

Lojing

Unveiling the Treasures
of South Kelantan





UNIVERSITI
MALAYSIA
KELANTAN

Pelancaran Buku
**“LOJING UNVEILING THE TREASURES
OF SOUTH KELANTAN”**

**Sempena Majlis Santapan Malam Bersama Tuanku Canselor
Universiti Malaysia Kelantan**

Pada : 1 DISEMBER 2008 (ISNIN)

Oleh

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LOJING: UNVEILING THE TREASURES OF SOUTH KELANTAN

EDITORS

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UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA KELANTAN
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**Message From
His Royal Highness,
Tuanku Ismail Petra
Ibni Al-marhum Sultan Yahya Petra
The Chancellor of UMK.**



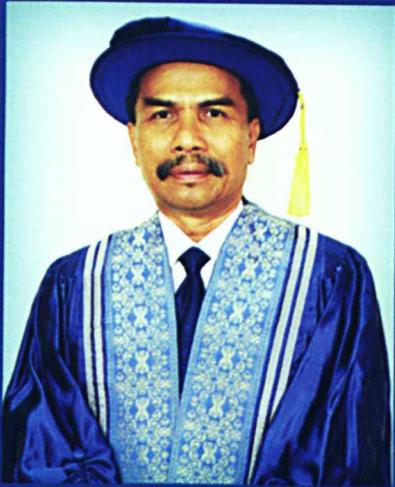
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Due to its strategic location, Lojing has significantly become an important spot for economic growth in the state of Kelantan. With the climatic conditions almost similar to that of the Cameron Highlands, Lojing has become the new destination for lovers of ecotourism. Although the economic activities in the area have not yet resulted in any detrimental effects, it is vital to be aware of the ultimate long term results of any excessive or poorly planned exploitation of the land.

Lojing is rich in flora and fauna and a community of people who exist harmoniously with nature. All these may change if one continues with the activities on the ground without understanding the importance of preservation and conservation of the treasures of Lojing.

I am honoured and delighted to know that Universiti Malaysia Kelantan (UMK), in collaboration with Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), have taken the initiative to document the richness of the flora and fauna and the people of Lojing. The publication of this book is most timely as one of the efforts to conserve and create a rich and beautiful environment. It will be the first of such references on Lojing Highlands. This book is also an evidence of the richness of the biodiversity of Lojing which requires a multi-disciplinary approach, by many sectors in our society to ensure that our environment will be a safe place to live for our future generations.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate UMK for this great effort. I am sure that this will be one of the many efforts that will make UMK a renowned institution in future. I hope that UMK will emerge as a university that will continuously generate and impart knowledge and provide positive impact to the society.



