

CONTENTS

Preface

1

SECTION ONE: BIODIVERSITY OF THE ISLAND OF NEW GUINEA

1	Introduction	5
	• Troubles in Paradise: threats to nature	
	• The meaning of biodiversity	
	• An incomplete picture	
	• What a single, quick survey can do	
2	Basic influences: geology, Ice Ages, landforms.....	29
	• Step one: geology	
	• Floating continents	
	• Step two: the Ice Ages	
	• Step three: landforms: creating a plethora of eco-systems	
3	The plant and animal life of New Guinea.....	43
	• The plant life of Malesia	
	• Synusiae: another way to divide plants	
	• Support-dependent plants: climbers, stranglers, and epiphytes	
	• Saprophytic heterotrophics: bacteria and fungi	
	• Mycorrhizal associations: fungi at work	
	• Parasitic heterotrophics: fungi, bacteria, and plants	
	• An overview of the main eco-systems	
	• The Lowlands: 1. Coastal vegetation;	
	2. Mangrove swamps;	
	3. Swamp forests;	
	4. Heathland flora;	
	5. Lowland rainforest.	

	The highlands: 1. Lower montane forests (to 1,000m);	
	2. Mid-montane forests (1,000 to 3,000m);	
	3. Upper montane forests (3,000 to 4,000m);	
	4. Subalpine and Alpine Zone.	
	• History and evolution of high-altitude flora	
	• Pandanus nuts and leaves	
	• Special families	
	• Man and plants in New Guinea	
4	Origins of New Guinea's animals	85
5	Molluscs: coiled or hinged	91
6	Crustacea: shrimp, crayfish, and crabs	95
7	Insects: butterflies and beetles	99
	• The butterflies (Families Hesperidae, Papilionidae, Pieridae, Lycaenidae, Nymphalidae.	
	• Butterfly or moth? Beetles galore; Beetle families	
8	Fresh water fishes.....	117
	• Fascinating fishes	
9	The amphibians: frogs and toads.....	125
	• Crucial steps in evolution: water to land; What is special about frogs; New Guinea frogs; Families Microhylidae, Ranidae, Hylidae, Myobatrachidae.	
10	The reptiles: lizards, snakes, turtles, and crocodiles	143
	• Lizards. Lizard Families Pygopodidae, Gekkonidae, Scincidae, Agamidae, Varanidae.	

- Snakes. Turtles. Crocodiles. Evolutionary adaptations; Crocodile behavior and Environment; Crocodiles and humans; Extinctions and future hope; Indo-Pacific and New Guinea crocodiles.

11 Class Aves: the birds of New Guinea181

- Environments: mangroves, rivers, lakes and marshes, rainforest, grasslands, lowlands and hill forests, montane birds. Kingfishers. Birds-of-Paradise: An overview.
- Evolution. Feeding. Displays in leks.

12 Mammals205

- Order Monotremata. The Marsupials. Tree Kangaroos. Family Dasyuridae, Peramelidae, Peroryctidae, Phalangeridae, Burramyidae, Petauridae, Macropodidae, Acrobatidae, Pseudocheiridae. Order Chiroptera. Suborder Megachiroptera: insect eating bats, foraging by echolocation. Order Rodentia. Introduced species.

SECTION TWO:

BIODIVERSITY OF TIMIKA/FREEPORT PROJECT AREA AND THE LORENTZ PARK

1 Introduction245

2 Vegetation251

- The lowlands: beaches, tidal swamps (mangroves and Nypa), the meander belt, peat swamps, alluvial fans, and valleys: the tropical rain forest, dissected terraces.
- The montane zone: lower montane forest, mid-montane forest (*Nothofagus*), upper montane forest. Subalpine and Alpine vegetation: the subalpine zone, the Alpine zone, flora of the glacier lakes, Cryovegetation on the Puncak Jaya glaciers.

3	Insects	277
4	Fresh water fishes.....	289
	• Freeport area and the Lorentz Park	
5	Amphibians and reptiles.....	295
6	Birds	301
7	Mammals	307
	• Bigger is better; Lorentz Park mammals.	

SECTION III:
THE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES BY THE
KAMORO GROUP OF PAPUANS

1	Introduction	319
	• Who are the Kamoro and where do they live?	
	• Study focus and comparison with PNG	
	• Three essential ecosystems	
2	Plant use	327
3	Animal use	345
	• Insects—shrimp and crabs—molluscs, other bivalves—gastropods—fishing and Fishes— reptiles—snakes-birds—mammals.	

APPENDIX I: Glossary of scientific terms.....	393
APPENDIX II: Geological Time Scale.....	411
APPENDIX III: Taxonomy.....	415
APPENDIX IV: Evolution.....	423
APPENDIX V: Species lists: crustacea, amphibia, reptilia	431
APPENDIX VI: Medicinal plants	449
BIBLIOGRAPHY.....	457