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SP11_012_PA: A PRELIMINARY SURVEY ON THE OCCURRENCE OF TWO EPIPHYTIC MACROLICHENS IN A POST-FIRE FOREST OF KHAO YAI NATIONAL PARK

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Abstract:

Lichens are among the potential organisms that can identify the intensity of forest fire in a deciduous forest. This work is focused on the occurrence of epiphytic macrolichens in a post-fire forest at the dry dipterocarp forest in Khao Yai National Park. Two lichen species, including *Pyxine coccifera* and *Parmotrema tinctorum* were selected for this study. The phorophytes consisted of 40 individuals (16 species), selected from four 50-m line transects that located in between 100 and 300 meter above sea level. The lichens were observed at tree heights of <2, 2-4 and >4 meters above ground, and at tree branches. Thallus diameter, height above ground, and life stage (present or absent of vegetative and reproductive structures) were documented. The results showed that *P. coccifera* had the higher number of thallus than *P. tinctorum*, accounted for 88 and 64, respectively. In contrast, the former species had lower probability of occupancy on different microhabitats (0.26) than the later one (0.36). Although, most of the thalli of the lichens occupied on tree branches, but only *P. coccifera* was well distributed to the lower trunks. It may indicate that *P. coccifera* had the higher ability to tolerate fired flame than *P. tinctorum*.