities to SaBC.

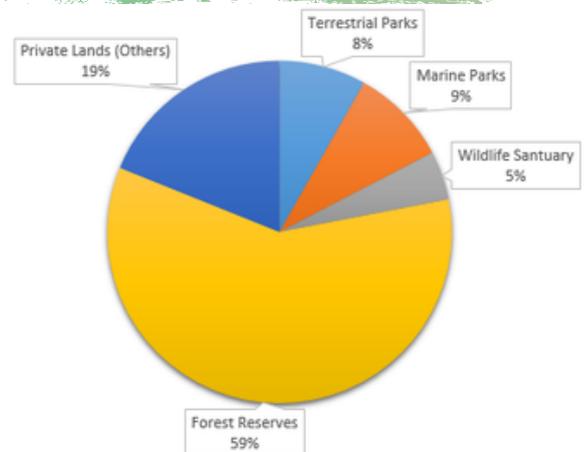


INFOGRAPHIC REPORT ON ACCESS AND EXPORT LICENCE APPLICATIONS JAN-JUNE 2020

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ON LIVING ORGANISMS



LOCATIONS OF RESEARCH



TOTAL NO. OF PAPERS RECEIVED

4

1. A taxonomic study on the Bornean and Philippines Sword-tailed Crickets in the genus *Rhyncogryllus* Chopard, 1925 (Orthoptera: Trigonidiidae, Trigonidiinae).
2. *Betta nuluhon*, a new species of fighting fish from western Sabah, Malaysia (Teleostei: Osphronemidae).
3. Mitogenomes Reveal Multiple Colonization of Mountains by *Rattus* in Sundaland.
4. New Species of *Termitomyces* (Lyophyllaceae, Basidiomycota) from Sabah (Northern Borneo), Malaysia.

SABAH BIODIVERSITY CENTRE



ATTENTION TO INTERNATIONAL RESEARCHERS

APPLICANTS WHOSE LICENCES WERE APPROVED DURING THE 1/2020 SERIES ACCESS/EXPORT COMMITTEE MEETING MAY REQUEST TO EXTEND THEIR LICENCE VALIDITY DATE. SIMPLY E-MAIL US BEFORE DECEMBER 31ST 2020.

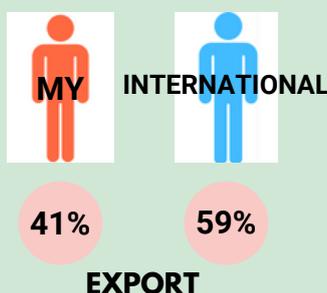
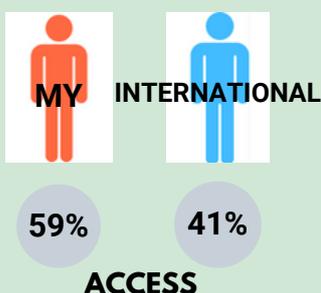
THOSE WHO ARE PLANNING TO DO THEIR RESEARCH IN SABAH, PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION ACCORDINGLY. CONTACT THE NEAREST MALAYSIA EMBASSY IN YOUR COUNTRY TO GET THE LATEST INFORMATION ON TRAVEL ADVISORY: ENTRY RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN TRAVELERS TO MALAYSIA

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND UNDERSTANDING & COOPERATION

#STAYSAFE #STAYCONNECTED

sabc.sabah@gmail.com

LICENCE APPLICATIONS BY NATIONALITY (JAN-JUNE 2020)



Fee and Submission:

- Since June 2019, the Access and Transfer Licence fee is imposed to all researchers.
- Since October 2019, all Access Licence and Transfer Licence applications must be submitted via SaBC's online application portal at <https://sabcapps.sabah.gov.my/>.

