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## **EDUCATION**

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**Ph.D. Ethnobotany:** University of Madras, Chennai, India

**M.Sc. Botany:** Madras Christian College, Chennai, India

**B.Sc. Botany:** Nesamony Memorial Christian College, Martandam, India.

## **AREAS OF INTEREST**

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*Ethnobiology; Biocultural Diversity; Biodiversity and Ecosystem services; Ecocriticism*

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### **JOURNAL ARTICLES**

- Franco, F.M. (2022). Ecocultural or Biocultural? Towards Appropriate Terminologies in Biocultural Diversity. *Biology* 11, 207. <https://doi.org/10.3390/biology11020207>
- Bakar, N., Franco, F.M. (2022). The fading popularity of a local ecological calendar from Brunei Darussalam, Borneo. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* 18, 33. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13002-022-00525-9>
- Franco, F. M. (2021). Intellectualist premise of folk names support their restoration in formal taxonomy. *Ethnobotany Research and Applications*, 21, 1–3. <https://ethnobotanyjournal.org/index.php/era/article/view/2747>
- EP Axelsson, EP, FM Franco, D Lussetti, KC Grady, U Ilstedt (2021). Mega El Niño's change the playing field for culturally important tree species and hence the foundation for human-nature interactions in tropical forests. *Trees, Forests and People* Volume 5: 100109, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tfp.2021.100109>.
- Franco, F.M., Nurzahidah Bakar (2020). Persistence of the Salty-Sweet Nipah Sugar in the Popular Foodways of Brunei Darussalam. *Journal of Ethnobiology* 40(3):368-385. <https://doi.org/10.2993/0278-0771-40.3.368>
- Franco, F.M., and Rainer W. Bussmann (2020). Rising to the occasion: outlining Ethnobiologists' response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. *Ethnobotany Research & Applications* 20:06. <http://dx.doi.org/10.32859/era.20.06.1-4>

- Khairunzahidah Kamsani, F. Merlin Franco, and Ferry Slik. (2020). A comparative account of the traditional healing practices of healers and non-healers in the Kiudang area of Brunei Darussalam. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology* 256: 112788. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jep.2020.112788>
- Franco, F.M., Chaw, L.L., Bakar, N. et al. (2020). Socialising over fruits and vegetables: the biocultural importance of an open-air market in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* 16: 6. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13002-020-0356-6>
- Prabakaran, K., S. Eswaramoorthi, R. Nagarajan, A. Anandkumar, F. Merlin Franco. (2020). Geochemical behaviour and risk assessment of trace elements in a tropical river, Northwest Borneo. *Chemosphere* 252: 126430. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chemosphere.2020.126430>
- Franco, F.M. and Minggu, M.J. (2019). When the seeds sprout, the hornbills hatch: understanding the traditional ecological knowledge of the Ibans of Brunei Darussalam on hornbills. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* 15: 46. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13002-019-0325-0>
- Prabakaran, K., R. Nagarajan, S. Eswaramoorthi, A. Anandkumar, F. Merlin Franco (2019). Environmental significance and geochemical speciation of trace elements in Lower Baram River sediments. *Chemosphere* (219): 933-953.
- Hidayati, S., B.A.A. Ghani, B. Giridharan, M. Z. Hassan, F. Merlin Franco (2018). Using Ethnotaxonomy to Assess Traditional Knowledge and Language Vitality: A Case Study with the Vaie People of Sarawak, Malaysia. *Ethnobiology Letters* 9(2):33–47.
- Hidayati, S., N.I. Suansa, Samin, F. Merlin Franco (2017). Using Ethnotaxonomy to assess Traditional Knowledge and Language Vitality: A case study with the Urang Kanekes (Baduy) of Banten, Indonesia. *Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge* 14 (4): 576-582
- Prabhakaran, K., R. Nagarajan, F. Merlin Franco, A. Anand Kumar (2017). Biomonitoring of Malaysian aquatic environments: A review of status and prospects. *Ecohydrology & Hydrobiology* 17 (2): 134-147.
- F.M. Franco (2015). Calendars and ecosystem management: some observations. *Human Ecology* 43 (2): 355-359.
- Franco, F.M., S. Hidayati, B.A.A. Ghani & B. Ranaivo-Malancon (2015). Ethnotaxonomic systems can reflect the vitality status of Indigenous languages and Traditional Knowledge. *Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge* 14 (2): 175-182.
- Hidayati, S., F.M. Franco & R.W. Bussmann (2015). Moving towards Phase 5: Current Status of Ethnobiology in Southeast Asia. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine* 11(17).
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- F.M. Franco, B.A.A. Ghani & S. Hidayati (2014). Biocultural importance of the Tanying [*Koompassia excelsa* (Becc.) Taub.] tree for the Berawan of Loagan Bunut, Sarawak, Malaysia. *Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge* 13(1): 63-69.
- Mary, D.A., F.M. Franco & V. Babu. 2011. Assessing the contribution of local and traded biodiversity in community health care: a case study from Keelakodankulam village, South India. *Ethnobotany Research and Applications* 9: 275-286.
- Franco, F.M., & D.T. R. Robin. 2011. Vaavubhali, a Traditional Festival for Remembering Ancestors. *Ethnobotany Research and Applications* 9: 115-128.
- Franco, F.M., & D. Narasimhan. 2009. Plant names and uses as indicators of traditional knowledge. *Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge* 8(4): 645-648.
- Franco, F.M., & D. Narasimhan. 2008. Ecological elements in the songs of the Poraja and the ancient Tamils. *Indian Journal of Eco-criticism* 1: 49-54.
- Franco, F.M., D. Narasimhan & W. Stanley. 2008. Relationship between four tribal communities and their natural resources in the Koraput region. *Ethnobotany Research & Applications* 6:481-485.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

