



**LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA HARIAN
ISNIN 23 MAC 2020**

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UKKMOA

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
KEMENTERIAN PERTANIAN DAN INDUSTRI MAKANAN
(UNTUK EDARAN DALAMAN MOA, JABATAN DAN AGENSI SAHAJA)

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
23/3/2020	BERITA HARIAN	ONLINE	

COVID-19: Tiada sekatan aktiviti rantaian bekalan dan pemasaran makanan



Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia.

KUALA LUMPUR: Kerajaan tidak bercadang menyekat sebarang aktiviti membabitkan rantaian bekalan dan pemasaran makanan sepanjang tempoh Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP) ini berlangsung bagi memastikan bekalan mencukupi untuk semua rakyat negara ini.

Menteri Pertanian dan Industri Makanan, Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Klandee berkata, aktiviti seperti pertanian, penternakan, perikanan dan akuakultur dibenarkan untuk terus beroperasi bagi memastikan bekalan daging, sayur-sayuran, buah-buahan serta hasil perikanan mencukupi untuk setiap orang.

Namun begitu, katanya, dalam masa yang sama kerajaan turut menetapkan syarat untuk mematuhi langkah-langkah sanitasi yang ditetapkan oleh

"Selain itu, perkhidmatan logistik dan pengangkutan yang menyokong rantaian bekalan dan pemasaran makanan termasuk input-input pertanian dan makanan ternakan dibenarkan beroperasi seperti sedia kala.

"Ini bagi memastikan bekalan produk penting dan kritikal dikeluarkan oleh petani, nelayan dan penternak sampai kepada pengguna dalam tempoh masa dan keadaan yang sempurna," katanya dalam satu kenyataan, di sini, hari ini.

Beliau menjelaskan, bagi premis dan kilang yang menyokong rantaian bekalan makanan berkaitan dan ditakrifkan sebagai kritikal turut dibenarkan beroperasi dengan tugas pekerja di tahap minimum.

"Pihak industri juga perlu bertanggungjawab untuk memastikan langkah-langkah saringan dan pencegahan wabak COVID-19 wajib dilaksanakan di peringkat syarikat demi keselamatan pekerja dan pelanggan," katanya.

Sebarang pertanyaan lanjut, orang ramai boleh menghubungi Bilik Gerakan Pemantauan Krisis COVID-19 di talian hotline 03-8870 1307 / 1663 / 1664 atau emel kepada bilikgerakan@moa.gov.my.

Headline	Tiada sekatan aktiviti rantai bekalan		
MediaTitle	Sinar Harian		
Date	23 Mar 2020	Color	Black/white
Section	Nasional	Circulation	140,000
Page No	8	Readership	420,000
Language	Malay	ArticleSize	84 cm ²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 941
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 2,822



Tiada sekatan aktiviti rantai bekalan

PUTRAJAYA - Kementerian Pertanian dan Industri Makanan mengesahkan tiada sebarang sekatan dalam aktiviti rantai bekalan dan pemasaran makanan sepanjang tempoh Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan.

Menterinya, Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Kiang berkata, aktiviti pertanian, penternakan, perikanan, akuakultur dibenarkan untuk terus beroperasi bagi memastikan bekalan daging, sayur-sayuran, buah-buahan serta hasil perikanan mencukupi.

Jelasnya, aktiviti itu dibenarkan dengan syarat penge-

luan mematuhi langkah-langkah sanitasi yang ditetapkan oleh Kementerian Kesihatan.

“Premis dan kilang yang menyokong rantai bekalan makanan yang berkaitan dan ditakrifkan sebagai kritikal dibenarkan beroperasi dengan penugasan pekerja di tahap minima.

