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Maximising the Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB) in IOI Group Estates in Peninsular Malaysia through Oil Palm Site Yield Potential Concept*

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The concept of Oil Palm Site Yield Potential (OPSYP) to target and maximise FFB yield in the IOI Group is described. With the available information on climate, soil and estimated water deficit and existing conditions of planted cultivars, planting densities and pattern, the estimated OPSYP is about 31.2 t FFB per hectare per annum for palms of six years and above for the 22 estates grouped into nine regions in the states of Johore, Pahang, Negri Sembilan and Malacca of Peninsular Malaysia. There is a relentless effort to narrow the gap between the OPSYP and actual yields. The actual mean yield achieved in 2000-2002 was 25.6 t FFB per hectare per year, which was 16.9 per cent lower than the OPSYP. This with improved inputs and management was narrowed to 11.2 per cent in 2003-2005 with an increase in the mean yield to 27.7 t FFB per hectare per year. With more concerted effort at both the agronomic and the management levels, it is possible to achieve the estimated OPSYP in the IOI Group.

Keywords: *Oil palm, yield potentials, sustainable yield, climate, yield gap.*