**Message From
Prof. Ir. Dr. Zainai bin Mohamed,
Vice Chancellor
UMK**



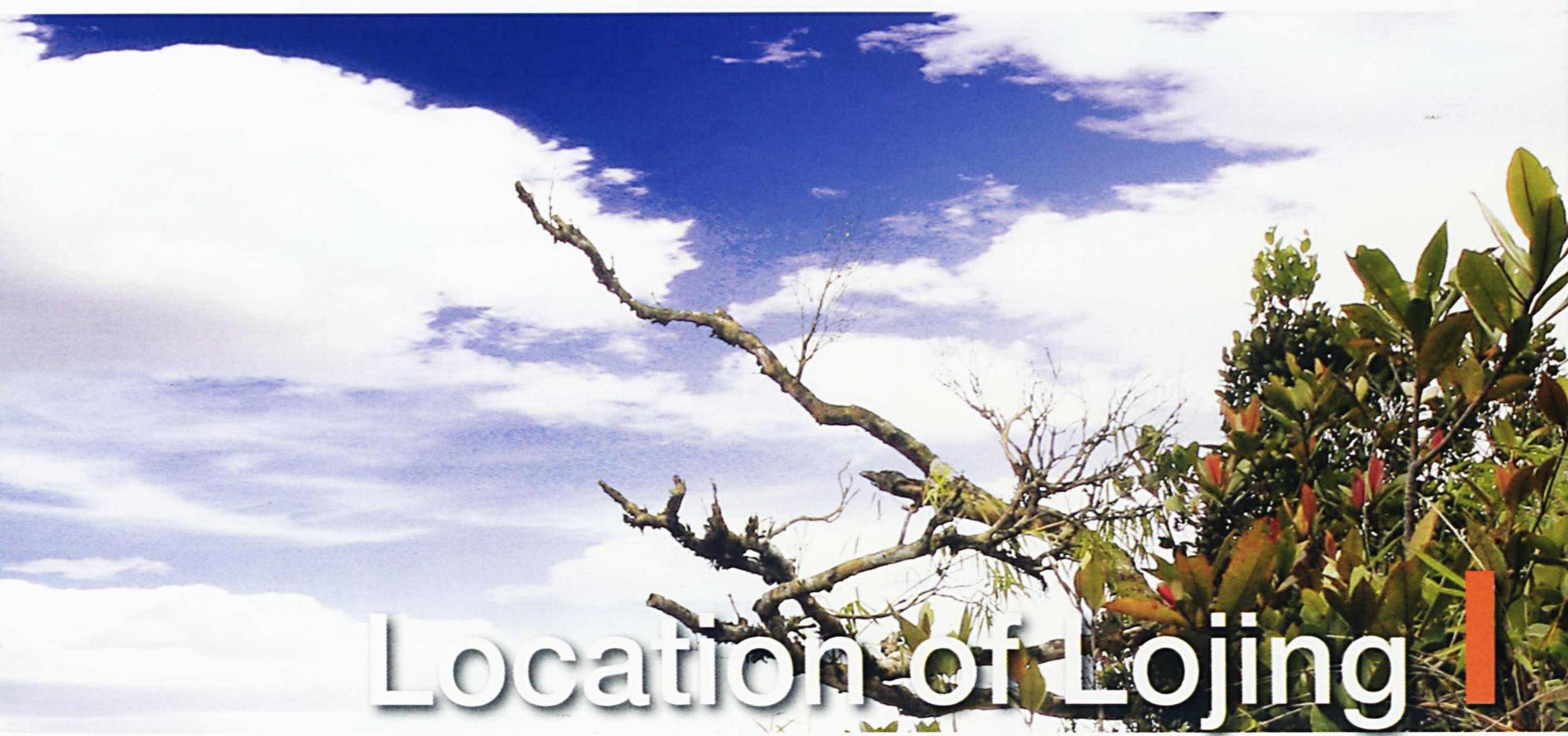
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As a new university, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan (UMK) understands that it has a long and winding road ahead before achieving excellence. Thus, UMK needs to rigorously embark on effective strategies in all areas to ensure its competitiveness in the near future. Apart from academic activities, research and innovations, societal contributions, documentations and publications, are among the main targets of UMK in generating and disseminating knowledge. Therefore, UMK has organized a Scientific expedition on Lojing forest with the main objective to unveil the richness of its flora and fauna, and the community living in the area. The outcomes of the expedition are now ready to be shared with the local community and other stake holders. The publication of the book "Lojing: Unveiling the Treasures of South Kelantan" is one of the documents, based on the findings from the expedition.