“Untuk pertanyaan lanjut, orang ramai boleh menghubungi Bilik Gerakan Peman-tauan Krisis Covid-19 di talian 03-8870 1307/1663/1664 atau emelkan kepada bilikgerakan@moa.gov.my.” katanya dalam satu kenyataan semalam.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
23/3/2020	NST	ONLINE	

Food supply sectors, chain of essential services can operate during MCO



FILE PIX: Agriculture and Food Industry Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Kiandee (2nd from left) during a visit at MyFarm Outlet in Putrajaya recently. -- Pix courtesy of Agriculture and Food Industry Ministry
 KUALA LUMPUR: Food supply sectors and its chain of essential services can operate as usual throughout the Movement Control Order (MCO), provided they adhere to sanitation measures and guidelines set by the Health Ministry.

Agriculture and Food Industry Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Kiandee in a statement today said food production sectors such as agricultural farming, poultry, fisheries and aquaculture will remain undisrupted to ensure Malaysians have adequate meat, vegetables, fruits and fishery product supplies.

"Logistics and transportation services that support the supply chain and food marketing including agricultural and livestock production that are defined as critical are also allowed to operate with minimum staffing".

He said this is to make sure that the supply of essential and critical goods produced by farmers, fishermen and others alike sectors reach consumers on time, accordingly.

"These industries must also play their part to ensure implementation of proper testing and prevention measures are in place at the company, to safeguard employee and customer against Covid-19," he said in a statement today.

He reiterated that the main food items such rice, meat, fish, vegetables and fruits are at a stable and adequate level of supply to last throughout the MCO period, and even beyond that

"The ministry will continue to monitor and cooperate with producers and distributors to ensure there is adequate food supply," Kiandee said.

For further inquiries, he urged the public to contact the Covid-19 Crisis Monitoring Room hotline at 03 - 8870 1307/1663/1664 or email the queries to billkgerakan@moa.gov.my.

Headline	No sanction in food supply chain, marketing—Kiandee		
MediaTitle	Borneo Post (Kuching)		
Date	23 Mar 2020	Color	Full Color
Section	Home	Circulation	60,767
Page No	4	Readership	182,301
Language	English	ArticleSize	194 cm ²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 2,645
Frequency	Daily (EM)	PR Value	RM 7,936



No sanction in food supply chain, marketing — Kiandee

KUCHING: There is no sanction in food supply chain and food marketing throughout the entire movement control order (MCO) period, said Agriculture and Food Industry Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Kiandee.

Agriculture, livestock breeding, fishing and aquaculture activities are allowed to continue operating to ensure the supply of meat, vegetables, fruits and fishery products are sufficient for Malaysian consumers and meet the sanitation standards set by the Health Ministry, he informed in a press statement issued yesterday.

Logistics and transportation services that support the supply chain and food marketing including all agricultural and food inputs and livestock are allowed to operate as usual.

Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Kiandee

"Logistics and transportation services that support the supply chain and food marketing including all agricultural and food inputs and livestock are allowed to operate as usual. This is to ensure all essential and critical

products supply from farmers, fishermen and livestock breeders reach consumers within the time period and in good condition," he added.

Premises or factories that support relevant food supply

chains and are defined as critical are allowed to operate with minimal workers. The industry players must also take responsibility for ensuring that Covid-19 outbreak prevention measures are implemented at the company level for employees' and customers' safety, he said.

For further enquiries, the public can contact Covid-19 Crisis Monitoring Operations Room at its hotline 03-8870 1307/1663/ 1664 or email to bilikgerakan@moa.gov.my.

The MCO period is from March 18 to 31.

