



Species-rich, Malaysia's forests are home to 14,500 species of flowering plants, well over 200 species of mammals, 600 species of birds, 140 species of snakes, 150 species of frogs and thousands of species of insects, many of which are still being documented. In addition, over 1,300 plant species have been identified as having potential pharmaceutical properties. Traditionally, some of these are being used as herbal medicine.

To avoid the drastic depletion of forests, as occurred in other countries, Malaysia has embarked on policies and plans to manage the forests as a renewable resource. The objective of these policies is to balance the needs for ecological conservation and economic development, and are based on rational land use and detailed resource assessment.



TOP: Silver leaf monkeys or *Presbytis cristata* in their natural habitat.

CENTRE : Medicinal plants like the *Goniothalamus* are found in Malaysia's forests.

FAR LEFT : A poisonous forest spider or *Argiope versicolor*.

LEFT: *Rhacophorus nigropalmatus* or Wallace's Flying Frog.