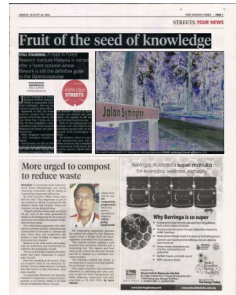


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Fruit of the seed of knowledge

STILL STANDING: A road in Forest Research Institute Malaysia is named after a forest botanist whose lifework is still the definitive guide to the *Dipterocarpaceae*

OLIVIA MIWIL

JALAN Symington in Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) is named after Colin Fraser Symington, who was the institute's assistant forest officer.

Appointed in 1932, the forest botanist studied the timber species of the forest and by the time World War 2 broke out in 1941, he had completed a comprehensive study of the common Malaysian tree family, the *Dipterocarpaceae*.

When Singapore surrendered in 1942, Symington escaped to Nigeria.

Unfortunately, he did not live to see his work published just a

year after. In 1943, during the Japanese Occupation of Malaya, the *Foresters' Manual of Dipterocarps* was rescued and published. The manual is still relevant to forest botanists today.

Trees of the *Dipterocarp arboretum* and *Non-Dipterocarp arboretum* species stand on and around Jalan Stynington in FRIM.

The institute, which is a popular recreational spot, has a Malay tea house and a campsite. It is also home to the Nature Education Centre (FRIM-MNS-Shell).



The road is named after C.F. Symington, who was appointed **FRIM's** assistant forest officer in 1932.