Headline	MCO: No restrictions on food supply chain, marketing, says Agriculture Ministry		
MediaTitle	Malaysian Nanban		
Date	23 Mar 2020	Color	Full Color
Section	News	Circulation	65,000
Page No	2	Readership	415,000
Language	Tamil	ArticleSize	138 cm ²
Journalist	NULL	AdValue	RM 803
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 2,409



உணவுக் கையிருப்பு மற்றும் சந்தைப்படுத்தலுக்குத் தடையில்லை

கோலாலம்பூர், மார்ச் 23-
மக்களுக்குப் போதுமான இறைச்சி, காய்கறிகள், பழங்கள், மீன்கள் கையிருப்பு இருப்பதை உறுதி செய்ய நடமாடும் கட்டுப்பாட்டு உத்தரவு அமல்படுத்தப்பட்ட காலக் கட்டத்தில் விவசாயம், கால்நடை வளர்ப்பு, மீன்பிடி மற்றும்



மீன் வளர்ப்பு ஆகிய துறைகள் தொடர்ந்து செயல்பட அனுமதிக்கப் பட்டுள்ளதாக விவசாயம் மற்றும் உணவுத் தொழில்்துறை அமைச்சர், டத்தோபூரி டாக்டர் ரொனல்ட் கியாண்டி தெரிவித்தார்.

இந்த அனுமதி உணவுக் கையிருப்பு மற்றும் சந்தைப்படுத்தலுக்கு ஆதரவாய் இருக்கும் தளவாடப் பொருட்கள் மற்றும் போக்குவரத்துச் சேவைகளுக்கும் வழங்கப்படுகிறது.

இது உண்மையில்

விவசாயிகள், மீனவர்கள், கால்நடை வளர்ப்பாளர்களால் உற்பத்தி செய்ய சிரமமாய் இருக்கும் தயாரிப்புகள் பயனிட்டளர்களை நன்முறையில் சென்றடைவதை உறுதி செய்வதற்கே ஆகும்.

இருந்த போதிலும் சுகாதார அமைச்சு நிர்ணயித்துள்ள சுகாதார அணுகுமுறைகளை அவர்கள் பின்பற்ற வேண்டும் என்று ஓர் அறிக்கையில் டத்தோபூரி டாக்டர் ரொனல்ட் கியாண்டி குறிப்பிட்டார்.

Headline	Fishermen can still go out to sea —Fisheries Dept		
MediaTitle	Borneo Post (Kuching)		
Date	23 Mar 2020	Color	Full Color
Section	Home	Circulation	60,767
Page No	4	Readership	182,301
Language	English	ArticleSize	242 cm ²
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 3,300
Frequency	Daily (EM)	PR Value	RM 9,900



Fishermen fishing at Batu Satu Lutong seafront.

Fishermen can still go out to sea — Fisheries Dept

MIRI: Fishermen can still go out to sea as it is the main source of food for the local community.

An officer of Sarawak Marine Fisheries Department Region III Miri said the director-general of the Department of Fisheries Malaysia in a statement on March 21 had given permission to fishermen to operate as usual as fishing is defined as critical in the supply of food but must

be done with minimum labour and worker rotation.

"There is no control for fishermen to go out fishing as we don't want this food supply chain to be affected," the spokesman said yesterday.

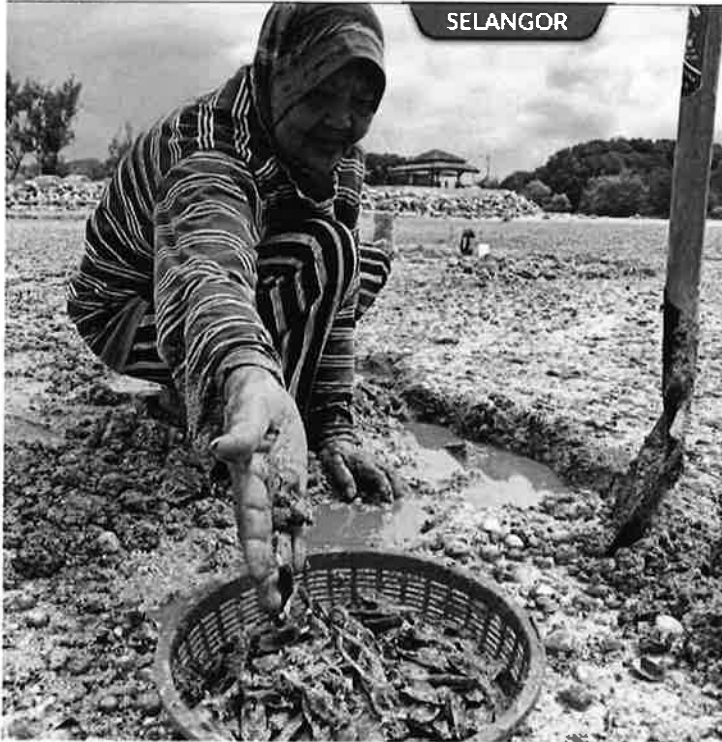
He said apart from giving fishermen permission to go out to sea, the department also allowed aquaculture entrepreneurs, fish farmers

