# Insect biodiversity in flowering teak (*Tectona grandis* L.f.) canopies: Comparison of wild and plantation stands

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## **Abstract**

Insects were collected in the canopies of wild and plantation forests with Malaise traps and hand nets during the flowering season of teak (August–October 1998) in and near the Maegar Seed Orchard in Phayao province, Northern Thailand. A total of 10,404 individual insects were collected representing 693 morphospecies from 115 recognizable families and 11 orders. Of these 11 orders, Lepidoptera had the highest number of morphospecies (32%) followed by Hymenoptera (29%). Among 693 morphospecies, 620 (89.5%) were non-pollinators and 73 (10.5%) were potential pollinators. Canopies of wild teak had greater insect biodiversity than plantation; however, the number of potential insect pollinators in the plantation canopies was greater than the wild trees.

The total number of morphospecies was 552 in the canopies of wild trees, 340 in the plantation canopies and 199 appeared in both habitats. Mean numbers of morphospecies per individual tree for canopies of wild and plantation trees were 280 and 150, respectively. Total number of individuals collected in the canopies of wild trees was 6948 and 3456 in the plantation canopies. Mean numbers of individuals per individual tree in the canopies of wild and plantation trees were 2316 and 1152, respectively. The mean alpha diversity indices per individual tree in the canopies of wild and plantation trees were 84 and 49, respectively.

Keywords: Canopy; Insect diversity; Pollinator; Tectona grandis; Thailand

## 1. Introduction

While the demand for timber increases each year, the supply that can be extracted from remaining natural forests in Thailand and many other tropical regions is decreasing. This situation creates a serious problem (Silver et al., 2000) and one solution is to establish plantations. Plantations may provide many products and benefits including timber, non-wood forest products, carbon credits, wildlife habitats, and conservation or restoration of biodiversity. Because of these benefits many countries plan to dramatically increase plantation areas (Silver et al., 2000). Some individuals advocate the conservation

benefits of biodiversity in plantations while others claim biodiversity is endangered there (Phillip, 1988).

There have been some reports on the impacts of forest plantations on the diversity and abundance of insects but most of these studies have been conducted in Africa (e.g. Nummelin and Hanski, 1989; Nummelin and Borrowiec, 1991; Nummelin and Fursch, 1992; Eggleton et al., 1995, 1996; Nummelin, 1996) with only a few recent studies being done in Asia (Holloway et al., 1992; Hill et al., 1995; Chey et al., 1997; Hamer et al., 1997; Intachat et al., 1997).

Among tropical hardwood plantation forest trees, teak is one of the most common native or introduced species (Tewari, 1992). In Thailand, teak seed orchards began to be established in 1965 in order to cope with the increased demand for teak seedlings for reforestation and afforestation. However, seed orchard trees generally have shown low fruit production (Pianhanuruk, 1995) that has often been attributed to lack of

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Table 1
Potential pollinator insects visiting teak flowers or inflorescences in canopies of wild (W) and plantation (P) forest trees near the Maegar Seed Orchard in Phayao province

