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## Arguments for Separate Oil Palm Loose Fruit Collection - With Special Reference to a High Yielding Estate in Sabah

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*Most oil palm planters will be familiar with the operation of separate or assisted loose fruit collection in Peninsular Malaysia as well as in Sabah. The measure is standard practice in many companies to cope with maximising crop and maintaining quality during peak cropping periods. However not all personnel on the ground feel committed to the implementation of the measure due to conflicting objectives and pressing demand on the same pool of labour. The article here attempts to analyse the economics of separate loose fruit collection in terms of the increased returns through fruit quantity and oil extraction, in order to provide some perspective to the conflicting needs of the estate manager at maximising crop while controlling costs and maintaining field standards.*

**Keywords:** *Harvesting standard, exponential detachment, unrealised losses, prioritisation.*