BIODIVERSITY INSIGHTS: DIVERSITY AT THE EDGE



By, Liesbeth Frias & Sergio Guerrero, Health at the Edge Project Coordinators, Danau Girang Field Centre

The Health at the Edge Project (H@EP) is an initiative created by Liesbeth and Sergio. The project aims to understand the potential of infectious disease transmission between domestic and wild species in human-modified landscapes such as in Kinabatangan, Sabah, Malaysia (Access Licence: JKM/MBS.1000-2/2 JLD.10 (57) & JKM/MBS.1000-2/2 JLD.10 (59))



Introduced species to the ecosystem (domestic dogs)

While Borneo is one of the world's biodiversity hot spots, it is also one of the largest producers of palm oil, which has created a heated debate regarding the trade-off's between social development and ecosystem conservation, both topical for our society. By surrounding and encroaching natural forests, oil palm plantations have become part of the ecosystems in Sabah. Thus the natural environment and biodiversity are at risk. Domestic species brought by humans, such as cats and dogs, are threat to wildlife. These introduced species become competitors, predators and prey for wildlife species, while also alter natural pathogen transmission processes with potential implications for wildlife conservation and human health.



Endangered Bornean elephant



Introduced species to the ecosystem (domestic cat)

Human-domestic-wildlife interactions are higher at the boundaries between forests and human-dominated habitats, where boundaries are indistinct and can well expand either into plantations (i.e. small streams and unproductive swamps) or into the forest (i.e. logging trails, fisherman trails). Stopping the expansion of commercial crops is of high relevance for biodiversity conservation, but it is equally important to understand the role plantations play for animal communities living at the edge. By doing so, we can encourage more sustainable management of agricultural areas, and benefit biodiversity, ecosystem health and the local economy.



Critically endangered Bornean Orang Utan

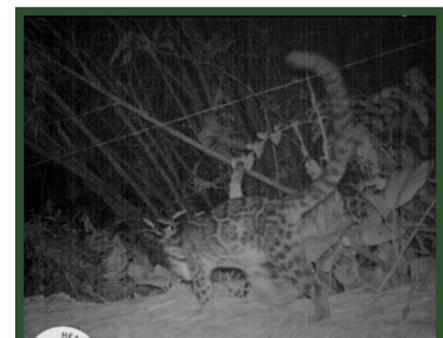
Photo credit goes to the owner: Health at the Edge Project Coordinators, Danau Girang Field Centre



Wild carnivore at the forest-plantation boundary (Leopard cat)



A group of bearded pigs feeding at the forest-plantation boundary



Wild carnivore at the forest-plantation boundary (Sunda Clouded leopard)

Communication & Awareness Activities

(INTERNATIONAL, LOCAL & COMMUNITY)



PARTICIPANTS OF THE TALK ON ACCESS AND EXPORT LICENSE

Mdm. Alessandra Markos was presented a gift as a token of appreciation for giving a talk on the Access and Export Licence Application Procedures.

Talk: Procedure of applying SaBC Access and Export licence at Institute for Tropical Biology and Conservation (ITBC), Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) delivered by Mdm. Alessandra Markos from SaBC.

11th FEBRUARY 2020
ITBC, UMS.



Workshop: Food System, Land Use and Restoration Programme (FOLUR IP) Project documents review.

20th FEBRUARY 2020
HOTEL GRANDIS, KOTA KINABALU.

Mdm. Ken Kartina Khamis from SaBC attended the FOLUR IP workshop.



PARTICIPANTS OF FOLUR IP PROJECT DOCUMENTS REVIEW WORKSHOP

The programme was held to promote sustainable, integrated landscapes and efficient food value and supply chains at scale. Expected result from the programme are sustainable food systems promoted, negative externalities in value chain reduced, deforestation-free commodity supply chains promoted and landscape scale restoration promoted for production and ecosystem services.



12th February 2020 - A presentation about "In Vivo Approach of Sabah Indigenous Plant Use in Ethnomedicine towards Wound Healing" by Mr. Md. Akid Haris (Post-graduate of UMS)

22nd June 2020 - Meeting with Mr. Shavez Cheema of 1 StopBorneo Wildlife to get acquainted with their organization background and activities.



