



LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA HARIAN
RABU 26 JUN 2024

BIL	TAJUK KERATAN AKHBAR	KEMENTERIAN / JABATAN / AGENSI
1.	KPKM SASAR 110,000 GOLONGAN PETANI TERIMA BUDI MADANI AGRO-KOMODITI, WILAYAHKU -ONLINE	KEMENTERIAN PERTANIAN DAN KETERJAMINAN MAKANAN (KPKM)
2.	KPKM LAHIR 24,800 LEPASAN PELAJAR TVET PERTANIAN, SH -ONLINE	
3.	KPKM REKOD HAMPIR 25,000 LEPASAN PELAJAR TVET DALAM BIDANG PERTANIAN, BERITA RTM -ONLINE	
4.	SPPEDY PROCESS KEY TO SUCCESS OF FRESH DURIAN EXPORTS, NATION, THE STAR -5	
5.	EXPORT WON'T STING PRICES HERE, NATION, THE STAR -4	JABATAN PERTANIAN MALAYSIA (DOA)
6.	NOT TO WORRY, PLENTY OF DURIANS KEPT FOR LOCAL LOVERS TO ENJOY, NATION, THE STAR -4	LAIN-LAIN
7.	M'SIANS HOPEFUL CHINA DEAL WILL NOT IMPACT PRICES, NATION, THE STAR -4	
8.	SUBSIDI TELUR DIALU-ALUKAN, TETAPI ISU LEBIH BESAR JUGA PERLU DIATASI, FORUM, UM -18	
9.	PETANI TANGGUNG RUGI PADI TERJEJAS AKIBAT TANAH LEMBUT, DALAM NEGERI, UM -31	
10.	MENIAGA LEMBU BAWA UNTUNG LEBIH, NEGARA, KOSMO -18	
11.	LAMBAKAN HAIWAN IMPORT JEJASKAN 40,000 PENTERNAK LEMBU, KAMBING, DALAM NEGERI, UM -30	
12.	BACHOK HAB LEMBU SADO DI MALAYSIA, BACHOK, SH -26	
13.	IKAN MATI KEPANASAN, PENTERNAK RUGI RM100,000, NASIONAL, SH -22	
14.	'KAMI PERLUKAN ENJIN DIESEL TAHAN LASAK, BERKUASA TINGGI', NASIONAL, SH -22	
15.	CUACA PANAS, HASIL DURIAN MENURUN LEBIH 40 PERATUS, KUBANG PASU, SH -27	
16.	AYUH DURIAN DAH LURUH!, LOKAL, HM -11	
17.	UPM EYES INDUSTRY-READY AGROPRENEURS, NEWS, NST -8	

UKK KPKM

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

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
26/6/2024	WILAYAHKU	ONLINE	

KPKM sasar 110,000 golongan petani terima BUDI Madani Agro-Komoditi



KEMENTERIAN Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan (KPKM) menyasarkan 110,000 golongan petani, pesawah, penternak dan pengusaha akuakultur di Semenanjung Malaysia akan berdaftar melalui Sistem Pendaftaran GeoAgro bagi melayakkan mereka menerima Skim BUDI Madani Agro-Komoditi.

Menterinya, **Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu** berkata berdasarkan rekod semasa, seramai 240 ribu kumpulan sasar sektor pertanian dijangka terkesan dengan penyasaran semula subsidi diesel.

“Bagi mengurangkan kecikiran dalam bantuan subsidi diesel bersasar, kerajaan menyediakan peruntukan khusus dengan memberikan bantuan tunai sebanyak RM200 sebulan melalui BUDI MADANI Agro-Komoditi kepada golongan petani, penternak dan pengusaha akuakultur yang layak.

“Bagi tujuan tersebut, individu atau pertubuhan perlu berdaftar dengan KPKM melalui Sistem Pendaftaran GeoAgro dan julat pendapatan kasar tahunan daripada nilai jualan hasil pertanian daripada RM50,000 hingga RM300,000 dijangka akan menerima bantuan tunai tertakluk kepada syarat-syarat yang ditetapkan,” katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika menjawab soalan Aminolhuda Hassan (PH-Sri Gading) di parlimen hari ini.

Jelas Mohamad, seramai 15,000 nelayan tidak terkesan dengan penyasaran semula subsidi diesel kerana kerajaan akan terus memberikan subsidi diesel pada harga RM1.65 seliter kepada kategori pemilik vesel perikanan Zon A, B dan C tertakluk kepada kuota yang ditetapkan.

Mohamad berkata bagi syarikat yang mempunyai kenderaan pengangkutan darat yang berdaftar seperti lori rigid hasil pertanian dan lori rigid kandang haiwan, pemilik boleh membuat permohonan *fleet card* melalui Sistem Kawalan Diesel Bersubsidi (SKDS) untuk mendapat harga subsidi diesel pada RM2.15.

“Kerajaan juga menyediakan peruntukan tambahan kepada pesawah susulan penyasaran semula subsidi diesel dengan menaikkan kadar insentif pembajakan daripada RM100 kepada RM160 per hektar per musim dan memperkenalkan insentif penuaian RM50 per hektar per musim.

“Dijangka seramai 110,000 pesawah akan menerima manfaat daripada insentif pembajakan dan penuaian,” katanya.

Tambah beliau, KPKM akan sentiasa mengadakan libat urus dengan kumpulan sasar untuk menambah baik pelaksanaan penyasaran subsidi diesel bagi memastikan tiada golongan yang tercicir. – **WILAYAHKU**

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
26/6/2024	SINAR HARIAN	ONLINE	

KPKM lahir 24,800 lepasan pelajar TVET pertanian



Arthur Joseph ketika sesi soal jawab Waktu Pertanyaan-Pertanyaan Menteri pada Persidangan Dewan Rakyat sempena Mesyuarat ke Dua Penggal Ke Tiga Parlimen ke 15 di Bangunan Parlimen pada Selasa. Foto Bernama

KUALA LUMPUR - Kementerian Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan (KPKM) berjaya melahirkan seramai 24,800 lepasan pelajar Pendidikan dan

Latihan Teknikal dan Vokasional (TVET) dalam bidang pertanian terlatih, setakat ini.

