

Freshwater Fish Fauna in Oil Palm Plantations – Insights from Multi-Site Communities' Catch Data

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An assessment of freshwater fish diversity across multiple oil palm plantations, based on catch data from various locations, revealed a substantial presence of fish species including the giant freshwater prawn and the Javan rice-field crab accessible to local communities. Segregation analysis of species captured by community and plantation workers indicated significant regional variation in species diversity. Approximately 90 per cent of the fish caught were used directly for food, while others were ornamental or aquarium species. Notably, 30 species serve multiple functions including providing food, decorative value, and sport fishing activities. A handful of the captured species also met the International Union of Conservation for Nature's Red List (IUCN) criteria for threatened species, emphasising the importance of conservation efforts to protect freshwater ecosystems.

Keywords: Freshwater fish fauna species, oil palm, IUCN red list species, conservation.



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