...Communication & Awareness Activities

(INTERNATIONAL, LOCAL & COMMUNITY)

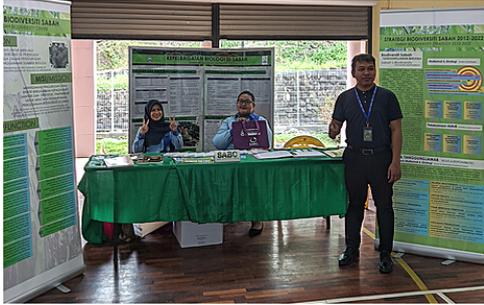


18th February 2020 - YB Datuk Seri Panglima Madius Tangau and Head of Departments during the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve Roadshow (CRBR) at Kiulu Hall, Tuaran.



Left: The CRBR Roadshow for Tuaran District was officiated by YB Datuk Seri Panglima Wilfred Madius Tangau, Deputy Chief Minister of Sabah and Minister of Trade and Industry.

Right: YB Datuk Seri Panglima Wilfred Madius Tangau received a gift from the Secretary of SaBC, as an appreciation for visiting SaBC's exhibition booth.



◀ SaBC Exhibition booth during the CRBR Roadshow for Tuaran District.

7th March 2020 - Briefing and exhibition during CRBR Roadshow for Tenom District at Murut Cultural Centre, Tenom.



◀ Melalap Community Development Leader Mr. Nossil Basayu (represented Datuk Peter Anthony, State Infrastructure Development Minister) accompanied by Dr. Maklarin Lakim, Sabah Parks Director visiting SaBC exhibition booth.



**SaBC
Exhibition
Booth during
the CRBR
Roadshow
Programme
in Tenom**

▶ The programme was officiated by Melalap Community Development Leader Mr. Nossil Basayu who represented Datuk Peter Anthony, State Infrastructure Development Minister accompanied by Sabah Parks Director, Dr. Maklarin Lakim & Assistant District Officer of Tenom, Martinus Lunggeh.



▶ Mdm. Ken Kartina Khamis represented the Secretary of SaBC to present a token of appreciation to Mr. Nossil Basayu, Melalap Community Development Leader.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

▶ WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT MY ACCESS AND EXPORT LICENCE APPLICATION? ◀



Application period	The Access and Export License Committee will meet four (4) times in a year for application vetting process
1 st December – 28 th February	March/April
1 st March – 31 st May	June/July
1 st June – 31 st August	September/October
1 st September – 30 th November	December/January

*Disclaimer: SaBC has the right to amend the date. Applicants are advised to constantly check for new announcement

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Norfarah Syaquirah Lasri

SABAH BIODIVERSITY CENTRE

THE SABC OFFICE IS NOW OPENED TO RESEARCHERS

Kindly adhere to the social distancing procedure when visiting the centre. Thank you.

OPERATING HOURS:
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM (WEEKDAYS)

sabc@sabah.gov.my

SABAH BIODIVERSITY CENTRE

ATTENTION TO RESEARCHERS AND LOCAL COLLABORATORS:

- 1) THE ACCESS AND EXPORT LICENCE APPLICATION COMMITTEE MEETING (1/2020) WILL BE HELD TO A LATER DATE ONCE THE MOVEMENT CONTROL ORDER (MCO) IS LIFTED.
- 2) ALL ACCESS AND EXPORT LICENCE COLLECTION ACTIVITIES WILL RESUME ONCE THE MCO IS LIFTED. OUR OFFICE IS TEMPORARILY CLOSED DUE TO THE MCO.
- 3) ACCESS AND EXPORT LICENCE APPLICATION (2/2020) IS CURRENTLY OPEN AND THE CLOSING DATE IS ON THE 1ST OF JUNE 2020.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING. ANY INCONVENIENCE CAUSED IS DEEPLY REGRETTED BY THE SECRETARIAT.

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, YOU MAY CONTACT:

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TEL: +6 033 545 0027 / E-MAIL: ALESSANDRA.MARKOS@SABAH.GOV.MY) OR
✉ NUR AIZAT ZAID
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We are pleased to inform that SaBC is now opened to researchers. We hope that you can adhere to the social distancing procedure while visiting the centre. Stay safe and don't forget to wash your hands frequently. Thank you.