Timbalan Menteri berkenaan, Datuk Arthur Joseph Kurup berkata, trend kebolehpasaran lepasan TVET pertanian juga menunjukkan peningkatan pada tahun lepas iaitu 72.3 peratus berbanding 2022 dengan 69.5 peratus dan pada 2021 dengan hanya 66.3 peratus.

"Kalau kita lihat ke hadapan, ada lagi beberapa usaha yang dilaksanakan oleh KPKM untuk mendidik supaya memastikan lepasan pelatih TVET menjadi seorang usahawan.

"Pertama, kita ada Program Pembangunan Belia Tani Dalam Kalangan Siswazah (PROBEST) dan yang kedua pemberian Geran Agropreneur Muda kepada lepasan TVET pertanian yang berpotensi dan mahu memulakan perniagaan dalam sektor agropertanian makanan setelah tamat pengajian," katanya.

Beliau menjawab soalan tambahan Datuk Mohd Isam Mohd Isa (BN-Tampin) yang ingin tahun sejauh mana kebolehpasaran lepasan pelatih TVET pertanian untuk kini dan masa hadapan serta inisiatif kerajaan dalam memastikan pelatih dapat berdikari dan menjadi usahawan berjaya dalam sektor agromakanan.

Sementara itu, Arthur berkata, buah-buahan seperti durian dan nanas masing-masing mencapai Kadar Sara Diri (SSR) melebihi 100 peratus di Malaysia dan negara kini hanya memfokuskan kepada pasaran eksport bagi kedua-dua buah tersebut.

Selain itu, beliau berkata, negara juga berjaya mengeluarkan kepelbagaian bawang sendiri hasil kajian Institut Penyelidikan dan Kemajuan Pertanian Malaysia (MARDI), sekali gus mengurangkan kebergantungan negara kepada bawang import dan meningkatkan keterjaminan makanan negara.

"Kita sentiasa berusaha untuk meningkatkan lagi prestasi dan akreditasi pusat bertauliah di bawah KPKM untuk menarik lebih ramai belia menceburi bidang ini.

"Ia juga untuk memastikan kita mempunyai kursus yang sentiasa selari dengan teknologi dan inovasi moden bagi meningkatkan penyertaan belia sekali gus meningkatkan pengeluaran hasil makanan kita," katanya.

Beliau menjawab soalan tambahan Syed Saddiq Syed Abdul Rahman (MUDA-Muar) yang bertanyakan sama ada kerajaan mempunyai alternatif supaya negara tidak lagi mengimport barang makanan dengan harga terlalu tinggi dan kian meningkat saban tahun. - Bernama

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
26/6/2024	BERITA RTM	ONLINE	

KPKM rekod hampir 25,000 lepasan pelajar TVET dalam bidang pertanian



Datuk Arthur Joseph Kurup

KUALA LUMPUR, 25 Jun- Seramai 24,800 lepasan pelajar Pendidikan dan Latihan Teknikal dan Vokasional (TVET) dalam bidang pertanian terlatih, hasil bimbingan program kendalian Kementerian Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan (KPKM) direkodkan setakat ini.

Timbalan Menteri Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan Datuk Arthur Joseph Kurup memaklumkan, trend kebolehpasaran lepasan TVET pertanian juga mencatat peningkatan pada tahun lepas iaitu 72.3 peratus berbanding 2022 dengan 69.5 peratus dan pada 2021 dengan hanya 66.3 peratus.

"Tren kebolehpasaran TVET semakin meningkat kalau kita lihat pada 2023 ia telah meningkat kepada 72.3 peratus berbanding 2022 dengan 69.5 peratus dan tahun sebelum itu hanya 66.3 peratus.

"Sehingga kini KPKM telah berjaya mengeluarkan seramai 24,800 graduan TVET terlatih dalam bidang pertanian," katanya ketika menjawab soalan tambahan datipada Ahli Parlimen Tampin, Datuk Mohd Isam Mohd Isa di sini.

Tambahnya, beberapa program turut dirangka bagi memacu kebolehpasaran lepasan TVET dalam bidang pertanian.

Ia termasuk Program Pembangunan Belia Tani Dalam Kalangan Siswazah (PROBEST) dan pemberian Geran Agropreneur Muda kepada lepasan TVET pertanian yang ingin memulakan perniagaan dalam sektor agropertanian makanan setelah tamat pengajian.

Speedy process key to success of fresh durian exports

PETALING JAYA: Following the approval to export fresh durians to China, a leading industry player anticipated that the first shipment would reach China in about two months' time.

Malaysia Durian Exporters Association president Sam Tan said that more than 30 small and medium durian farmers and exporters have registered with the Agriculture and Food Security Ministry, expressing their interest to export.

"We are now going through the protocol and due diligence stage following the signing of the Phytosanitary Requirements Protocol for the Export of Fresh Durian from Malaysia to China.

"This time, the minimum requirement for exporters is to comply with Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) certification and Malaysian Food Safety System certification (MeSTI).

"It would be a bonus if they also have the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) certification from the Health Ministry.

"As long as the fresh durians are free from pests, holes and dirt, they can be sent to China," he said in an interview yesterday.

He noted that farmers with small-scale packaging facility can also apply to be included in the list of fresh durian exporters to China, while more operators are expected to sign up.

Tan said the ministry is expected to submit the list of exporters to China's Customs Administration in the coming weeks.

"We believe more than 100 operators will be a part of this group of inaugural exporters, but there is no limit on the number of participants," he said.

He said the ministry had, in the last week, issued updated procedures for businesses, involving pest control, preventing soil contact, and mandating only fresh durians for export, irrespective of whether they fell, were picked, underwent grading at the factory and were cleaned and dried.

"Primary beneficiaries of these fresh durians will be first-tier cit-

ies in China — Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Shenzhen.

"The people there have bigger spending power for premium durians and these cities have better logistic connectivity to receive the fresh fruits."

