

## Short biography

### Rusea Go

BSc (Hons) (UKM), DPhil (UKM)

Professor Dr Rusea Go has broad research interests including Conservation of Biodiversity and Habitat, Restoration of Degraded Forests, Medicinal Plants, Ethnobotany Among Indigenous People & Ethnic Groups, Phytochemistry (anti-oxidant, anti-microbial, anti-fungal), Drug Discovery and Phytoremediation of Contaminated Waterbodies. However, over the past twenty three (23) years, her research has been focusing on Orchid Diversity, Conservation, Propagation, and Reintroduction of Wild Orchids Into Its Original Habitat.

She has authored 16 books, 11 on orchids of Malaysia, one on Wildflowers, one on Wetland plants, one on Biology of Ochra, and two on Ethnobotany and Medicinal Plants of Malaysia, published by Korea National Arboretum and Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology. She has published more than 333 scientific papers, which includes 200 journal papers, 52 as chapters in monographs and books, 50 proceedings, and others in non-cited popular writing and newspapers.

To date she have described and published 26 new species (12 are orchids), and had produced 5 new orchid hybrids. These are the new orchids species published; ***Vanilla norashikiniana* R. Go et A. Raffi**, ***Vanilla sanguineovenosa* R. Go & A. Raffi**, ***Dendrobium ainiae* R. Go et E.E. Besi**, ***Dendrobium ruseae* E.E.Besi et N. Dome**, ***Dendrobium mizanii* R. Go, E.E. Besi et N. Dome**, ***Bromheadia petuangensis* R. Go, E.E. Besi et N. Dome** and ***Corybas puatii* R.Go et N.A. Auyob**, ***Pinalia domeii* R. Go et E.E. Besi**. The 5 hybrids are ***Dendrobium* Tuanku\_Haminah Royale** (2015); ***Papilionanda* Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah** (2021) is a hybrid named after His Royal Highness Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah, the Sultan of Selangor, ***Papilionanda* Tengku Norashikin** (2021) is a hybrid named after Her Royal Highness Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin, the Tengku Permaisuri of Selangor, ***Vanchoanthe* Haris Kasim** (2021) is a hybrid named after the 8th Mayor of Shah Alam City, Dato' Haris Kasim and ***Aranda* UniPutra Gold** (2021) is a hybrid named after Universiti Putra Malaysia, in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary Celebration in 2021.

As an orchid expert in the country, she was entrusted to develop and authenticate orchid species information for Malaysia Biodiversity Information System database (MyBIS, KeTSA), a part of Malaysia's commitments under the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Clearing House Mechanism (CHM). She is Malaysia sole **IUCN Commission Member** for the **IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Orchid Specialist Group**. Her role is to provide advice and technical support towards international efforts on conservation (*in situ* and *ex situ*) and plant diversity initiatives. With her outstanding contributions, she earns a seat among top global Orchidologist and voted top South East Asian Orchidologist. Her Professional Membership includes (1)IUCN SSC-Orchid Specialist Group (Life Member, Country Representative and Commission Member), (2) Association of Tropical Biology and Conservation (Member), (3) International Canopy Network (ICAN)(Life Member), (4) American Orchid Society (Gold Member), (5) Royal Horticulture Society, United Kingdom (Member), (6) Malaysian Nature Society (Life Member), (7) Malaysian Genetic Society (Life Member) and (8) Malaysian Horticultural Society (Life Member).

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