1.2.4. Bantik

Bantik (Ban) is among the smallest of the Sangiric languages and is spoken in about ten villages surrounding Manado, the provincial capital of North Celebes, from Talawaan in the north to Sea in the south. It is also spoken in several transmigration villages in southern Minahasa and in Bolaang Mongondow, the region to the south-west of Minahasa. The total number of Ban speakers is estimated at eleven thousand.

No information is available on dialects. However, in a recent unpublished paper (Bawole 1980) n is given as the reflex of PAN *n word-finally, whereas ŋ occurs in the speech of informants. The author of the paper does not mention from which area his data derive.

The only publications on Bantik to date appear to be several short stories by Riedel (1869), Jansen's wordlist (1855), containing 150 items, and a lexico-statistical wordlist (Sneddon 1970). Koorders (1898) provides some information on plant names.

Material for this study was obtained from speakers in the village of Malalayang.