Tan, who is executive director of MAPC Sdn Bhd, a major durian supplier, noted that exporting durians that ripen on trees to China poses logistical challenges that require all agencies to fast-track clearance.

If these spiky and pungent fruits are not promptly cleared by Customs to reach consumers, the quality, taste and texture may be compromised, defeating the purpose of meticulously flying them fresh overseas, he said.

Due to its intense aroma, he said durians can only be transported via cargo flights, which are not available daily.

"This limitation requires significant coordination with the transport, Customs and agriculture departments to prevent delays that could spoil the durians.

"We need a multi-ministry task force to address any possible teething issues and ad-hoc problems related to transport and Customs clearance," he said.

While China imported about US\$6.7bil (RM31.54bil) worth of durians in 2023, Tan said Malaysia must increase government funding to support research and development and promotional efforts due to the vast potential market.

"The additional funding and increased promotion and R&D are crucial to educate consumers and stakeholders on the unique qualities of Malaysian durians."

Durian Manufacturer Association president Eric Chan also called for greater collaboration to establish a multi-ministry task force with standard operating procedures in place to prevent compromises in quality by capitalist players.

"Cooperation between the government and industry players is vital to streamline the process of exporting fresh durian," he said. Chan, who came from a family

of durian planters in Raub, Pahang, said China imports about 1.45 million tonnes of durian from various countries, including Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, and the Philippines.

"However, Malaysia only exports about 24,867 tonnes, accounting for less than 2% of China's total durian imports.

"Allowing fresh durian exports could potentially double or triple Malaysia's export volume, offering a significant opportunity in China's niche market."

Tan agreed that Malaysian farmers need to enhance their capabilities to meet the demand for fresh durian.

"Thailand is doing better in their R&D although their durians are priced cheaper. We need to keep up to maintain our premium status.

"We must also educate international consumers about our durians, like how to handle, open and taste it, why it is not necessarily round and sweet, and what the layers of flavours mean," he said.

26/6/2024

THE STAR

NATION

4

Reports by ALLISON LAI, NG ZI QIN and LO TERN CHERN

Export won't sting prices here

Industry players assure there is abundant supply for all

PETALING JAYA: Industry players here are confident that increased exports will not lead to price hikes for kampung durians, says president Eric Chan said. "Malaysia's durian production is more than what local consumers can consume."

He added that to balance export demands with local supply to ensure fair pricing for all consumers.

"When efforts to enhance durian production and explore new export opportunities are successful, more people will invest in durian planting."

Chan said that increased fruit supply and availability will impact the local durian market.

However, he noted it is responsibly to prevent price hikes that could hinder local producers.

"Malaysian durians are attracting Chinese nationals who travel to the country for durian tourism."

"This highlights the importance of durian in the relationship between export demands and local consumption," he said.

Association president Seng Tan said that looking ahead, any price hike would indicate an oversupply from increased durian production.

An antidumping investigation by the market should reflect leading to competitive pricing that will give farmers satisfaction.

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"I am willing to buy it at a high price," he said.

Executive also dismissed concerns about reduced availability of durians.

"China has been importing Malaysian durians for a long time and it will continue to do so."

"The export of fresh durian to China will not impact local prices in Malaysia," he said.

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.



A **tricky feast** five local durian eaters from China (from left) Yan Wu, Sun Yong, Zhang Yinyan, Gan and Lu Lian, enjoying durian at 801 Durian Stall, located opposite Shengji La near Seng Guan in Penang.

—UM BENO TAY/The Star

producers and consumers," he said.

Last year, in collaboration with the Marketing Authority, Tan said Malaysia exported about 1,000 tonnes of durian to China.

"This is where we need to have a more consistent supply of durian, indicating to meet market expectations and expand reach," he said.

He added that export opportunities for durian are increasing.

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

Not to worry, plenty of durians kept for local lovers to enjoy

BALIK PULAU: The recent surge in durian demand, fuelled by the growing appetite for the fruit, growing durian enthusiasts in Penang, in this durian season, will not affect the local market, said the local durian growers.

He added that to balance export demands with local supply to ensure fair pricing for all consumers.

"When efforts to enhance durian production and explore new export opportunities are successful, more people will invest in durian planting."

Chan said that increased fruit supply and availability will impact the local durian market.

However, he noted it is responsibly to prevent price hikes that could hinder local producers.

"Malaysian durians are attracting Chinese nationals who travel to the country for durian tourism."

"This highlights the importance of durian in the relationship between export demands and local consumption," he said.

Association president Seng Tan said that looking ahead, any price hike would indicate an oversupply from increased durian production.

An antidumping investigation by the market should reflect leading to competitive pricing that will give farmers satisfaction.

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

M'sians hopeful China deal will not impact prices

China will definitely affect prices of durian in Malaysia. The price of durian in Malaysia is high, and it is expected to rise further. However, local producers are confident that the local market will not be affected by the increase in exports to China.

He added that export opportunities for durian are increasing.

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."



Mixed reaction: (From left) Elaha will buy durian even if the price is high, says she is not willing to pay an exorbitant price.

—UM BENO TAY/The Star

producers and consumers," he said.

Last year, in collaboration with the Marketing Authority, Tan said Malaysia exported about 1,000 tonnes of durian to China.

"This is where we need to have a more consistent supply of durian, indicating to meet market expectations and expand reach," he said.

He added that export opportunities for durian are increasing.

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

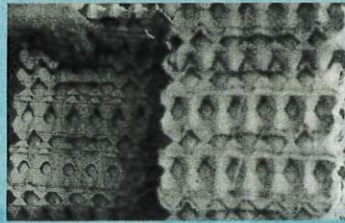
"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

"I don't think exporting fresh durians will impact local prices because durian prices are rising anyway."

"The quality of local durian fruit is high and it is a high-quality product," he said.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
26/6/2024	UTUSAN MALAYSIA	FORUM	18



PENTING untuk melabur dalam pengeluaran makanan tempatan bagi menstabilkan harga makanan.

