

Agrofarm Project at Kg. Sabandil, Papar A Roadmap in the Quest for Sustainability

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The School of Sustainable Agriculture (SSA) has been involved in an agro farm venture between UMS Link holdings Sdn Bhd and Dzuliska Sdn Bhd. The proposed project is to be located on two adjacent plots of land (~7.8 hectares) bisected by a main road. Staff and students of SSA have visited to the site by to briefly assess how best to make use of the land.

A PERSPECTIVE

Threats & Weaknesses

- Floods and Poor drainage
- Diseases & Pest
- Problem soils
- Diseconomies of Scale for mono-cropping of perennial crops
- Marketing & Promotion



Strengths & Opportunities

- Agro-tourism and promotion by the Ministry of Tourism
- High value and hi-tech sheltered cropping
- Aquaculture using existing ponds
- Recreational Fishing
- Livestock production
- Floating beds crop production
- Agriculture research & teaching
- Employment & business opportunities to the local community
- Relatively proximal to Kota Kinabalu
- Serene and Natural Surroundings

The perceived threats and weaknesses, are far outweighed by the opportunities and strengths. Diversity is the key to success through optimal utilisation of the limited space. This diversity should embrace high value cropping, aquaculture, agro-tourism, livestock production as well as growing pockets/parcels of various crops and food crops landscaping for agro-tourism purposes. The diseconomies of scale that may arise from extensive perennial mono-cropping is a cause for concern in terms of sustainability.