and seafood traders to continue with their businesses.

But he reminded that they should observe all precautions to prevent the spread of Covid-19 among their workers and customers.

However, he said recreational fishing is not permitted and requested all anglers to comply with the movement control order.

Headline	Race to save cockles		
MediaTitle	The Star (Metro North)		
Date	23 Mar 2020	Color	Full Color
Section	News	Circulation	34,093
Page No	6,7	Readership	102,279
Language	English	ArticleSize	1998 cm ²
Journalist	Grace Chen	AdValue	RM 50,069
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 150,207



Villager Aslah Ismail combing the muddy beach flats at Bagan Nakhoda Omar to look for 'barai'. The mud flats are rich picking grounds for a variety of shellfish, including blood cockles.



Zulkifly harvesting cockles at his lot in Bagan Nakhoda Omar, Sabak Bernam. — Photos: GRACE CHEN/The Star

Race to save cockles

Farmers and Selangor Fisheries Dept take steps to stem declining population, improve harvest

By GRACE CHEN
gracechen@thestar.com.my

THE smell of sea and salt emanated from a bubbling wok as fisherman Mohd Noh Iksan lifted out a plump blood cockle, pried its shell apart and popped the meat into his mouth.

Caught just an hour before, the freshness was evident as he savoured the mollusc that was an important ingredient in a good bowl of curry laksa.

"The best blood cockles are from Sabak Bernam. They are known to have a buttery texture and are best enjoyed half-boiled with a spicy Thai-style chili sauce as dip," he declared.

Cockle gardens

Mohd Noh shares a 50ha lot with 20 other cockle farmers some two nautical miles from the Bagan Nakhoda Omar Jetty in Sabak Bernam.

It is part of the Selangor Fisheries Department's (SID) Cockle Garden project that started in 2008.

The 'garden' covers the districts of Klang, Kuala Selangor and Sabak Bernam, inspired by the vast muddy beaches that are a prevalent geographical feature in this state.

Called the intertidal zone, fishing communities have known these muddy beach flats to be rich picking grounds for a variety of shellfish including blood cockles.

In an effort to increase cockle production and improve the

economic status of traditional fishermen, SID mapped out some 200 lots of cockle farms covering close to 10,000ha and farmers were granted temporary occupation licences.

Another farmer, Mohd Fadli Rusli, said the farmers enjoyed good yield from 2008 to 2016.

"On average, each of us could make more than RM4,000," said Mohd Fadli who is Mohd Noh's brother-in-law as well as head of MyKommuniti Perikanan (MyKI) for Bagan Nakhoda Omar.

But from 2014 to 2018, cockle spat (the brood stock) started dying.

Cockle farmers found the survival rate was no more than 25% and they were told the cause was water pollution.

Discouraged by the bleak prospect, many opted out of these collective farms. They chose to earn a living from construction work besides catching crabs and prawns.

Mohd Fadli himself suffered losses of nearly RM200,000.

Still optimistic

But not all the cockle farmers gave up.

Zulkifly Ibrahim, who shares the same cockle lot with Mohd Noh, is among those who persevered.

The father of three said he took to hovering over his spats, shifting them to cooler spots when he felt the water had become too hot.