Subsidi telur dialu-alukan, tetapi isu lebih besar juga perlu diatasi

SAUDARA PENGARANG,

INISIATIF kerajaan untuk memberikan subsidi harga telur perlu dilihat sebagai langkah sementara memandangkan subsidi dalam jangka panjang adalah tidak mampan.

Persatuan Pengguna Pulau Pinang (CAP) menyokong usaha menurunkan harga makanan tetapi menggesa kerajaan untuk menangani cabaran keterjaminan makanan yang sudah lama berlaku dengan lebih mendalam.

Rakyat Malaysia mengambil lebih 940 juta telur sebulan, menjadikan telur sebagai sumber protein yang penting dan berpatutan dengan kegunaan masakan yang pelbagai. Sementara subsidi lain juga perlu dilihat, CAP menentang subsidi bagi gula kerana kadar diabetes yang tinggi di Malaysia dan tertinggi di rantau Pasifik Barat selain antara yang tertinggi di peringkat global.

Purata pengambilan gula isi rumah dianggarkan sebanyak 2.6 kilogram (kg) sebulan, menyumbang dengan ketara kepada isu kesihatan. Penternak ayam dan itik sangat bergantung kepada makanan import, merupakan 70 peratus daripada jumlah kos menternak ayam.

Untuk menstabilkan harga makanan, adalah penting untuk melabur dalam pengeluaran makanan tempatan. Institusi pengajian tinggi (IPT) telah menjalankan penyelidikan yang meluas mengenai pengeluaran makanan haiwan yang kos efektif dan berkhasiat.

Ini boleh mengurangkan kebergantungan kepada import dan menyokong pertanian tempatan. Lebih-lebih lagi, penternak ayam dan itik perlu mempertimbangkan untuk mengurangkan pergantungan mereka terhadap ayam ternakan import dari Kesatuan Eropah (EU) dan Amerika Syarikat (AS).

Dengan penurunan harga telur, penting bagi peruncit untuk mematuhi harga yang diluluskan. Pengguna juga boleh melaporkan peruncit yang tidak patuh kepada Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Kos Sara Hidup.

Kerajaan mesti menangani cabaran keterjaminan makanan yang telah lama wujud dengan lebih mendalam. Oleh sebab itu, Malaysia perlu segera memulihkan sektor pertaniannya untuk memastikan keterjaminan makanan bagi negara.

MOHIDEEN ABDUL KADER
Presiden Persatuan Pengguna Pulau Pinang (CAP)

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
26/6/2024	UTUSAN MALAYSIA	DALAM NEGERI	31

Petani tanggung rugi padi terjejas akibat tanah lembut



PESAWAH meninjau keadaan tanah sawah yang rosak akibat jentera pemotong padi terbenam di Sungai Manik, Pasir Salak, Perak. - UTUSAN/AIN SAFRE BIDIN

PASIR SALAK: Pesawah di daerah ini mengalami kerugian kerana tanaman padi tidak dapat dituai mengikut masa ditetapkan kerana jentera tidak dapat ke sawah akibat tanah lembut atau jerlus.

Keadaan itu menyebabkan mesin pemotong padi terbenam dalam tanah selat dan sering kali jentera pemotong mengalami kerosakan.

Ketua unit kawasan sawah di Kampung Sungai Manik Kiri, Malik Faisal Ahmad berkata, tanah sawah menjadi lembut dan jerlus akibat cuaca tidak menentu terutama hujan lebat yang menyebabkan air bertakung dalam sawah ketika padi mula hendak dituai.

Menurutnya, ada jentera pemotong cuba memasuki kawasan sawah, namun akhirnya terbenam.

“Sebelum ini tidak pernah berlaku masalah ini, namun kali ini pesawah menghadapi masalah kerana tanah lembut menyebabkan mesin pemotong terbenam.

“Apabila sudah terbenam, sukar untuk membawa keluar jentera selain sering kali juga jentera yang terbenam mengalami kerosakan. Jentera yang terbenam juga menyebabkan kerosakan pada tanah sawah.

“Banyak kawasan di sini yang padinya lewat dituai menyebabkan rosak sekali gus mendapatkan pesawah merosot,” katanya.

Meniaga lembu bawa untung lebih

MARANG – Seorang bekas penyelia projek berpuas hati apabila tindakannya berhenti kerja sejak enam tahun lalu berbaloi apabila dia kini mempunyai 43 ekor lembu yang membawa pendapatan lumayan buat dirinya sekeluarga.

Aiman Asyraf Kamarudin, 33, berkata, dia tidak menyangka lima ekor lembunya yang dibela pada permulaannya hasil modal yang disumbang ahli keluarga kini berkembang biak.

Katanya, dia terus menceburi penternakan lembu fidlot pada 2018 selepas berhenti sebagai penyelia projek di sebuah syarikat swasta di Kuantan, Pahang.

“Salah satu sebab ialah saya menyahut seruan kerajaan untuk meningkatkan bekalan daging lembu domestik yang ketika itu cuma 30 peratus.

“Lembu yang ditenak adalah daripada baka brahman, charolais dan limousine. Haiwan itu semua diberi makan

jagung, silaj, rumput segar dan pallet,” katanya ketika ditemui di Kampung Tok Fakir, Merchang di sini semalam.

Menurut Aiman Asyraf, dia menjaga pemakanan lembu untuk memastikan ternakan itu menghasilkan daging yang berkualiti tinggi.

Tambahnya, pelanggan berpuas hati dengan lembu dibekalkan dan suka dengan tekstur daging yang kurang lemak, padat dan lebih lembut.

“Saya namakan ladang ini sebagai Aiden Cattle Farm yang kini mempunyai tiga pekerja yang membantu memberi makan lembu dan membersihkan kandang secara berkala,” katanya yang merupakan calon penternak jaya Marang.

Ujar Aiman, ladang ternakannya dipilih sebagai kandang bimbingan oleh jabatan veterinar yang membolehkannya menerima khidmat nasihat, pemantauan perkembangan ternakan dan bantuan.



AIMAN ASYRAF memberi makan kepada sebahagian lembu peliharaannya di Kampung Tok Fakir, Merchang, Marang semalam.