● COME AND JOIN US! ●

For those who would like to write and contribute, please contact the editors at **sabc@gmail.com**. Open for all! For more information, you may visit our official

● website and social media. ●

Thank you!



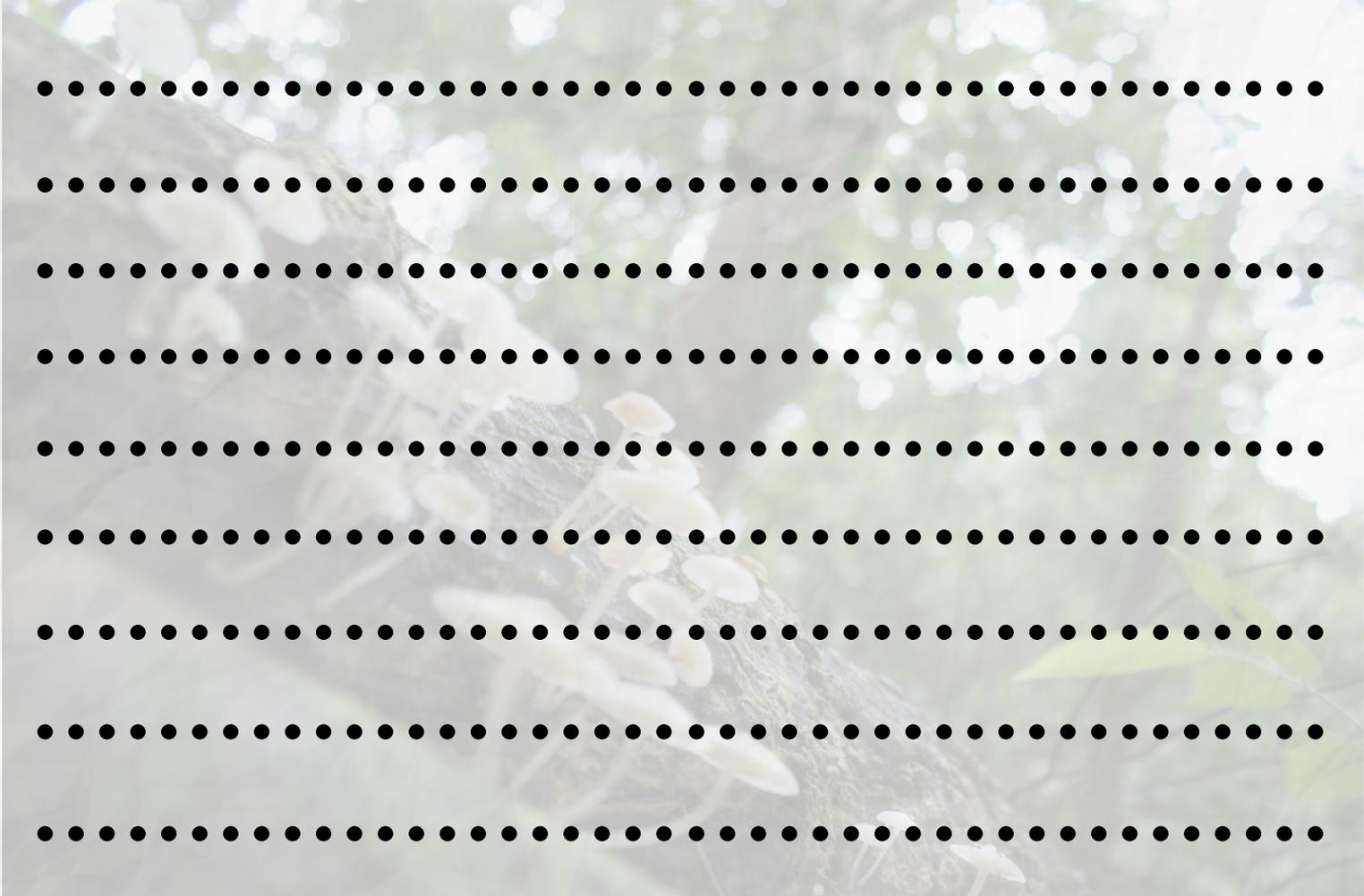
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