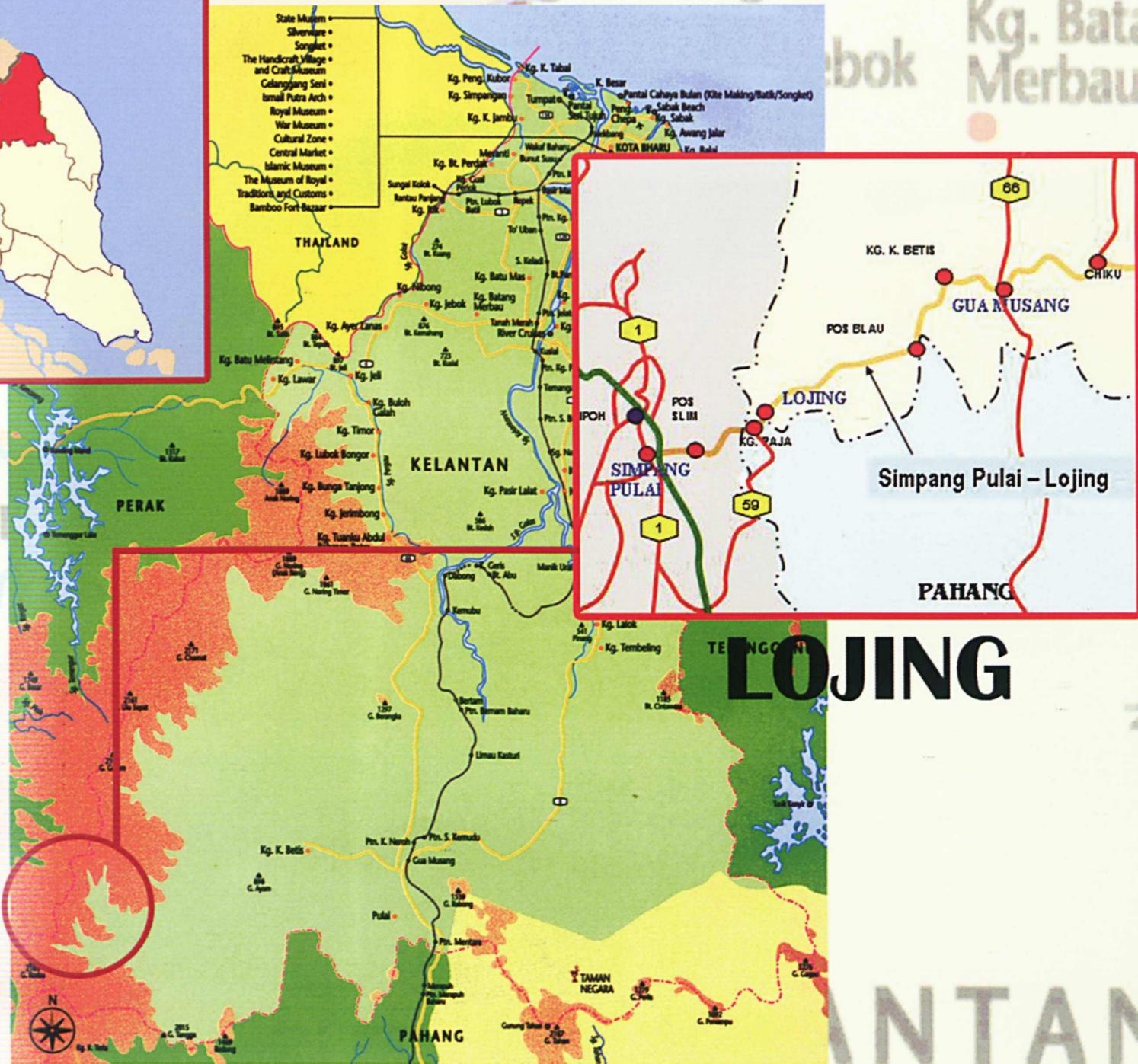
The documentation of the richness of flora and fauna of Lojing has not been attempted and the publication of the book will be the first of many more documents on Lojing in future. I strongly believe that the publication of the book is timely, since Lojing is now becoming an attractive spot for economic activities. The geographical scenario of Lojing will change if no effort is considered by academicians and policy makers in making Lojing free from unnecessary exploitation. This book is presented in a holistic and systematic approach, to provide a clear understanding on the interactions between the flora, fauna and man. The interactions demonstrate the close interdependence between them and if the interaction is disrupted, the nature of Lojing will be permanently changed. Thus, the concept of preservation and conservation, especially the famous *Rafflesia*, which has been identified to be the icon of Lojing should be observed.