Order	Family Genus or species		Common name	Forest
Diptera	Calliphoridae	Chrysomya sp. Rhinia sp. Unknown sp. 1	Blow fly Calliphorid fly	W and P W and P W and P
	Muscidae Sarcophagidae Stratiomyidae Syrphidae Tabanidae Tachinidae	Musca sp. Parasarcophaga sp. Ptecticius australis Asarcina aegrota Tabanus sp. Tachina sp.	House fly Flesh fly Soldier fly Syrphid fly Horse fly Tachinid fly	W and P W and P W and P W and P W and P W and P
Hymenoptera	Anthophoridae	Xylocopa sp. Braunsapis sp. Ceratina spp. Lasioglossum sp. Amegilla sp. Unknown sp. 2	Carpenter bee Small carpenter bee Anthophorid	W and P W and P W and P W and P W
	Apidae	Apis florae Trigona sp. Trigona terminata Apis dorsata Trigona collina	Dwarf honey bee Stingless bee Giant bee Stingless bee	W and P W and P W and P P W and P
	Halictidae	Nomia spp.	Halictid	W and P
	Megachilidae	Megachile sp. 1 Megachile sp. 2	Leaf cutting bee	W P
	Scoliidae	Scolia ruficeps Campsomeris sp. 1 Campsomeris sp. 2	Scoliid wasp	W and P P P
	Sphecidae	Chlorion nigripes Sceliphron sp.	Sphecid wasp	W and P P
	Vespidae	Allorhynchium sp. Polistes stigma Vespa affinis Rhynchium quinquecinctum Vespa velutina Eumenes petiolata	Wasp Paper wasp Wasp	W and P W and P W and P W and P W and P P
Lepidoptera	Arctiidae	Cyana coccinea Asota caricae	Tiger moth	W and P P
	Danaidae	Euploea core Danaus genutia Euploea mulciber	Common Indian crow Common tiger Striped blue crow	W and P W and P W and P
	Hesperiidae	Badamia exclamationis Bilbasis harisa Daimio sp. Pelopidas sp. Caltoris tenuis Potanthus sp. Udaspes sp.	Brown awl Orange awlet Skipper Common skipper Skipper	W and P W W W P P
	Hyblaeidae Hypsidae	Hyblaea puera Neochera sp.	Hyblaea moth Tiger moth	P W and P
	Lycaenidae	Anthena emolus Hypolycaena erytus Castalius sp. Synturucus sp. Surendra sp. Rapala sp. Poritia sp. Spindasis lohita	Ciliate blue Common tit Common pierrot Moth Lycaenid  Long-banded silverline	W and P W and P W and P W W W W

Table 1 (Continued)

Order	Family	Genus or species	Common name	Forest	
		Cheritra freja	Common imperial	P	
	Nymphalidae	Moduza procris	Commander	W and P	
		Athyma perius	Common sergeant	P	
		Cethosia cyane	Leopard lacewing	P	
		Hypolymnas bolina	Great eggfly	P	
		Neptis hylas	Common sailor	P	
		Phalanta phalantha	Common leopard	P	
		Precis hierta	Yellow pansy	P	
		Precis lemonias	Lemon pansy	P	
		Yoma sabina	Lurcher	P	
	Papilionidae	Graphium doson	Common jay	W	
	Pieridae	Catopsilia pomona	Lemon emigrant		
		Catopsilia pyranthe	Mottled emigrant	W	
		Eurema sp.	Pierid		
	Sesiidae	Melittia sp.	Smaller sphinx	P	
	Sphingidae	Cephonodes hylas	Sphinx	W and P	
	Syntomidae	Amata sp.	Moth	W	
Total	26 families	71 species in 29 genera plus two unknown species			

adequate diversity or abundance of pollinating insects (Bryndum and Hedegart, 1969; Hedegart, 1973; Mathew et al., 1987; Tangmitcharoen and Owens, 1997). Also, there have been reports of insect damage to flowers and fruits of teak (Choldumrongkul and Hutacharoen, 1986; Hutacharern et al., 1988; Singh and Misra, 1990). However, there has been no report on the species richness and abundance of insects in the canopies of teak in wild and plantation forests. The objective of this study is to examine and compare the diversity and abundance of insects in the canopies of wild and plantation teak forests during the teak flowering season.

## 2. Materials and methods

# 2.1. Study trees

The studies were carried out in and near the Maegar Seed Orchard ( $19^{\circ}10'N$ ,  $99^{\circ}55'E$ ), which is located at about 200 m elevation in Phayao province in Northern Thailand. Six trees were used for the study. Three trees (P6, P8, P10) were selected from 30-year-old trees within the clonal seed orchard in which teak trees were growing at  $12 \text{ m} \times 12 \text{ m}$  spacing. The three trees were growing in similar environments and, were located approximately 100 m from one another. Tree P6 had wider spacing than the other two trees because of the death of nearby trees. Three teak trees (N1, N6, N15), of similar size and age as those in the seed orchard, were selected from a nearby deciduous forest in which there was abundant teak trees located approximately 3 km from the seed orchard. These trees were about 200 m away from one another. Abundance of flowers on each of the six trees was similar.

