

GAB BIODIVERSITY SURVEY OF SG. WAY

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Subject : Flora report from the recce trip

The various sections surveyed for the flora/ vegetation survey covers the following areas:-

1. *Housing area that forms headwater catchment for Sg. Way [Figures 1-3]*

This section consists of a network of smaller drainage systems (< 2 ft deep) that form part of the SS9 housing estate that flows into two larger drains (4 - 6 ft deep) which eventually joins into a much larger drainage canal (8 - 10 ft deep) forming the main Sg. Way River that flows under and across the Federal Highway.

Riverine vegetation: All forms of vegetation are typical of urban settings similar to those of road side vegetation maintained by the municipality. Other than that, the existing plants are of garden origin; planted and maintained by each of the households.

Aquatic vegetation: None observed within the drainage system. Water flow regular and uninterrupted with a lot of solid waste observed.

List of plant species observed:

<i>Cocos nucifera</i>	Coconut
<i>Mangifera indica</i>	Indian Mango
<i>Pterocarpus indicus</i>	Angsana
<i>Tamarindus indica</i>	Asam Jawa (pic on right)



Figure 1: Drain between SS9/5 and SS9/7



Figure 2: One of the 'arms' of Sg. Way



Figure 3: Meeting point of the 2 arms before crossing Federal Highway

2. Section between GAB and Petronas station [Figures 4-6]

This section runs alongside GAB with the river cutting across the industrial area up until the road facing the ESSO and PETRONAS petrol stations.

Riverine vegetation: The vegetation here is kept trimmed to less than 6 inches high on either side of the river – made up mostly of grasses and herbs of weedy character. Some overgrown tall bushes/shrubs can be seen within the buffer area located between the factories and the Federal Highway.

Aquatic vegetation: None observed within the drainage system. Water flow regular and uninterrupted with no sand deposits for vegetation to take foot-hold. A lot of solid waste from the housing area was observed. Also noted that effluent from GAB goes into the river.

List of plant species observed:

<i>Asystasia gangetica</i>	Coromandel
<i>Cardiospermum halicacabum</i>	Balloon Vine
<i>Axonopus compressus</i>	Grass
<i>Clitoria ternatea</i>	Blue Pea Vine
<i>Cyanotis cristata</i>	Commelinaceae
<i>Ficus religiosa</i>	Sacred Fig
<i>Imperata cylindrical</i>	Lalang
<i>Mimosa pudica</i>	Touch-Me-Not
<i>Oxalis barrelieri</i>	Sorrel
<i>Passiflora foetida</i>	Stinking Passiflower
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Castor Oil Plant
<i>Syngonium podophyllum</i>	Araceae



Figure 5: Solid waste observed in the river



Figure 4: Sungai Way flows next to GAB



Figure 6: Blue Pea Vines (*Clitoria ternatea*) can be seen growing along the walls

3. *Section behind Esso/ Petronas Station and residential flats of Desa Menter*
[Figures 7-9]

Part of this section has a paved walkway on one side of the river and on the opposite side (i.e. behind Esso Station and probably an old workshop), the area was left unattended and dominated by overgrown vegetation.

Riverine vegetation: As mentioned one side of the river is well kept with planted trees reflective of urban settings and on the opposite side, tall grasses and bushes predominate. There are ample indications that the area may have been used as cultivation land before.

Aquatic vegetation: One plant species observed taking hold on sand deposits along the river. River bottom is clearly characterised by strands of brown algae – maybe as a result of nutrition (or phosphate) input from nearby housing.

List of plant species observed:

<i>Terminalia catappa</i>	Indian Almond
<i>Tabebuia rosea</i>	Rosy Trumpet Tree
<i>Imperata cylindrical</i>	Lalang
<i>Limnocharis flava</i>	Yellow Bur-Head
<i>Leucaena glauca</i>	Petai Belanda



Figure 7 (top left): View of the Sg. Way stretch along the Desa Mentari Flats

Figure 8 (top right): Standing above Sg. Way as it flows between the 2 petrol stations



Figure 9 (bottom left): The Indian Almond (Terminalia catappa) can be seen here along the bank of Sg. Way, providing shade and habitat

4. Residential area of Desa Menteri [Figures 10-12]

Interestingly, this section of the river has been fully concrete-channelized with walking pavements on either sides of the river and is fully fenced. There is a children's playground and a stretch of cultivated land area behind the housing flats.

Riparian vegetation: None can be seen except for some Banana and Mango trees and sugar cane stands in the cultivated area.

Aquatic vegetation: None that can be observed. The river bed has been kept clean.

List of plant species observed:

<i>Musa sapientum</i>	Banana
<i>Saccharum officinarum</i>	Sugar Cane
<i>Tabebuia rosea</i>	Rosy Trumpet Tree
<i>Chrysopogon acicularis</i>	Love Grass



*Figure 10 (top left): Looking upstream.
The river is completely channelized*

*Figure 11 (top right): Banana trees have
been planted alongside the river*

*Figure 12 (bottom left): Open space and
children's playground next to the river*

5. *Section between double-storey housing area and Pantai Expressway [Figures 13-15]*

As compared to the above areas this is the green lung of Sg. Way – densely vegetated and shaded throughout its length until it crosses Pantai Expressway and finally joins Sg. Pencala. The river here maintains its rugged outlook and is definitely supporting lots of wildlife.

Riparian vegetation: Characterised mostly by trees and shrubs that was planted but now has run wild (i.e. can be considered as weed). Some may have been dispersed by birds or other wild animals. Tall grasses and herbs are common in areas devoid of trees.

Aquatic plants: Few plant species observed taking hold on sand deposits along the river. Also noticed that many parts of the concrete river were broken and this allows the larger herbs and shrubs to take root at the river bed directly. A lot of creepers and climbers can be found along the river slopes/ banks.

List of plant species observed:

<i>Alocasia macrorrhizos</i>	Elephant Ear
<i>Colocasia esculenta</i>	Yam
<i>Ficus variegata</i>	Red-stemmed Fig
<i>Ischaemum muticum</i>	Centipede Grass
<i>Leucaena glauca</i>	Petai Belanda
<i>Muntingia calabura</i>	Malayan Cherry
<i>Piper aduncum</i>	Piper Tree
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	Fountain Grass
<i>Saccharum arundinaceum</i>	Wild sugarcane
<i>Terminalia catappa</i>	Indian Almond
<i>Themeda villosa</i>	Graminae



Figure 13: The Red-stemmed Fig tree (*Ficus variegata*) is found along Sg. Way



Figure 14: Many trees and shrubs form a natural environment for birds and other animals to thrive in



Figure 15: Concrete banks are taken over by shrubs