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Malaysian Oil Scientists' and
Technologists' Association
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1ST ANNOUNCEMENT



MALAYSIAN OIL SCIENTISTS' & TECHNOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION (MOSTA)

Oil Palm Best Practices Workshop 2025

**Theme: TRANSLATING RESEARCH INTO ACTION:
CLOSING THE YIELD GAP IN OIL PALM PRACTICES**

Dates: 9 – 11 September 2025
Venue: Livingston Hotel, Sandakan

Day 1 & Day 2 - Seminar cum Panel Discussion Sessions
Day 3 - Field Excursion: Sijas Estate KSN



Welcome Message



On behalf of MOSTA, I am very pleased to welcome you to 8th edition of MOSTA series of Agronomy Workshops. We are inspired by the work and prediction of Dr R.V. Corley who predicted that the optimum yield of oil palm could reach 18 t per ha per year. Although the national yield is below 4 t per ha per year and the trend appears to be downward, some plantations have achieved 6 – 8 t per ha per year. It was also reported by one of these plantations that in a research plot a yield of 12 t per ha per year was achievable

Some conference speakers have observed that the lower yield may be attributed to the lower productivity of smallholders, which appears to be contradictory to report of the performances of smallholders in neighbouring countries and also some smallholders in Malaysia, of whom one case proudly reported a yield of 34 t FFB per ha per year by tissue culture materials.

We are aware that many factors may be involved in improving the yield towards the level predicted by Dr Corley. Thus, for this workshop we have brought scientists and planters who would later share their expertise, experiences, knowledge and innovations with the objective of improving the yield of oil palm for the future. For these efforts we would like to thank Dr Harikrishna, Dr Tasren and the companies which have co-operated including the field excursion for practical guidance and sharing. In short we believe in scientific research, advances in innovative technology, deep transformation and human creativity

It is MOSTA's wish that the producers of palm oil be successful through this programme and interactions in the shortest time possible

Yours sincerely

Academician Tan Sri Emeritus Prof Datuk Dr Augustine S H Ong
President, MOSTA

Programme

Day 1

Tuesday, 9 September 2025

0730

Registration & Light Refreshment

0845 – 0900

Welcome Address

Academician Emeritus Prof Tan Sri Datuk Dr Augustine S H Ong
President, MOSTA

Session Chair:

Dr Harikrishna Kulaveerasingam

0900 – 1000

Keynote Address & Plenary Session

Bridging Tradition and Technology – Smart Solutions for Sustainable Oil Palm
Yang Mulia Academician Datuk Dr Tengku Mohd Azzman Shariffadeen (invited)
Academy of Sciences Malaysia

Session 1:

Enhancing Genetic Yield Potential: Innovations in Genomic Research and Germplasm Strategies for Oil Palm

Session Chair:

Dr Harikrishna Kulaveerasingam

1000 - 1020

SD Guthrie: Performance of Genomic Selection, a Reality Check?
Dr Teh Chee Keng
SD Gurhtire Plantation Berhad

1020 - 1040

Genomics Guided Breeding for Yield Improvement and Sustainable Palm Oil Production
Chan Pek Lan & Rajinder Singh
Malaysian Palm Oil Board

1040 - 1100

Coffee Break / Tour of Exhibition

1100 - 1120

Breeding Oil Palm to Help Growers Raise Achievable Yield to the Potential
Christopher Donough
KLK Sawit Nusantara

1120 - 1140

Breeding Progress
Dr Kandha Sritharan
United Plantation Berhad

1140 - 1200

Effective Integration of Genomic Tools for Decision Support in Oil Palm Genetic Improvement
Dr Wong Wei Chee
Advanced Agriecological Research Sdn. Bhd.

1200 – 12.20

From Lab to Field: The Impact of Tissue Culture on Oil palm Agriculture
Dr Siti Rahmah
Malaysian Palm Oil Board

1220 - 1250

Discussion

1250 - 1400

Lunch/Tour of Exhibition

**Session 2A: Frontiers of Farming - Automation in the Fields:
Exploring the Role of Robotics, Drones Sensors and Digital
Innovations in Oil Palm Cultivation**

Session Chair: Dr Tasren Nazir Mahmooth

1400 - 1420	Impact of Technology Innovations and Process Improvements on oil quality Christopher Hart SD Guthrie Plantation Berhad
1420 - 1440	Revolutionizing Ganoderma Census in Oil Palm Plantation via Unmanned Aerial-based Image Analytics Normahnani Md Nor SD Guthrie Research Sdn Bhd
1440 - 1500	Closing the Gap Between Fertiliser Recommendation and Application Through Digitalisation and Automation Siti Hajar Binti Nor Azam SD Guthrie Berhad
1500 - 1520	Oil Palm Tree Inventory by Seetree Dor Pundak See Tree Inc
1520 - 1540	Geospatial Technologies & Digital Innovation Dr Chen Zi Yan Advanced Agriecological Research Sdn. Bhd.
1540 - 1610	Discussion
1610 - 1630	Tea Break/Tour of Exhibition

Session 2B: Frontiers of Farming – Emerging Technologies

16.30-16.50	Harnessing Nano Carbon: A Leap Forward in Enhancing Photosynthesis and Agricultural Productivity Prof. Dr Suraya Abdul Rashid Universiti Putra Malaysia
16.50-17.10	Key Considerations for the Validation of Biofertilizers and Biocontrol Agents in Oil Palm Cultivation Ms Tan Swee Sian Advanced Agriecological Research Sdn. Bhd.
17.10-17.30	Boosting Efficiency, Reducing Emissions: The Role of Nitrogen Inhibitors in Enhancing Nutrient Uptake and Minimizing Environmental Impact Dr Gregor Padsa BASF
17.30-18.00	Discussion