- Hidayati, S., Franco, F.M., Abdul Ghani, B.A., Giridharan, B., Hassan, M.Z. (2022). Folk Fish Names Are Condensed Forms of Traditional Knowledge: Case Study with the Vaie People of Sarawak, Malaysia. In: Franco, F.M., Knudsen, M., Hassan, N.H. (eds) *Case Studies in Biocultural Diversity from Southeast Asia*. Asia in Transition, vol 19. Springer, Singapore. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-6719-0\\_8](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-6719-0_8)
- Hidayati, S., Franco, F.M., Suhaimi, A. (2022). Folk Plant Names Are Condensed Forms of Traditional Knowledge: Case Study with the Urang Kanekes of Banten, Indonesia. In: Franco, F.M., Knudsen, M., Hassan, N.H. (eds) *Case Studies in Biocultural Diversity from Southeast Asia*. Asia in Transition, vol 19. Springer, Singapore. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-6719-0\\_7](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-6719-0_7)
- Bakar, N., Franco, F.M., Hassan, N.H. (2022). The Intersection of Kedayan Folk Medicine and Traditional Ecological Calendar. In: Franco, F.M., Knudsen, M., Hassan, N.H. (eds) *Case Studies in Biocultural Diversity from Southeast Asia*. Asia in Transition, vol 19. Springer, Singapore. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-6719-0\\_5](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-6719-0_5)
- Lokho, K., Franco, F.M., Narasimhan, D. (2022). Calendar Keepers: The Unsung Heroes in Indigenous Landscape Management. In: Franco, F.M., Knudsen, M., Hassan, N.H. (eds) *Case Studies in Biocultural Diversity from Southeast Asia*. Asia in Transition, vol 19. Springer, Singapore. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-6719-0\\_3](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-6719-0_3)
- Franco, F.M., Knudsen, M., Hassan, N.H. (2022). Case Studies in Biocultural Diversity from Southeast Asia—Traditional Ecological Calendars, Folk Medicine and Folk Names. In: Franco, F.M.,

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- Franco, F.M., Mustaqim, W.A. (2021). Introduction to Ethnobotany of the Mountain Regions of Southeast Asia. In: Franco, F.M. (eds) *Ethnobotany of the Mountain Regions of Southeast Asia. Ethnobotany of Mountain Regions*. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-38389-3\\_208](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-38389-3_208)
  - Franco, F.M., S. Sridhar & M.S. Balasubramaniam. 2011. Significance of Bio Cultural Protocols in Empowering Farming Communities. In Choudhary S.L., S.K. Khandelwal & Y.L. Nene (Eds) *Proceedings of the International Conference on “Traditional Practices in Conservation Agriculture”* held at Udaipur, India from 18th to 20th Sep. 2010. Asian Agri-History Foundation, Secunderabad.
  - Narasimhan, D., & F.M. Franco. 2009. What is traditional knowledge? Pp. 168-172 in *Plant and Fungal Biodiversity and Bioprospecting*. Edited by S. Krishnan and D.J. Bhat. Broadway Book centre, Goa.

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- Franco, F.M., M. Knudsen & N.H. Hassan. 2022. *Case Studies in Biocultural Diversity from Southeast Asia: Traditional Ecological Calendars, Folk Medicine and Folk Names*. Springer Singapore. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-16-6719-0>
- Franco, F.M. (Ed), 2021. Vol 1 & 2, *Ethnobotany of Mountain regions of Southeast Asia*. Springer.
- Franco, F.M. & D. Narasimhan. 2012. Ethnobotany of the Kondh, Poraja, Gadaba and Bonda of the Koraput region of Odisha, India. DK Printworld, New Delhi.
- Balasubramanian, A.V., T.D. Nirmala Devi & F. Merlin Franco, (Eds). 2009. *Use of Animal Products in Traditional Agriculture*. Centre for Indian Knowledge Systems, Chennai.

## **OTHER RESEARCH/CREATIVE WORKS**

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### *Popular articles*

- Franco, F.M. [A pledge for Global Handwashing Day](#), *Borneo Post*, October 2013.
- Franco, F.M. [Planning a green city](#). *Borneo Post*, June 2013.
- Franco, F.M. [Nurseries of ancestor worship](#). *Down to Earth*, May 2010.
- Franco, F.M. & D. Narasimhan. ‘Cultural and ecological importance of sacred groves of Kondhs’. *SDNP Newsletter*, CPR Environmental Education Centre, Chennai. Issue No.1. 2006.