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Circle Weeding in Young Oil Palm Using a Hand-Held Motorised Grass Cutter

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The use of Mucuna bracteata as a ground cover in oil palm plantations brings with it a serious drawback i.e. its rapid growth necessitates very frequent weeding of the circles resulting in higher requirement of workers and higher cost of weeding. By using a motorised hand-held grass cutter a worker could weed slightly more than thrice the number of circles achieved by manual weeding and the cost saving per hectare per round could be reduced by Rp 42 870 (RM15.88).

Keywords: Circle weeding, motorised cutter, Mucuna bracteata, oil palm.

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