## 2.2. Insect collection

During the teak flowering season (August–October, 1998), canopy insects were collected using Malaise traps and hand net.

The Malaise traps were set up once the sample trees started to flower. The traps consisted of sheets of fine black net, sizes of  $90~\rm cm \times 110~\rm cm \times 170~\rm cm$  that were suspended vertically and kept tight by several ropes. There was a central vertical sheet and a roof sheet forming an open-sided tent with an upward sloping roof that funneled into an uppermost cone in which a collecting bottle was located containing 70% ethanol. Flying insects that encountered the tent generally flew upwards after hitting the central sheet and were directed towards the top of the cone and into the aperture of the collecting bottle. The trap was supported by a wooden frame and was lifted into the canopy of each flowering tree (1 trap per tree) using a simple bamboo elevating system. Specimens were collected weekly from the bottles

Hand netting was done from scaffolds erected (typically 8–12 m high) into the canopy. Insects were collected from 08:00 to 14:00 h each day, coinciding with the most receptive period of teak flowers (Tangmitcharoen and Owens, 1997). Collected insects were killed in a glass container containing cotton saturated with ethyl acetate (CH<sub>3</sub>COOC<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>). All collected specimens were preserved in 70% ethanol for later sorting.

# 2.3. Insect sorting and identification

Insects collected from the six trees were sorted into broad categories then were identified by comparison with the specimens preserved at the Division of Entomology and Zoology, Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, and Faculty of Agriculture, Kasetsart University in Thailand. Many insects could not be identified and were sorted as morphospecies, as recommended by Oliver and Beattie (1993). Based on their feeding habit and behavior, insects were divided into two broad groups: potential pollinators and non-pollinators. Insects that visited teak flowers or inflorescences and possibly fed on pollen and nectar were considered to be potential pollinators. Insects that did not visit

flowers or inflorescences and did not feed on pollen or nectar but were collected near the canopies were considered nonpollinators.

## 2.4. Data analysis

Insect species diversity and abundance in the canopies of the six trees were analyzed using Fisher's alpha diversity index, following the recommendations of Southwood and Henderson (2000). Means were calculated for all measurements. The variation between wild and plantation trees in Fisher's alpha index were assessed by analysis of variance (ANOVA).

#### 3. Results and discussion

Canopies of wild teak had greater insect biodiversity than their plantation counterparts; however, the number of potential insect pollinators in the plantation canopies was greater than the wild trees. Consequently, plantations may produce more seed.

The six sample trees in the wild and plantation forests generally produced high numbers of inflorescences (80–100). In the dense canopy of the plantation, the trees had higher numbers of inflorescences per unit area due to the relatively close spacing ( $12 \text{ m} \times 12 \text{ m}$ ). In the mixed deciduous forest where teak trees had a scattered distribution, the number of inflorescences per unit area was lower.

The numbers of flowers in a canopy may influence the visits of insect pollinators. Linhart (1973) reported that the humming bird-pollinated species (Haliconia) attracted territorial humming birds when the trees produced more flowers in inflorescences or in the whole plant. In accordance with this result, we found that, the number of potential pollinators in the plantation canopies was higher than that in the canopies in the wild. In the plantation, teak trees were planted at  $12 \text{ m} \times 12 \text{ m}$  spacing, producing a dense canopy with a high number of flowers and inflorescences in close proximity. In the wild, teak had a more scattered distribution resulting in less dense canopies and a medium amount of flowers and inflorescences in close proximity. It appears that in teak, abundant flowers attract more flower visitors to approach the blossoms.