Those that were buried too deep within the seabed were either shifted or had excess mud removed



Cockle spats at various stages of growth. Smuggling is one of the causes for dwindling cockle population in Selangor.



The gaps on cockle scoops (foreground) are made to comply with Fisheries Department directive to ensure harvest of only matured cockles.

Headline	Race to save cockles		
MediaTitle	The Star (Metro North)		
Date	23 Mar 2020	Color	Full Color
Section	News	Circulation	34,093
Page No	6,7	Readership	102,279
Language	English	ArticleSize	1998 cm ²
Journalist	Grace Chen	AdValue	RM 50,069
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 150,207



Abdul Rahman says the throwing of empty cockle shells back into the sea can affect habitats as they will transform the soft muddy seabed.

Muhd Fadli and his wife, Siti Rohaya Ikanan, at their seafood stall. The blood cockle price has ballooned from RM1.94 per kilogramme in 2008 to RM8 at present.

on the spot.

He said movement, instead of remaining in a stationary state, was considered good exercise and encouraged the cockles' growth.

To address overharvesting, a discussion among lot members resulted in the decision to set the daily limit for each farmer at no more than 135kg.

In addition, the gaps of cockle scoops were made to comply to a Fisheries Department directive to ensure only matured cockles (measuring 29mm and above) would be landed.

Though Zulkifly said he welcomed offers to restart cockle farming at a new spot, he remained optimistic that future yields might see improvement.

In his opinion, it would be difficult to find similar ideal locations like Bagan Nakhoda Omar suitable for cockle farming in other parts of Selangor due to differences in shoreline and seabed conditions.

"The industry may have a better chance of revival if authorities, researchers and the fishing communities are able to address pollution issues and introduce better farming methods that are also environmentally sustainable," said Muhd Fadli, who spoke on behalf of 20 cockle farmers in Bagan Nakhoda Omar.

Cockle farmers in Selangor also want better back-up from enforcement teams against smugglers.

In 2016, volunteers and ReIn members detained two foreigners who were attempting to escape with cockle spats from one of the farm lots.

Volunteers confessed that they sometimes feared for their lives during their watch, as smugglers were becoming bolder.

Pollution problem

Selangor Fisheries Department director Abdul Rahman: Abdul Wahab acknowledged that the record showed a significant decline of cockle harvest in the state within the past 10 years. In 2008, production was at 14,651 metric tonnes but last year, preliminary data showed that yields had dropped to a mere 33 tonnes.

Abdul Rahman said this decline could not be attributed to a single cause as cockles were susceptible to



Volunteer divers showing the old fishing nets found near artificial reefs at Bagan Nakhoda Omar.

several threats.

"One is pollution from surface runoff, chemical fertilisers, industrial waste and farm effluents. The effluents from plantations or other industrial entities near river mouths discharged into the river and subtidal zones reach roughly one nautical mile from shore, which is the area where cockles spawn and feed.

"Another threat is sand mining as sedimentation can cover the muddy seabeds and suffocate the brood stock."

In combating these problems, he said the department was in close cooperation and constant discussion with related authorities, adding that they had the support of Selangor Public Infrastructure and Facility, Agricultural Modernisation and Agro-based Industry executive councillor Izham Hashim.

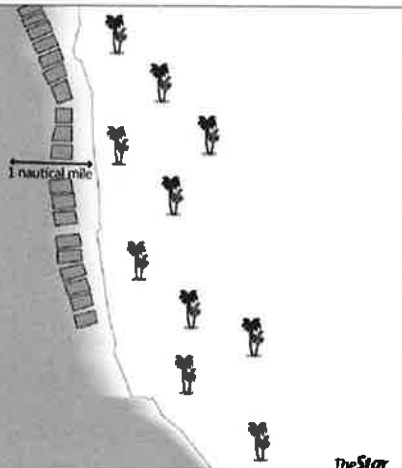
Though some cockle spats may survive and develop to maturity, they may be exposed to various contaminations in the surrounding environment because cockles are filter feeders.