I would like to convey my sincere gratitude to Professor Dato' Mohd Noh Dalimin, the former Vice Chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Sabah for his undivided and continuous support throughout the expedition.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the editorial board for making the publication a success. The book is hoped to be useful not only to the environmentalists and nature lovers, but also become a source of reference for policy makers to plan and strategise the future development of Lojing.

A photograph of a coastal landscape. The sky is a deep blue with scattered white clouds. In the foreground, a gnarled, leafless tree branch extends from the left towards the center. To the right, there is a lush green plant with large, dark green leaves and some reddish-brown flowers. The text "Location of Lojing" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the bottom of the image, with a vertical orange bar at the end of the word "Lojing".

Location of Lojing |



Where Is Lojing ?

Where is Lojing? At the foot of the Titiwangsa Range. Lojing is adjacent to Cameron Highlands and the nearest town is Brinchang (5km) in Pahang and Gua Musang (50km) in Kelantan. Being at about 1,000m above sea level, Lojing is covered with hill dipterocarp and montane rainforest and there are several peaks in the area; the highest being Gunung Warpu (1,800m).



From Gua Musang to Cameron Highlands there is a left turn to Lojing.



Lojing is covered with highland tropical rainforest and diversified plant species.



At higher elevations, this cool ambience is a characteristic of Lojing.



The magnificent forest of Lojing



The tropical rainforest of Lojing comprises of numerous trees, undulating landscapes hills and thick undergrowth with thousands of plants species.



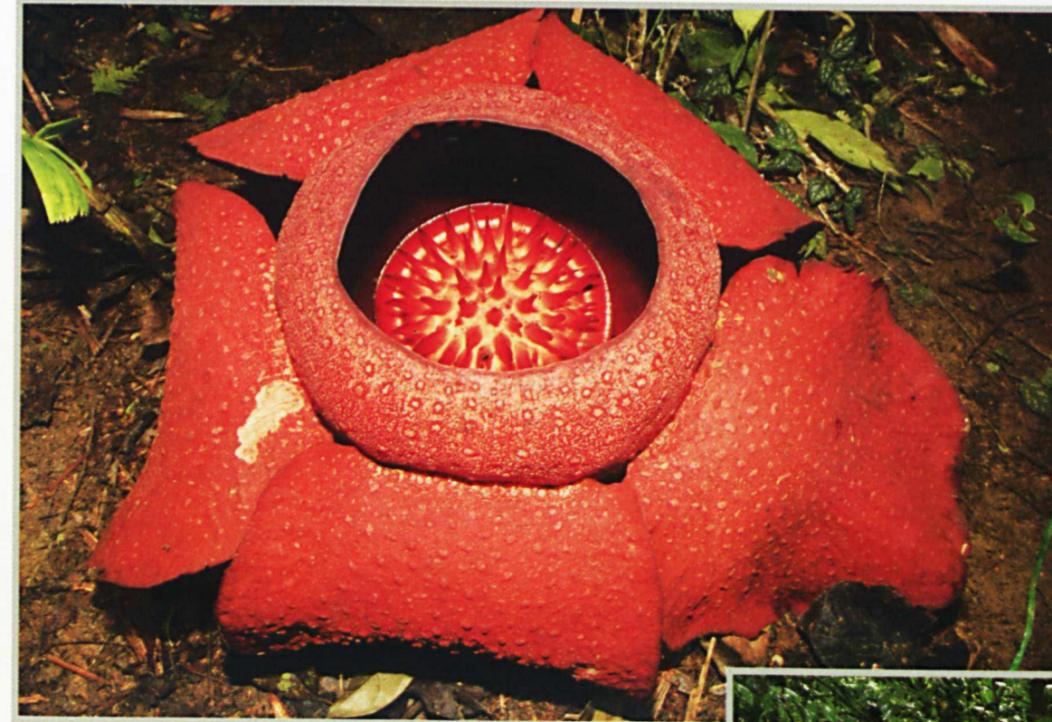
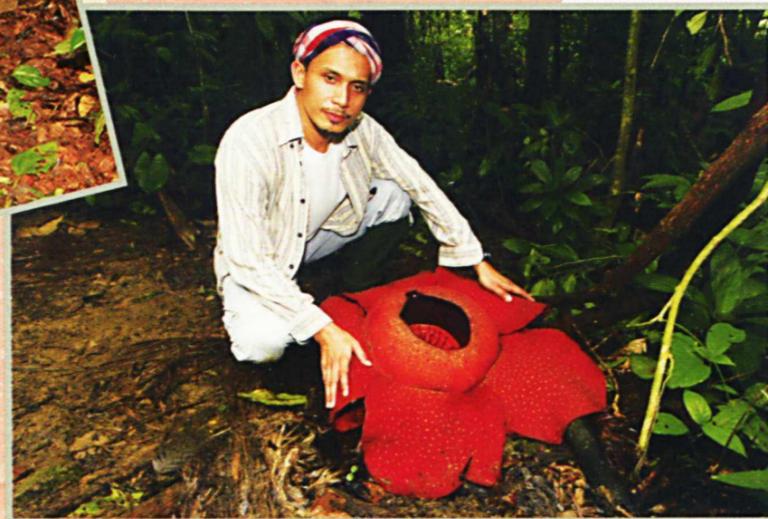
Waterfall in Lojing forest displays tranquility.