A total of 693 morphospecies were collected in wild and plantation tree canopies that were potential pollinators and nonpollinators. They belonged to 115 recognizable families and 11 orders. The pollinators were from Diptera, Hymenoptera, and Lepidoptera were identified to 73 species; 31 could only be identified to the level of genus; and two could only be identified to the level of family (Table 1). The non-pollinators consisted of 620 morphospecies from 11 orders. Of the 620 morphospecies, 49 were identified to level of species from 20 families within five orders: Coleoptera, Diptera, Hemiptera, Homoptera, and Hymenoptera (Table 2). Another 57 were identified to level of genus. These belonged to 46 genera and 27 different families in five orders: Coleoptera, Diptera, Hemiptera, Homoptera, and Hymenoptera (Table 3). There were 514 morphospecies that could only be identified to the level of family. These belonged to 84 families in 11 orders (Table 4).

Table 2
Non-pollinator insects collected from the teak canopies of wild (W) and plantation (P) forest trees near the Maegar Seed Orchard in Phayao province and identified at the level of species

Order	Family (common name)	Scientific name	Forest
Coleoptera	Buprestidae	Chrysobothris indica	W and P
		Belionota prasina	W
		Lampestis affinis	W
	Cerambycidae	Perissus laetus	W and P
		Perissus dilatus	W
		Mesosa undata	W
		Niphona cylindracea	W
		Coptops polyspila	W
		Xylotrechus buqueti Moechotypa suffusa	P P
	a	21 00	
	Cleridae	Rhytidoclerus rufoventris Tenerus signaticollis	W and P W
	Coccinellidae	Cryptolaemus montruzieri	W and P
		Harmonia octomaculata	W
		Micraspis discolor	W
		Menochilus sexmaculatus	W
	Meloidae	Zonabris cichorii Mylabris phalerata	P P
Diptera	Tabanidae	Tabanus rubidus	W and P
Hemiptera	Tingidae	Belenus ravana	W
		Dulinius conchatus	W
Homoptera	Cicadellidae	Erythroneura suzukii	W
	Deltocephalidae	Scaphoideus albovittatus	W and P
	Dictyopharidae	Orthopagus lunulifer	W
	Flatidae	Neosalurnis reticulatus	W
	Machaerotidae	Machaerota noctua	W and P
	Membracidae Plataspidae	Emphusis malleus Coptosoma japonicum	W W
	Ricaniidae	Pochazia fuscata	W and P
		Pochazia mamyona	W
		Pochazia pipera	W
		Ricania marginlis	W
Hymenoptera	Formicidae	Tapinoma melanocephalum	W and P
		Tetraponera ruflonigra	W
		Dolichoderus thoracicus	W
		Tetraponera attenuata	W
		Gnamptogenys bicolor Camponotus rufoglaucus	W P
	***		
	Vespidae Lymantriidae	Provespa barthelemyi Orgyia turbata	W P
	•		
	Noctuidae	Calesia stillifera	W
		Platyia umminia	W
		Hamodes propitia Plecoptera reflexa	W P
		Рієсорієта гелеха Pararellia areuata	P P
		Entomogramma fautrix	r P
		Ericeia freterna	P
		Pericyma eruegeri	P
	Pyralidae	Sylepta derogata	W
Total	20 families	49 species	

Table 3
Non-pollinator morphospecies collected at the teak canopies of wild (W) and plantation (P) forests near the Maegar Seed Orchard in Phayao province and identified to the level of genus

