

GUNUNG WALAT UNIVERSITY FOREST

The 5th National Forestry Scientific Week (PIKNAS V)



Gunung Walat, Sukabumi – The 5th National Forestry Scientific Week (PIKNAS V) was held on December 10-12, 2010 at GWUF.

PIKNAS is a biennial event and this time organized by the student organization of IPB Faculty of Forestry in collaboration with the Indonesian forestry community.

PIKNAS V consisted of general participants and students from Indonesia, such as from universities in Lampung, Bengkulu, Palangkaraya, Malang, University of East Indonesia, Universitas Putra Malaysia, and others. There were 43 delegations and 300 common participants that join this program.





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PIKNAS V was conducted for 6 days consisting of the National Symposium by Ministry Forestry Secretary-General, community forest discussions, forestry arts and literature performances, bird and mammal observations, acoustic wood seminars, cave exploration, agroforestry seminars, tree climbing training, and tree planting.

Muhammad Iftor, chairman of the PIKNAS V committee, explained that GWUF was very strategic, having great potentials especially for the non-timber product, having a history related to IPB Fahutan (Faculty of Forestry). The facilities were very adequate and the geography was suitable for adventure. Those were the reason to select GWUF as the venue PIKNAS V.

"The aims of PIKNAS V activities are to strengthen the Indonesian forestry community and to increase awareness and concern for the environment", said Muhammad Iftor.

"GWUF is a real example of success in caring for forests from barren forest to the dense forest without any logging", he added.

In this event, there were also the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Forestry, Mr. Hadi Daryanto, as keynote speaker; Dr. Hariadi Kartodihardjo, Dr. Sudarsono Sudomo, Arif Budiman from the Pasundan Farmers Association; Joko Sarwono as the expert on sound and acoustic wood of ITB; Sucahyo Sadiyo as a timber researcher and lecturer; Muhammad Nuramin as an artist and handmade violin maker and; Nurheni as a researcher and lecturer in agroforestry.

Caves exploration and bird and mammals observations were guided by students from Himakova (Student Association on Forest Conservation), while the tree climbing training was guided by Rimpala Fahutan IPB.

Syahril as head of Universiti Putra Malaysia delegation was very impressed with the PIKNAS V in this GWUF.

"Here we conduct seminars, campgrounds, and caves exploration. Caves in here are still natural while in Malaysia the caves are dead. The friends are all sportive, friendly, and happy to work together. Hopefully, this PIKNAS is conducted every year" said Syahril.

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gunungwalat.ipb.ac.id

gunungwalat@apps.ipb.ac.id