DAY 2

Wednesday, 10 September 2025

Session 3: Traditional Meets Modern: Practical and Innovative Practices

Session Chair: Mr MR Chandran

- 0900 - 0920 Harvesting Management System with Global Positioning Satellite
Moke Kwai Cheong
Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad
- 0920 - 0940 Selection Criteria to Choose the Right Farm Tractor for an Oil Palm Plantation
Jaya Raj A/L Balasubramaniam
Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad
- 0940 - 1000 SPB Harvesting Machine: A Mechanical Harvesting Solution, SPB's Experience
Wan Mohamad Nisal Bin Wan Sembok
Sarawak Plantation Berhad
- 1000 - 1020 Exploring Effective Mechanized Solutions for Fertilizer Application in Oil Palm Plantation
Muhammad Firdaus Mohamad Hairudin
SD Guthrie Plantation Berhad
- 1020 – 1040 Discussion
- 1040 – 1100 Tea Break/Tour of Exhibition

Session 4: Addressing Critical Challenges in Oil Palm Cultivation in Sabah

Session Chair: Thomas Lim Sau Fong

- 1100 - 1120 Navigating Parthenocarpy in Oil Palm: Integrative Research and Development Strategies for Mitigation
Muhamad Ezwan Abd Razak / Muhammad Syafiq b Sazali
Advanced Agriecological Research Sdn. Bhd.
- 1120 – 1140 Combating Sooty Mold in Sabah: Awareness, Preserve Oil Palm Health and Yield)
Mohd Helmay Husain – Advanced Agriecological Research Sdn Bhd
Muhammad Nurul Yaqin b Syarif – Malaysian Palm Oil Board
- 1140 - 1200 Effect of Acephate in Oil Palm Fruits and Palm Products after Trunk Injection
Ng Shee Kiat
IOI Corporation Berhad
- 1200 - 1220 CRF During Replant in Hilly Terrain: Key Insights and Approaches
Bernard Khoo Huang Chai
SD Guthrie Research Sdn Bhd
- 1220 – 1300 Discussion
- 1300 – 1430 Lunch/Tour of Exhibition

**Session 5 Inclusive Growth: Integrating Smallholders in Supply Chain Issues
Affecting the Oil Palm Industry**

Session Chair: **Dr Ong Li Mei @ Meilina Ong Abdullah (Invited)**

1430 - 1450	Managing Food Safety and Quality at the Palm Oil Midstream and Downstream Sectors Dr Azmil Haizam Ahmad Tarmizi Malaysian Palm Oil Board
1450 – 1510	Challenges and Successes of Smallholder Oil Palm Production in India Mr Sougata Niagi
1510 - 1530	Godrej Agrovet Limited
1510 – 1530	Climate Change & Sustainability Dr Gary William Theseira (invited) Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Centre (MGTC)
1530 – 1550	Discussion
1530 - 1630 Moderator:	Panel Discussion Dr Harikrishna Kulaveerasingam
16.30 – 17.00	Coffee Break/Tour of Exhibition

**DAY 3 Thursday. 11 September 2025
FIELD EXCURSION – Sijas Estate**

Session 6 Field Excursion : Programme (Limited to 100 participants)

0630	Depart for Sijas Estate KSN
0815 – 0830	Welcome Address Mr Dinakaran Madhavan Regional Director, KL-Kepong (Sabah) Sdn Bhd
0830 – 1300	Visit Sijas Estate KSN (5 field demo stops) Station 1 – Mechanisation of fertiliser application on straight and terrace plantings Station 2 - Mechanisation in in-field crop collection Station 3 - Mechanisation in P&D control Station 4 – Demo on Sooty Mold and Mealybug census and compliance with DoA Sabah’s regulations Station 5 - Nursery Practices
1300 – 1400	Lunch
1400 – 1415	Closing Address & Departure

Topics Covered

Global and local scenarios of the Palm Oil Industry; good agricultural practices (GAP) in new plantings and replanting, in immature and mature oil palm management, oil palm crop protection, harvesting, fertilizer applications and innovative technologies and visits to field trials and agronomic practices.

Who Should Attend?

Plantation R&D and advisory personnel, plantation management executives, commercial technical advisory specialists, smallholders

Speakers:

Leading R&D and management practitioners in the Plantation Industry, Scientists, Innovators

REGISTRATION FEES – Field Trip Limited to 100pax (First Come First Serve Basis)

The Registration Fees for MOSTA Oil Palm Best Practices Workshop 2025 (9 – 11 September 2025)) are as follows:

Category	Registration & Payment before 9 August 2025	Registration & Payment after 9 August 2025	Field Excursion	Total RM
MOSTA Members	RM1,600/- (USD400/-)	RM2,100/- (USD525/-)	RM100/- (USD25/-)	
Non- Members	RM2,100/- (USD525/-)	RM2,600/- (USD650/-)	RM100/- (USD25/-)	

Registration Fees include attendance to the workshop & field trip, seminar materials, tea-break, lunch and refreshments.

REGISTRATION FORM

I/We* like to register the following person(s) for the above Seminar:

	Name	Designation
1	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____

Company: _____

Organisation: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Tel No: _____ Fax No: _____ Date: _____

MODE OF PAYMENT

I/We* attach herewith a cheque/draft/order* (No: _____) for RM: _____

Cheques/drafts/bank orders must be made payable to "MOSTA" and crossed "A/C Payee Only" or bank in to MOSTA Bank Account with MBB No. 512530 - 155068, and send bank-in slip to Secretariat as proof of payment.

Please send the completed form to MOSTA Secretariat at the following address:

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