Order	Family	Genus	Number of morphospecies	Number in forest types			
			morphospecies	W	P	W and P	
Coleoptera	Cerambycidae	Pterolophia	2	1		1	
Diptera	Calliphoridae	Chrysomya	1		1		
1	Cecidomyiidae	Orseolia	1			1	
	Celyphidae	Celyphus	1		1		
	Culicidae	Culex	1			1	
	Pipunculidae	Pipunculus	1			1	
	Stratiomyidae	Ptecticus	1	1			
	•	Hermetia	1	1			
	Syrphidae	Asarcina	1		1		
	Tabanidae	Tabanus	1			1	
Hemiptera	Tingidae	Monanthia	1	1			
Homoptera	Fulgoridae	Ancyra	1	1			
Tiomopiera	Membracidae	Emphusis	1	•		1	
Hymenoptera	Bethylidae	Tiphia	1		1		
тутепорила	Braconidae	Phanerotoma	1	1	1		
	Chalcididae	Brachymeria	1	•	1		
	Crabronidae	Ectemnius	1	1			
	Eurytomidae	Eurytoma	1			1	
	Formicidae	Crematogaster	2	1	1		
		Monomorium	1			1	
		Polyrhachis (Myrma)	1	1			
		Philidris sp.	1	1			
		Tetramorium	2	2			
		Camponotus	3	2 1	1		
		Tetraponera					
	Ichneumonidae	Xanthopimpha	1	1			
	Pempredonidae	Psenulus	1 1	1	1		
	Pompilidae	Episylon	1		1		
	Sphecidae	Pison	1			1	
		Trypoxylon	4	3	1		
		Larra	1		1		
	Trichogrammatidae	Trichogramma	1	1			
	Vespidae	Polistes	1		1		
	Geometridae	Semiothisa	1	1			
	ocomerium.	Pingasa	2	2			
	Noctuidae	Ercheia	1			1	
	Noctulae	Episparis	1			1	
		Nagia	1			1	
		Elydra	1	1		•	
		Ericeia	2	2			
		Fodina	1	1			
		Stictoptera	2	2			
		Parallelia	1	1			
		Eublemma	1		1		
		Mythimna	1		1		
	Chrysopidae	Chrysopa	1			1	
Total	27 families	46 genus	57	31	13	13	

Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera, and Diptera have been reported as major orders of insects visiting teak flowers in Nigeria, India, and Thailand. In Thailand, the numbers of species in each of these three orders were 7, 17, and 35, respectively (Egenti, 1981; Mathew et al., 1987; Tangmitcharoen and Owens, 1997).

Results from the present study in Thailand demonstrated that 75% of the species, genera and morphospecies collected in the canopies of teak trees were from these three orders. However, in the canopies there was much variety of potential pollinating and non-pollinating insects. We found that the major components

Table 4
Non-pollinator morphospecies collected in the teak canopies of wild (W) and plantation (P) forests near the Maegar Seed Orchard in Phayao province and identified to the level of family

Order	Family	Number of	Number in forest types			
		morphospecies	W	P	W and P	
Coleoptera	Alleculidae	1	1			
	Anthicidae	2		1	1	
	Anthribidae	5	4		1	
	Bostrichidae Bruchidae	1 1		1	1	
	Carabidae	4	2	2	1	
	Cerambycidae	4	2	1	1	
	Chrysomelidae	9	4	1	4	
	Cleridae	9	7	1	1	
	Curculionidae	5	5			
	Dermestidae Elateridae	2	1	1	1	
	Helodidae	1 1		1 1		
	Lycidae	1		1	1	
	Melandryidae	1	1		•	
	Mordellidae	3	2		1	
	Nitidulidae	1		1		
	Passalidae	1	1			
	Platypodidae	3	2	1		
	Rhipiphoridae	1		1		
	Scaphidiidae Scarabaeidae	1 2	1 1	1		
	Scolytidae	2	2	1		
	Staphylinidae	2	2			
	Unknown beetle	2		2		
Dermaptera	Unknown earwigs	2	1	1		
Dictyoptera	Blattellidae	3	_	2	1	
Diptera	Agromyzidae	3	1		2	
1	Asilidae	3	1	1	1	
	Bibionidae	2		1	1	
	Bombyliidae	1	1			
	Calliphoridae	1			1	
	Cecidomyiidae	1	1	2	1	
	Culicidae Dolichopodidae	6 1	1	2	3	
	Drosophilidae	4	2	1	1	
	Empididae	1	_	•	1	
	Eptogastidae	1	1			
	Lauxaniidae	1		1		
	Lonchaeidae	1	1			
	Muscidae	10	3	4	3	
	Mycetophilidae	2	1		1	
	Neriidae Sarcophagidae	1 1	1		1	
	Stratiomyidae	4	3		1	
	Syrphidae	2	2		•	
	Tabanidae	2	1	1		
	Tachinidae	6	3	1	2	
	Tephritidae	7	5	2		
	Tipulidae	2	2	1	1	
	Unknown fly	14	3	5	6	
Hemiptera	Berytidae	1	1			
	Cydnidae	1	1	1		
	Lygaeidae Miridaa	4	3	1		
	Miridae Pantatomidae	5 4	3 2	2	2	
	Reduviidae	2	2		2	
	Scutelleridae	1	1			
Homoptera	Cercopidae	21	9	1	11	
тошорста	Сегсоріцає	<b>∠1</b>	7	1	11	

