

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ABSTRACT	i
ABSTRAK	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	v
LIST OF TABLES	viii
LIST OF FIGURES	xi
LIST OF PLATES	xii
PLATES	xiii
CHAPTER 1	INTRODUCTION 1
1.1	General Introduction 1
1.2	Disease caused by Schistosomes 4
1.3	Aetiology and Characteristics of Cercarial Dermatitis 7
1.4	The Life Cycle of Schistosome 9
1.5	Cercarial Dermatitis in Malaysia 11
1.6	Objective of Study 14
CHAPTER 2	MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY 15
2.1	Background to the Study 15
2.2	Study Area 15
2.3	Data Collection 17
2.4	Analytical and Statistical Methods 18
2.5	Critical Review of Analytical and Statistical Methods Used 19

CHAPTER 3	RESULTS: SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE POPULATION INVESTIGATED IN THE FOUR VILLAGES	23
3.1	Kampung Tok Junuh	23
3.2	Kampung Alor Bakat	26
3.3	Kampung Serdang Muda	30
3.4	Kampung Serdang Surau (Serdang Tua)	33
3.5	Socio-Economic Status of the Four Villages	37
CHAPTER 4	RESULTS: PREVALENCE OF DERMATITIS	39
4.1	Prevalence of Dermatitis	39
CHAPTER 5	RESULTS: FACTORS AFFECTING OCCURRENCE OF DERMATITIS AMONG PADDY FIELD FARMERS	41
5.1	Social-demographics of the Paddy Field Farmers	41
5.2	Occurrence of Dermatitis at Various Stages of the Planting Process	45
5.2.1	Preparation of Fields	45
5.2.2	Sowing of Seeds ("Menyemai")	46
5.2.3	Transplanting of Seedlings ("Mengubah")	47
5.2.4	Application of Fertilizers ("Membaja")	47
5.2.5	Weeding of Fields ("Merumput")	49
5.2.6	Harvesting of Paddy	50
5.2.7	Hours Spent in the Field	52
5.3	Occurrence of Dermatitis Versus Water Sources for Farming and Domestic Usage	53
5.3.1	Water Sources for Farming	53
5.3.2	Water Sources for Domestic Usage	53
5.4	Occurrence of Dermatitis Versus Animal Husbandry	54
5.4.1	Rearing of Chickens	55
5.4.2	Rearing of Ducks	55
5.4.3	Rearing of Buffaloes	56
5.4.4	Rearing of Cows	56
5.4.5	Rearing of Goats	57

CHAPTER 6	RESULTS: OCCURRENCE OF DERMATITIS AMONGST THE PADDY FIELD FARMERS	58
6.1	Number of Times Infected	58
6.2	Number of cases of infections for 1991-1995	59
6.3	Body Parts Infected	59
6.4	Occurrence of Itch	61
6.5	Occurrences of Rashes and Scars	61
6.6	Treatment	63
CHAPTER 7	DISCUSSION	64
7.1	Introduction	64
7.2	Factors Affecting the Occurrence of Dermatitis	65
7.3	Critic of Questionnaire	74
7.4	Control of Dermatitis	75
CHAPTER 8	CONCLUSION	77
	REFERENCES	79
	APPENDIX A	87