Conclusion

- Plants selected and eaten by rusa deer (Cervus timorensis) were highly nutritious with reference to CF and potentially digestible fiber fraction.
- 2 Presence of ANF in moderate to high amount in plants do not deter the plants from being eaten by rusa deer (Cervus timorensis).
- 3. The present studies showed that browse plants especially shrubs (legumes) is more suitable as deer feed than trees and weeds rather than the usual feed (grass). The average amount of nutrients in tree and weeds were of use if there were insufficient feed for the animals. The mixed feed which include all the forage classes can provide adequate amount of nutrient to the animals.
- 4. Several plants including Acacia mangium, Artocarpus integra, Fragreae fragrans, Gnetum gnemon, Moringa oleifera, Melastoma malabathricum, Mussaenda erythrophylla, Neptunia oleraceae, Pdermachera gigantia, Sesbania grandiflora, Solanum nigrum, Homalanthus populifolius, Pluchea indica, Sapium baccatum and Trema orientalis are not only of high nutritive values but also can establish and propagate easily. These plants are suitable to be planted in larger numbers to serve as multipurpose functions including provision of shade, feed supplement and soft wood production.
- 5. More research in area relating to browse plants management in order to maintain a balance between forage quality and quantity; and productivity and stability. The plant species identified in the present studies which shows potential fodder should be field - tested in deer feeding trial in the near future.