Table 4 (Continued)

Order	Family	Number of	Number in fo	Number in forest types			
		morphospecies	$\overline{\mathbf{W}}$	P	W and P		
-	Cicadellidae	17	9	2	6		
	Dictyopharidae	1	1				
	Kerridae	1	1				
Hymenoptera	Bethylidae	4	3	1			
	Braconidae	40	30	7	3		
	Chalcididae	10	8	2			
	Chrysididae	4	2	1	1		
	Crabronidae	3	3				
	Eupelmidae	1	1				
	Eurytomidae	5	3	1	1		
	Evaniidae	4	3	1			
	Formicidae	14	10	2	2		
	Ichneumonidae	15	12	2	1		
	Scoliidae	1	1				
	Sphecidae	5	1	2	2		
	Tenthredinidae	1	1				
	Trichogrammatidae	8	7	1			
	Vespidae	6	4	2			
	Unknown	21	17	3	1		
Lepidoptera	Geometridae	9	4	2	3		
	Limacodidae	2	2				
	Noctuidae	43	16	8	19		
	Notodontidae	2	1		1		
	Pyralidae	6	2	1	3		
	Unknown moth	97	42	14	41		
Neuroptera	Chrysopidae	2	2				
Orthoptera	Acrididae	1			1		
	Gryllidae	2	1		1		
	Mantidae	1		1			
	Tetrigidae	1			1		
Thysanoptera	Thripidae	1	1				
Total	84 families	514	279	95	140		

(89.47%) of collected insects were non-pollinators, and only 10.53% were potential pollinators. Of the 73 morphospecies of potential pollinators, Lepidoptera had the highest number (39), followed by Hymenoptera (25) and Diptera (9) (Table 5).

A total of 10,404 individual insects were collected from the six tree canopies. The numbers of morphospecies belonging to potential pollinators and non-pollinators from the two habitats varied considerably from one to another (Table 5). Lepidoptera

Table 5
Number of morphospecies of insects collected from teak canopies of wild and plantation forest

Order	Grand t	Grand total		Percentag	ge		Wild forest			Plantation forest			Wild and plantation forests		
	Total	Po	Non	Total	Po	Non	Total	Po	Non	Total	Po	Non	Total	Po	Non
Lepidoptera	223	39	184	32.18	5.63	26.55	174	11	81	131	16	33	82	12	70
Hymenoptera	201	25	176	29.0	3.61	25.40	161	3	127	71	6	34	31	16	15
Diptera	96	9	87	13.85	1.30	12.55	73	0	32	64	0	23	41	9	32
Coleoptera	85	0	85	12.27	0	12.27	66	0	49	36	0	19	17	0	17
Homoptera	53	0	53	7.50	0	7.65	50	0	29	24	0	3	21	0	21
Hemiptera	21	0	21	3.17	0	3.03	18	0	16	5	0	3	2	0	2
Orthoptera	5	0	5	0.72	0	0.72	4	0	1	4	0	1	3	0	3
Dictyoptera	3	0	3	0.43	0	0.43	1	0	0	3	0	2	1	0	1
Neuroptera	3	0	3	0.43	0	0.43	3	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	1
Dermaptera	2	0	2	0.29	0	0.29	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Thysanoptera	1	0	1	0.14	0	0.14	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	693	73	620	100	10.5	89.5	552	14	339	340	22	119	199	37	162

Po, potential pollinators; Non, non-pollinators.