Lambakan haiwan import jejasakan 40,000 penternak lembu, kambing

Oleh **DIANA SURYA ABD WAHAB**
utusannews@medianulla.com.my

KUANTAN: Kira-kira 40,000 penternak lembu dan kambing tempatan di seluruh negara terjejas dan berdepan risiko gulgung tikar ekoran lambakan haiwan berkenaan dari Thailand yang seolah-olah tiada penyelesaian sejak 2016.

Seorang penternak, Mohd. Razi Hassan, 43, berkata, harga lembu dan kambing Thailand tidak masuk akal dan mereka yang mengusahakannya mampu mengaut keuntungan berlipat kali ganda sehingga boleh menjadi 'tauke' segera.

"Penawaran harga lembu dan kambing Siam ini kadangkala dilihat seperti tidak masuk akal kerana mereka jual jauh lebih murah iaitu sekitar RM1,700 hingga RM2,500 bagi seekor lembu manakala RM300 hingga RM500 bagi kambing.

"Pembeli sememangnya berusaha mendapatkan lembu dan kambing jauh lebih murah dengan mandangkan haiwan ternakan tempatan harga yang ditawarkan sedikit mahal kerana bukan sahaja penternak sehingga dua tahun, malah menggunakan dedak dan diet yang berkualiti. "Bagi penternak tempatan, kita jual ikut saiz, matang dan



GOLONGAN penternak terjejas ekoran lambakan lembu dan kambing dari Thailand yang dijual murah berbanding lembu serta kambing tempatan. - UTUSAN/SHAIKH AHMAD RAZIF

memang sudah sesuai untuk urusan ibadah korban serta aqiqah yang mana harga lembu di antara RM4,000 hingga RM5,500. Kambing pula purata harga sekitar RM700 hingga RM1,200 juga bergantung kepada saiz," katanya kepada *Utusan Malaysia* di sini semalam.

Mohd. Razi berkata, untuk berdepan persaingan lembu dan kambing Thailand khususnya

berkurangan dan harga lembu dari Australia yang semakin meningkat tinggi.

"Kesan lambakan tersebut membuatkan penternak tempatan terpaksa berusaha keras khususnya dalam urusan permintaan serta penawaran haiwan tempatan.

"Masalah ini kalau tidak dibendung di peringkat penguatkuasaan terutama di sempadan dan ladang-ladang berhampiran sempadan memang tidak selesai. Penternak bila-bila masa sahaja boleh gulgung tikar dan sememangnya sudah ramai pun yang terpaksa bertindak demikian," katanya.

Tambah beliau, kebanyakan lembu dan kambing dari Thailand merupakan haiwan yang sebelumnya diimport dari Myanmar.

Menurutnya, perkara yang menjadi kebimbangan adalah kurangnya penguatkuasaan di sempadan menyebabkan haiwan-haiwan tersebut terlepas masuk ke negara ini tanpa melakukan saringan.

"Dengan kuantiti terlalu banyak dan cara yang mudah untuk dibawa masuk, menjadikan penjualannya juga jauh lebih murah berbanding haiwan ternakan tempatan yang ditemak dengan cara terkawal serta baik," katanya.

Bachok hab lembu sado di Malaysia

Miliki bentuk badan besar, berotot cecah berat satu tan

Oleh HAZELN LIANA
KAMARUDIN
BACHOK

Kesungguhan dan keghairahan penduduk di jajahan ini mengusahakan ternakan lembu sado secara serius menjadikan Bachok sebagai hab pengeluaran haiwan itu di Malaysia. Lembu sado dari Bachok dikatakan antara baka terbaik dengan bentuk badannya yang besar dan otot berganda sehingga boleh mencecah berat satu tan.

Situasi itu dapat dilihat apabila terdapat lebih 60 penternak dalam kalangan anak muda yang memelihara lembu sado.

Seorang penternak, Mohd Zulkifli Ali, 39, dari Kampung Panjang, Perupok di sini berkata, kerja-kerja memelihara dan membela lembu sado mulai po-

pular dalam kalangan penternak di Bachok sejak 20 tahun lalu.

"Saya sendiri tidak pernah terfikir akan menjadi penternak tetapi apabila melihat orang sekeliling memelihara lembu sado, minat itu hadir.

"Alhamdulillah, setakat hari ini saya telah memiliki sebuah ladang yang menempatkan 70 ekor lembu sado. Ladang ini sering dikunjungi ramai bagi mendapatkan baka lembu tersebut," katanya ketika ditemui di sini pada Selasa.

Menurutnya, lembu sado yang dimiliki mencecah harga bermula RM10,000 hingga RM30,000 bergantung kepada jenis dan berat.

Ujarnya, setiap kali menjelang Aidiladha, dia tidak menangan melayan permintaan pelanggan yang datang dari seluruh negara.

Mohd Zulkifli berkata, antara faktor utama ia menjadi pilihan untuk korban kerana ramal yang mengatakan daging lembu sado lebih enak dan lembut berbanding yang biasa.

"Malah, setiap bahagian yang dibayar mereka akan memperoleh sekitar 600 hingga 700 kilogram daging," katanya yang menjadi penternak sejak empat tahun lalu.

Dijual sehingga
RM30,000 seekor

Sementara itu, Mohd Nasrul Hakimi Mohd Noor, 36, yang memiliki 30 ekor lembu sado berkata, lokasi Bachok yang berhampiran laut menyebabkan rumput yang ditanam dipercayai mengandungi tinggi mine-



Mohd Zulkifli dari Kampung Panjang, Perupok, Bachok bersama sebahagian lembu sado miliknya.

ral, sekali gus membantu lembu sado cepat membesar dan gemuk.

"Disebabkan itu, kalau ditanya kepada peminat lembu ini mereka akan memilih lembu sado dari Bachok berbanding tempat lain kerana lebih sasa," katanya.

Menurutnya, lembu sado miliknya dijual pada harga sekitar RM20,000 hingga RM30,000.

"Selain dagingnya dimakan, lembu sado banyak digunakan bagi tujuan pertandingan," katanya.