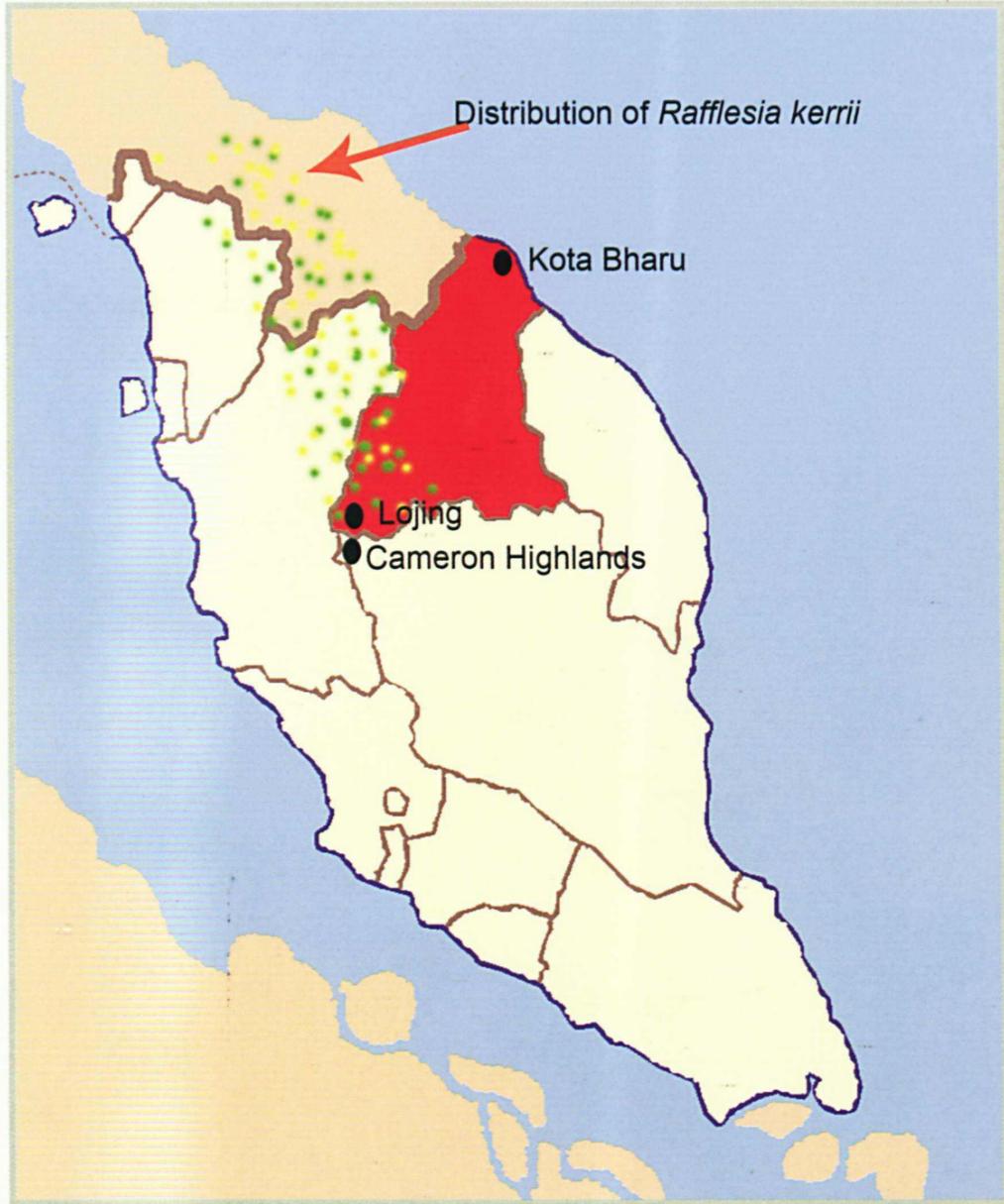


Rafflesia: The Icon
of Lojing

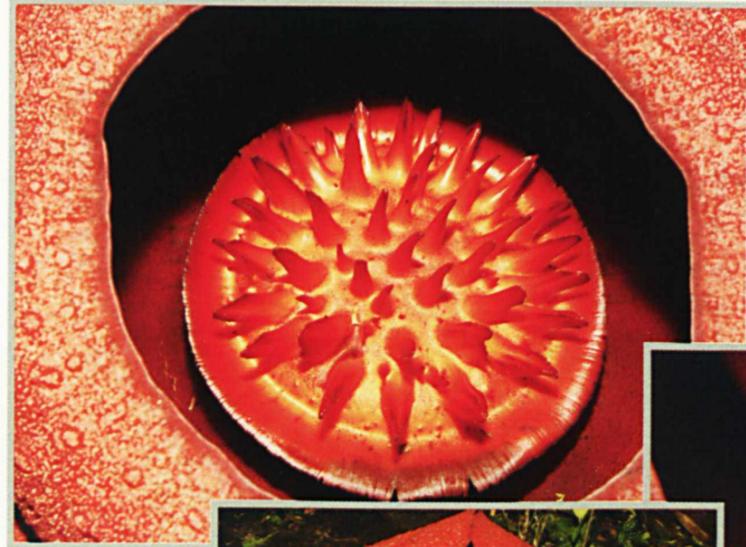
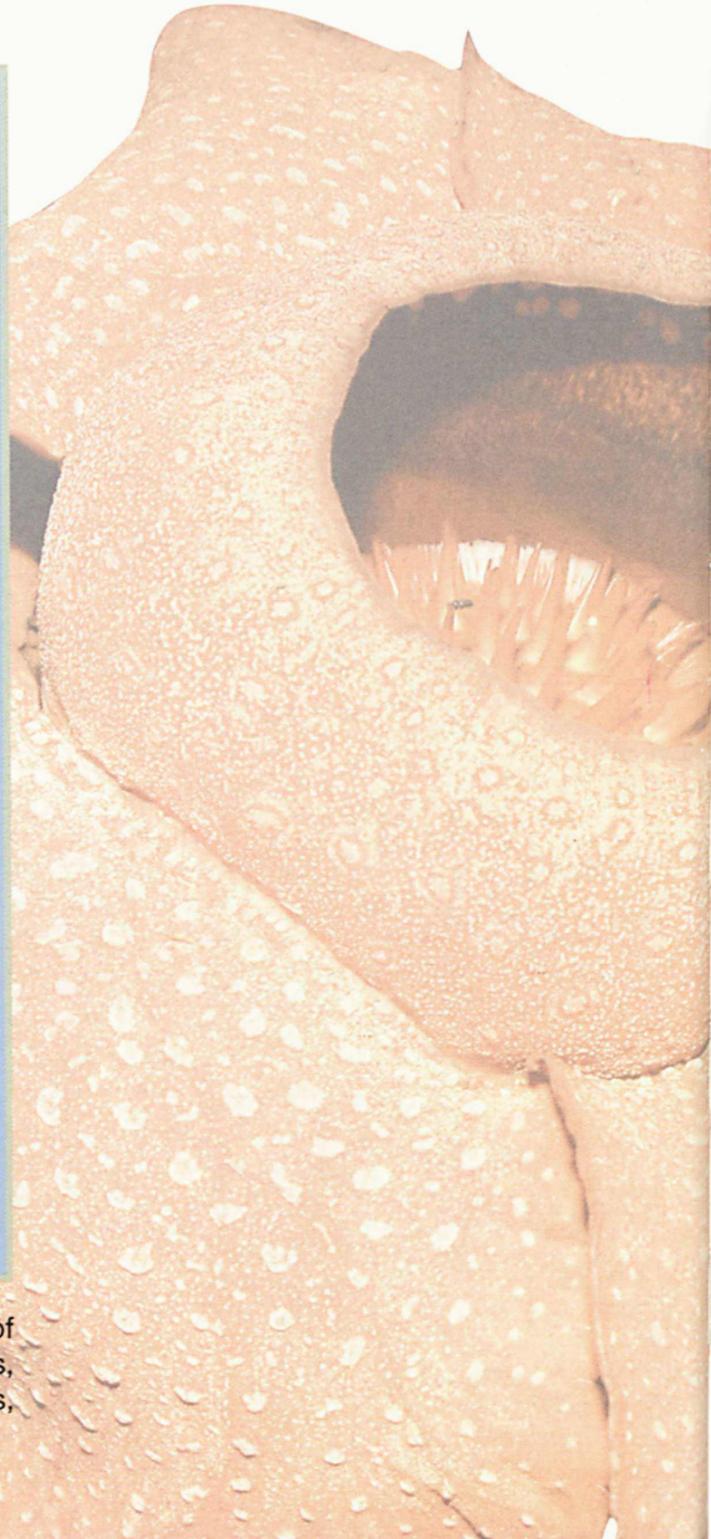
The unique nature of *Rafflesia* attracts nature lovers.



If Lojing is to be identified by one thing it is *Rafflesia kerrii*. See how big it is! In actual fact it may be the largest *Rafflesia* in the world. In Malaysia this species is only found at the borders of Kelantan, Pahang, Perak and Kedah in Bintang Range. If Lojing is destroyed so will this magnificent flower.



Rafflesia kerrii is endemic to Southern Thailand up to Lojing and borders of Pahang, Perak and Kedah. To date it has only been recorded in these locations, which means this species cannot be found anywhere else in the world. Thus, this makes Lojing a very special site.



The central disk of *Rafflesia kerrii* shows the slightly raised margin.



Rows of white blots on the inner side of *Rafflesia kerrii*

Rafflesia kerrii is among the largest flowers in the world. It is dull red with brownish tinge and with numerous warts and scattered, with 3-4 mm space between them. The warts of *Rafflesia kerrii* are the smallest compared to other species.

