

VITA

Mansur Ahmad was born in Batu Pahat, Malaysia on February 28, 1963. He is married to Rusidah Asmawi, and they have two sons, Ahmad Luqman and Ahmad Imran, and one daughter, Adlin Liyana. Adlin Liyana was born on July 19, 2000, which was just approximately a month before he defended his dissertation. Mansur Ahmad graduated with a Diploma in Wood Technology in 1985 from University Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Malaysia. In 1986 he went to University of Maine under UiTM scholarship to pursue his Bachelor of Science degree in Wood Science and Technology. He graduated from University of Maine in 1987. In 1988, under the same scholarship, he received his Master of Science degree in Forest and Wood Sciences from Colorado State University.

Before enrolling at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in fall 1997, Mansur Ahmad was a lecturer in the Department of Wood Technology at Universiti Teknologi MARA. He was again sponsored by UiTM, under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment scholarship in Malaysia. He completed his doctoral program in Wood Science and Forest Products in August 2000.