Bagi peminat lembu sado, Zulkifli Yaakob, 55, pula mengaku baka dari Bachok adalah yang terbaik, bukan sahaja di Malaysia, malah setanding di peringkat dunia.

Katanya, lembu sado dari baka *Limousine* miliknya pernah merakam sejarah dalam dunia penternakan di negara ini pada tahun 2020 apabila meraih tempat ketiga dalam pertandingan *Limousine-Champion of The World Category Asia/Africa* yang

diadakan di Perancis.

Zulkifli yang hampir 10 tahun terlibat dalam ternakan lembu sado berkata, kejayaan lembu yang diberi nama *Jogho* itu disifatkan sebagai salah satu bentuk pengiktirafan tertinggi buat penternak lembu sado di negara ini khususnya di Bachok.

"Namun, minat tersebut ter-

paksa dihentikan sementara waktu kerana faktor harga dedak terlampau mahal.

"Bela lembu sado tidak boleh bergantung kepada rumput semata-mata.

"Jadi, saya terpaksa menyembelih dan menjual semua lembu sado yang ada kerana faktor kos tinggi," katanya.



Selain dagingnya dimakan, lembu sado kerap digunakan untuk tujuan pertandingan.



30 ekor lembu sado di Perupok, Bachok.



Menurut Mohd Nasrul Hakimi, lembu sado miliknya dijual pada harga sekitar RM20,000 hingga RM30,000 seekor.

Musim kemarau di Kelantan sejak awal Mac lalu banyak memberi kesan terhadap penternak ikan air tawar dalam sangkar di tali air sehingga mereka mengalami kerugian mencecah ratusan ribu ringgit.

Pelbagai usaha dilakukan bagi mengurangkan masalah itu berikutan tali air yang mengering namun keadaan menjadi lebih sukar kerana kekangan kewangan selain keadaan cuaca panas yang berlarutan.

Walaupun keadaan serba kekurangan, penternak terbabit melakukan pelbagai usaha bagi mengurangkan jumlah kematian ikan.

Wartawan *Sinar Harian*, Aswany Omar bertemu penternak ikan air tawar di Kampung Padang Durian, Kota Bharu bagi mendengar masalah yang tidak berkesudahan itu.

Ikan mati kepanasan, penternak rugi RM100,000



DZILALKHAIRI



MOHAMAD AMIRUL

lebih lebih RM10,000.

"Kami mengambil keputusan membina telaga tiub dari sawah bersebelahan tali air, ihsan penduduk setempat yang membenarkan tanahnya digunakan," kata Wan Jusoh.

Jelasnya, mereka menggunakan enjin untuk mengepam air dari telaga tiub ke tali air melalui saluran paip sepanjang 50 meter bagi mengairi tali air tersebut.

"Saya baru sahaja melepaskan kira-kira 50,000 benih patin dan berharap air tidak kering. Saya juga harap percubaan ini berjaya kerana ini merupakan punca rezeki utama kami," katanya.

Sementara itu Sulaiman Ismail, 37, pula terpaksa berusaha keras memastikan air dari telaga tiub itu sentiasa mengalir kerana ternakan ikan air tawar tersebut merupakan sumber pendapatan tetapnya.

Sebelum ini katanya, lebih 15,000 ikan yang ditenaknya mati akibat kekurangan air selain terdapat beberapa sangkar yang airnya berubah menjadi hitam.

"Saya terpaksa mencari sumber air lain bagi membolehkan patin ditenak terus terus hidup namun malangnya separuh daripada ikan ini tidak dapat diselamatkan," katanya.

Justeru, Sulaiman berharap ada pihak yang dapat mem-



Penternak ikan air tawar Kampung Padang Durian menunjukkan paip sepanjang 50 meter yang digunakan untuk mengepam air dari telaga tiub ke tali air.

bantu mereka bagi mendapatkan alat mengepam air yang lebih tahan lasak.

"Selain itu, pukuk juga adalah antara peralatan penting yang diperlukan dan semuanya melibatkan kos yang tinggi.

"Ada penternak ikan yang tidak mampu tetapi mereka perlu melakukannya untuk menyelamatkan ikan yang ditenak," katanya.

Seorang lagi penternak Dzilalkhairi Mohd Nor, 42, yang menternak kira-kira 50,000 patin juga berhadapan dengan situasi yang sama.

"Kami anggap semua ini cabaran tetapi perlu juga berusaha untuk memastikan benih ikan dilepaskan dapat dijual dalam tempoh beberapa bulan lagi.

"Mujur ada penduduk yang memberi kerjasama membenarkan telaga tiub dibina di atas tanah mereka," katanya.



Bagi, Mohamad Amirul Ismail, 30, dia turut mengalami kerugian sebanyak RM12,000 selepas ikan dipelihara mati kerana air terlalu panas dan cetek.

"Ikan masih kecil dan tidak boleh dijual. Jadi kami terpaksa tanam bimbang kawasan sekitar sangkar berbau busuk," katanya.

LEBIH 30 penternak ikan dari Kampung Padang Durian terpaksa membina telaga tiub supaya dapat menampung bekalan air ke dalam tali air yang menempatkan sangkar ikan patin dan keli yang diusahakan mereka.

Beberapa wakil penternak yang ditemui di lokasi ternakan baru-baru ini mendakwa, sebelum ini mereka kerugian lebih RM100,000 berikutan ikan yang ditenak dalam lebih 40 sangkar mati dan tidak sempat dijual kerana tali air tersebut mengalami kekeringan berikutan musim kemarau yang berlaku.

Penternak Wan Jusoh Wan Safie, 58, berkata, mereka mula membina telaga tiub sedalam lebih 30 meter sejak awal Ramadan lalu selepas ikan yang ditenak mati akibat air kering dan tanah merekah.

Menurutnya, sebanyak 35,000 ekor patin mati sepanjang Ramadan lalu sehingga menyebabkan dia menanggung rugi



'Kami perlukan enjin diesel tahan lasak, berkuasa tinggi'



NIK HASSAN

PENGERUSI Penternak Ikan Air Tawar Kampung Padang Durian dan Kampung Bilok Banggu, Nik Hassan Raja Abdullah bersetuju dengan cadangan penternak supaya enjin diesel berkuasa tinggi dipasang bagi membolehkan air dapat disalurkan dengan cepat.