To ensure existing harvests in Selangor are safe for consumption,

Threats to cockle farming

- Surface runoff, chemical fertilisers, industrial waste and farm or plantation effluents.
- Sand mining as sedimentation can suffocate cockle spats.
- Cockle spats smuggling.
- Rubbish dumping (plastic bags, seafood shells, ghost nets).
- Overharvesting.

☐ Cockle farms



the department conducts scheduled monitoring at least twice a year at selected sampling points in Sungai Besar, Jeram and Klang under the National Shellfish Sanitation Programme (NSSP). There are three points at each location.

If tested samples are found to have exceeded permitted levels of contaminants, Fisheries Department is responsible for informing the state Health Department and the marine culture operator to withdraw the shellfish from sale.

Operators who do not comply will have action taken against them as provided for under Fisheries Regulations (Marine Culture System) 1990 of Fisheries Act 1985. Temptation in the form of lucrative pay-offs for smuggling of the brood stock is another contributor to dwindling cockle population.

From January to December 2019, Selangor Fisheries seized 170 sacks of cockle spats from smugglers in Bagan Nakhoda Omar. Enforcement officers were informed that the spats were sourced from Kampung Banting and brought here by sea to be smuggled out to a neighbouring country.

Revival plans

To revive the cockle farming industry in Selangor, Fisheries Department has plans to remap cockle cultivation zones.

This initiative will identify areas of natural spawfall and assess if the areas are ideal for blood cockle cultivation.

Abdul Rahman said scientific study would also be conducted to assist the department in developing management plan for sustainable cockle farming in Selangor.

"We are hopeful these initiatives will play a part in conserving natural resources and protect them against unsustainable and illegal harvest.

"To ensure sustainability, activities will be monitored and controlled through constant surveillance," he said.

In the wake of the impact of marine debris especially plastic on fisheries resources, Fisheries Department is leading a nationwide programme to raise public awareness of the dangers from rubbish dumped into the sea.

It is working with key strategic partners such as the fishing communities (myKP), primary school

pupils, Forestry Department and Fisheries Development Authority.

A recent event organised by SDP in Bagan Nakhoda Omar saw MyKP members from Sungai Besar, Kampung Banting, Teluk Rhu, Sungai Apong, Park Baru, Park Baru Bahrah, Bagan Part Baru and Bagan Sungai Lang taking part in a mangrove planting and beach

clean-up exercise with pupils from SRK Simpang Empat.

Within two hours, they collected close to 180kg of domestic trash.

Seven Fisheries Department and myKP divers who volunteered to clean up artificial reefs near the Bagan Nakhoda Omar recreation fishing *Kelang* found abandoned fishing nets and more rubbish.

"Fishermen need to be made aware that even the throwing of empty cockle shells back into the sea can affect habitats as piled up old shells will eventually turn soft muddy seabed into hard bottom substrate, which is no longer a conducive ecosystem for cockles to grow.

"We are confident that awareness will help improve the chances of cockle growth," said Abdul Rahman.

Headline	COVID-19: Harga tembikai jatuh sekali ganda		
MediaTitle	Berita Harian (www.bharian.com.my)		
Date	23 Mar 2020	Color	Full Color
Section	NEWS	Circulation	4
Order Rank	10	Readership	4
Language	Malay	ArticleSize	N/A
Journalist	N/A	AdValue	RM 6,400
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 19,200

COVID-19: Harga tembikai jatuh sekali ganda

PERMAISURI: "Jika diikutkan harga tembikai boleh mencecah RM1.40 satu kilogram kerana permintaan tinggi musim cuti sekolah tetapi disebabkan penularan wabak coronavirus (COVID-19) harganya jatuh sehingga 70 sen," kata Mohamad Mardi Mohd Yusof.
Mohd Mardi...

*To read the rest of the article, click **View Full Article***