Table 6
Insects collected from teak canopies of wild (W) and plantation (P) forests and their number of morphospecies, number of individuals and Fisher's alpha index

Tree	Number of morphospecies	Number of individuals	Fisher's alpha index
N1 N6 N15	268 261 311	2058 1942 2948	82.26 81.18 87.80
Mean Total morphospecies/ individuals	280.0 ± 15.63 552	$2316 \pm 15.63$ $6948$	$83.75 \pm 2.05$
P6 P8 P10	226 105 119	2168 795 493	63.52 32.42 49.82
Mean Total morphospecies/ individuals	$150 \pm 38.21$ $340$	$1152 \pm 515.43 \\ 3456$	$48.59 \pm 9.0$

had the highest number (32.18%), followed by Hymenoptera (29.0%), and the smallest number was recorded in Thysanoptera, in which only one morphospecies (0.14%) was collected. In most orders, the numbers of morphospecies in the wild tree canopies were higher than those in the plantation canopies.

In general, means and total number of morphospecies, number of individuals, and Fisher's alpha index in the wild canopies were higher than those in the plantation. (Table 6). The Fisher's alpha index between wild trees and plantation trees differed significantly (*F*-value = 14.512, *P*-value = 0.019). The numbers in the plantation canopies were more variable than those in the wild canopies. The P6 canopy, which had wider spacing, had a much higher number of morphospecies, number of individuals, and Fisher's alpha index than the canopies of the other two plantation trees.

Variations occur in species diversity and abundance of insects depending on habitat characteristics. In Sabah, Malaysia, Chey et al. (1997) reported that the diversity of moths in *Eucalyptus deglupta* forest plantations is as high as that in the natural forest. Toft et al. (2001) reported the richness of beetles was high where there was high variety of plants in lowland broadleaf forest fragments in New Zealand. We found that the species richness, abundance and alpha diversity indices of insects in the wild teak canopies were higher than those in the plantation teak canopies.

In plantations and seed orchards, spacing could play a significant role in insect diversity and abundance. Hamphrey et al. (1999) reported that diversity of syrphids (hoverflies) in open canopy stands, which are characterized by high levels of understory, is greater than in dense closed canopy stands. They suggested that the open stands with diverse understory provide a greater source of adult food and suitable breeding sites for syrphids. In addition, Fermon et al. (2000) reported that the species richness and diversity indices of butterflies in liberation thinning (broader spacing) are higher than those in monodominant tree plantations. We believe that our results from this study of teak are in agreement with results from these other teak studies. We found higher species diversity and abundance of

morphospecies in one of the plantation trees that grows at broader spacing compared with the other plantation trees. A possible explanation for these characteristics is that broader spacing contributes to the increase of understory vegetation that provides a source of food and habitat for insects.

The role played in pollination by different pollinators may vary with insect species. Bohart et al. (1970) gave a list of all pollinators observed on onion (Allium cepa L.) and classified them with regard to efficiency in pollination and abundance. Out of 255 pollinators visiting onion flowers, only eight were efficient and/or abundant, thus important as pollinators, and 164 were both rare and inefficient pollinators. In teak, Tangmitcharoen and Owens (1997) reported that Ceratina sp. was the main pollinator, although 36 other species were observed to visit flowers in a plantation in central Thailand. The numerous potential pollinators (73) reported in the present study could have different roles in the pollination of teak flowers depending on behavior of the insects. An examination of all of the pollinators and their behavior in this plantation is needed to further evaluate their different roles and relative importance in the pollination of teak.

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