Bagaimanapun katanya, pemasangan enjin tersebut mahal kerana mampu bertahan lama dan tidak mudah rosak.

"Buat masa ini, penternak ikan

air tawar terbabit telah mengeluarkan duit mereka sendiri untuk menyedut air dari telaga tiub sebelum ia dialirkan masuk ke dalam tali air.

"Sementara enjin mengepam dengan kuasa minyak petrol bernilai RM7,000 telah digunakan untuk menyedut air dari telaga tiub itu.

"Namun penggunaan enjin ini dibimbangi tidak dapat bertahan lama dan boleh rosak pada bila-bila masa kerana ia digunakan secara

berterusan setiap hari," katanya kepada *Sinar Harian*.

Dalam pada itu, Nik Hassan memberitahu, inisiatif yang dibuat oleh penternak di kampung tersebut membolehkan ikan peliharaan mereka dapat bertahan dalam musim kemarau yang semakin membimbangkan.

Menurutnya, lebih 90 ahli komuniti tersebut itu kini sudah mengalami kerugian kira-kira RM100,000 disebabkan kejadian

tersebut.

Bagaimanapun, dengan kaedah yang dilaksanakan itu, mereka mampu meningkatkan bilangan air ke dalam tali air sepanjang dua kilometer untuk penternakan ikan patin dan keli.

"Tangkai pengepam ini membolehkan penternak ikan mengepam air sehingga 40 meter dalam supaya air dapat ditakung di tali air yang sedang mengering," katanya.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
26/6/2024	SINAR HARIAN	KUBANG PASU	27

Cuaca panas, hasil durian menurun lebih 40 peratus

KUBANG PASU - Cuaca panas melampau yang melanda negara pada awal tahun ini memberi kesan kepada pengeluaran hasil durian.

Pengurus Dusun Durian Teratak Chu Tiah, Ahmad Luqman Hakim Nor Azlan, 34 berkata, hasil durian daripada 5,000 pokok yang diusahakan di dusun sekitar Changlun itu menurun lebih 40 peratus.

Katanya, walaupun menyediakan sumber air yang cukup untuk pengairan tanaman namun cuaca yang terlampau panas memberi kesan kepada penghasilan bunga durian.

"Rata-rata kita tengok di Kedah ini, hasil durian menurun sebab cuaca. Dulu bunga jadi banyak tapi sekarang cuaca panas sangat 38-40 darjah Celsius bunga pun kering.

"Kita siram juga pokok, tapi nak buat macam mana tak ada rezeki," katanya ketika ditemui di dusunnya di Kampung Sungai Kechil, Changlun di sini pada Selasa.

Menurutnya, sebelum ini dusun yang diusahakan bersama bapanya Nor Azlan Jan, 63, itu mampu mengeluarkan buah kira-kira 1,000 biji sehari.

"Tetapi musim ini paling banyak pun 600 biji sahaja sehari, sebab itu kali ini kita tak buka slot makan dalam dusun bimbang tak dapat tampung permintaan," katanya.

Jelasnya, musim durian di dusunnya pada tahun ini lebih pendek iaitu dalam tempoh sebulan sahaja.

Dalam pada itu, Ahmad Luqman Hakim berkata, dusun mereka yang ke-



Ahmad Luqman memeriksa durian duri hitam di dusunnya di Kampung Sungai Kechil, Changlun pada Selasa.

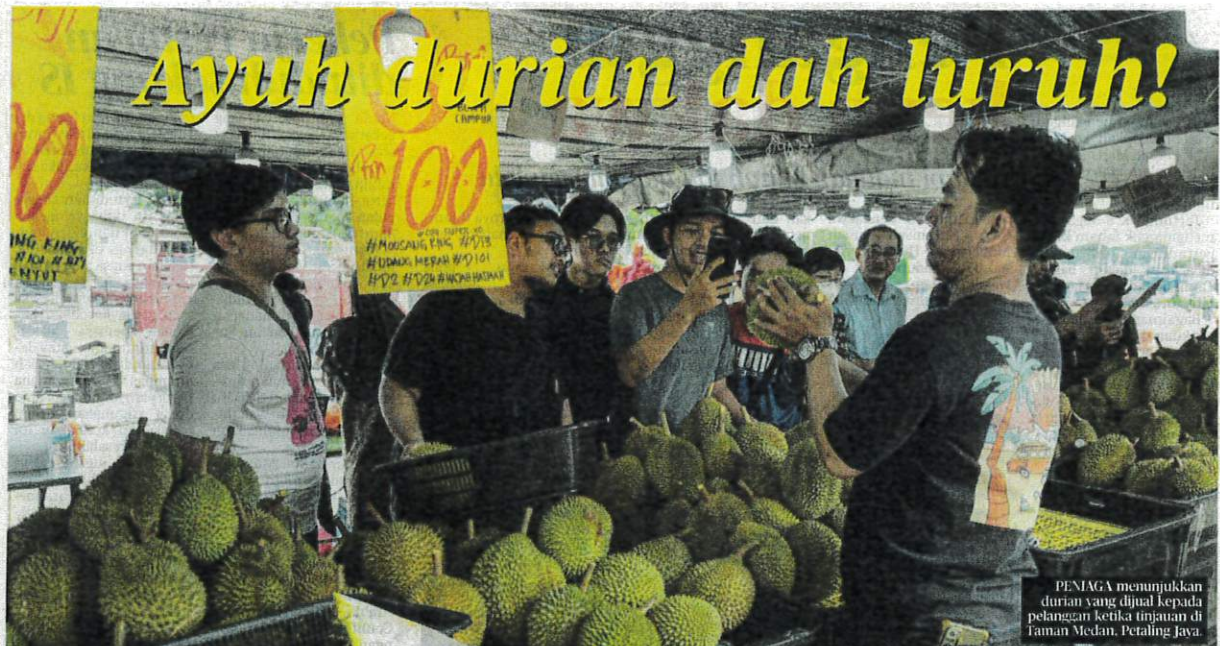
seluruhannya berkeluasan kira-kira 23 hektar itu menawarkan pelbagai jenis duri-an 'kayangan'.

