

2014

December

Performance and Yield Potential of Oil Palm Planting Materials

MOHD DIN, A., RAJANAIDU, N., KUSHAIRI, A., TARMIZI, A.H., NOH, A.,
MARHALIL, M., ZULKIFLI Y, NORZIHAA., MEILINA, O. A. AND RAVIGADEVI, S.
*Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB), 6 Persiaran Institusi, Bandar Baru Bangi, 43000 Kajang,
Selangor, Malaysia*

Efforts to improve the oil palm fresh fruit bunch and oil yield in Malaysia continue through various breeding programmes conducted by the Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB) in collaboration with the industry. A total of 10 traits of economic interest have been prioritised and currently being pursued for improvement by oil palm breeders as proposed during a brainstorming session. MPOB also transferred technologies for uptake by the industry in the form of planting materials and breeding populations, better known as 'PS' series. Alternative technologies to the conventional method to produce planting materials took place in the form of semi-clonals, bicolonals as well as clones. In addition to that application of molecular technologies is the way to move forward for oil palm breeding to sustain the competitive edge.

Keywords: *Oil palm, breeding, yield potential, priority traits, enhanced productivity, improved planting materials, genome-based technologies.*