"Di dusun kita ini, separuh daripadanya adalah pokok durian jenis duri hitam, kemudian musang king dan selebihnya udang merah, horlor, D28, dan D101.

"Jadi setiap tahun kita memang sudah ada pelanggan tetap yang merupakan penggemar durian kayangan. Lagipun harga yang kita tawarkan lebih murah kerana terus dari dusun," katanya.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
26/6/2024	HARIAN METRO	LOKAL	11

Ayuh durian dah luruh!



PENIAGA menunjukkan durian yang dijual kepada pelanggan ketika tinjauan di Taman Medan, Peraling Jaya.



DURIAN jenis Musang king dengan isi yang kekuningan di Kampung Lakai, Jekebu, Negeri Sembilan. Dengan permintaan dan pulangan tinggi untuk eksport durian, pengusaha tempatan berpeluang meraih pendapatan tambahan.



PEKERJA memasang jaring untuk mengelak durian terjatuh di tanah yang boleh menjejaskan kualiti buah ketika tinjauan di ladang durian di Jekebu, Negeri Sembilan.



AHMAD Man memungut durian kampung yang luruh di dusunnya untuk dijual kepada perahi di Kampung Jelutong, Padang Terap, Kedah. - Gambar NSTP WANNABIL NASIR

ROSYAM Atek (kiri) bersama Baharuddin Alias (kanan) membawa bakul berisi durian untuk dijual kepada pelanggan di Sungai Lepok, Hulu Langat.

STRUCTURED BLUEPRINT

UPM eyes industry-ready agropreneurs

SERDANG: Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) has designed a blueprint to develop skilled agropreneurs capable of facing challenges in the food security sector.

Its Food Security chair, Professor Datin Dr Fatimah Mohamed Arshad, said the blueprint was a combination of a structured framework and forward-looking achievement strategies.

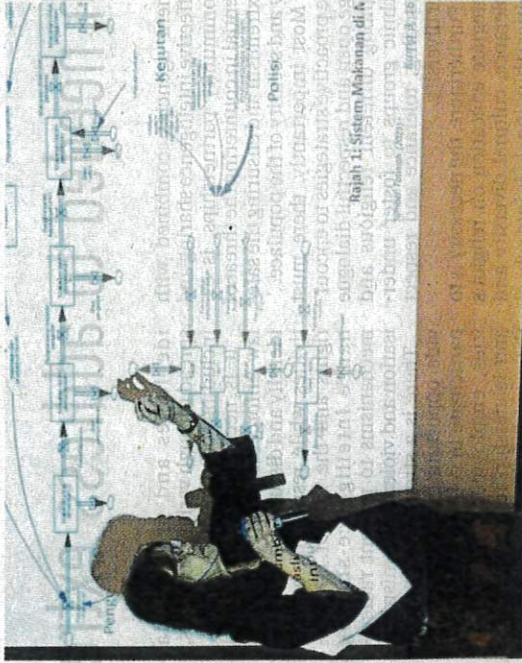
She said the current changes in weather, global conflicts, disruptive technology, changing population dynamics and the wide gap between the rich and the poor made food security important.

"One possible solution is to build an integrated ecosystem that can achieve our outlined goals."

"The ecosystem needs to be robust and integrative, especially in terms of technology transfer to the community and be engaging with our stakeholders, which include policymakers, industries, consumers, fishermen, livestock breeders and farmers."

She said the country's lack of focus on the farming sector was unfortunate, given that Malaysia was rich in natural resources for the production of vegetables, fruits, rice, livestock and fisheries.

"We are not like other countries as our soil is very fertile if treated



Universiti Putra Malaysia Food Security chair Professor Datin Dr Fatimah Mohamed Arshad presenting the blueprint, which takes into account the future global challenges and the need to address local food insecurities. PIC COURTESY OF UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

properly. It's as if you throw a seed anywhere, and it can easily grow.

"Additionally, we are blessed with sunlight, humidity, water, fishery resources, biodiversity and adequate land. We have all the crucial elements needed to produce enough food for the country."

She said the blueprint, designed to meet current demands, had the potential to produce agropreneurs who are well-equipped in sustainable and smart farming technologies.

"We have outlined three main leaps, one of which is the 'Achieve-

ment Leap', encompassing the excellence of graduates and agricultural entrepreneurs, the usability of technology and innovation, and the empowerment of the farming community.

"The first leap is the 'Core Leap', which covers academic excellence, research and innovation impact, as well as community and industry engagement."

"The second leap is the 'Enabling Leap', which includes governance efficiency, financial sustainability, talent availability, infrastructure sophistication, global collaboration and networking, and strategic communication."

"To drive this leap, we target impactful results in four aspects: better production, improved nutritional quality, enhanced environmental quality, and improved quality of life."

Fatimah said UPM's blueprint was more structured and futuristic, taking into account the future global challenges and the need to address local food insecurities, such as poor nutrition, which leads to the problem of stunting and vulnerability of supply due to shocks and climate challenges.

"We have involved various stakeholders, including relevant faculties, academic and non-academic

staff, government agencies, the private sector and farmers, to implement the blueprint."

Previously, UPM held two conferences with stakeholders during the National Food Security Conference and the Community Farming Conference, last year.

The two conferences engaged stakeholders in intensive discussions on national food security issues, providing up-to-date input on current and future food requirements.

Fatimah hoped that with the blueprint, the university could generate well-trained human capital and agropreneurs to function as leaders in sustainable and high-tech agriculture — crucial to energise the local food sector to fulfil local demand as well as exports.

"These students will receive practical training in the field so they can enter the industry independently."

"This will make them leading innovative agropreneurs in technology and climate smart agriculture in the near future."

She said they had identified various disciplines and research areas to achieve better production, nutrition, environment and life in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.