

## UMS Researchers Produce Biofertiliser From Oil Palm Fibres

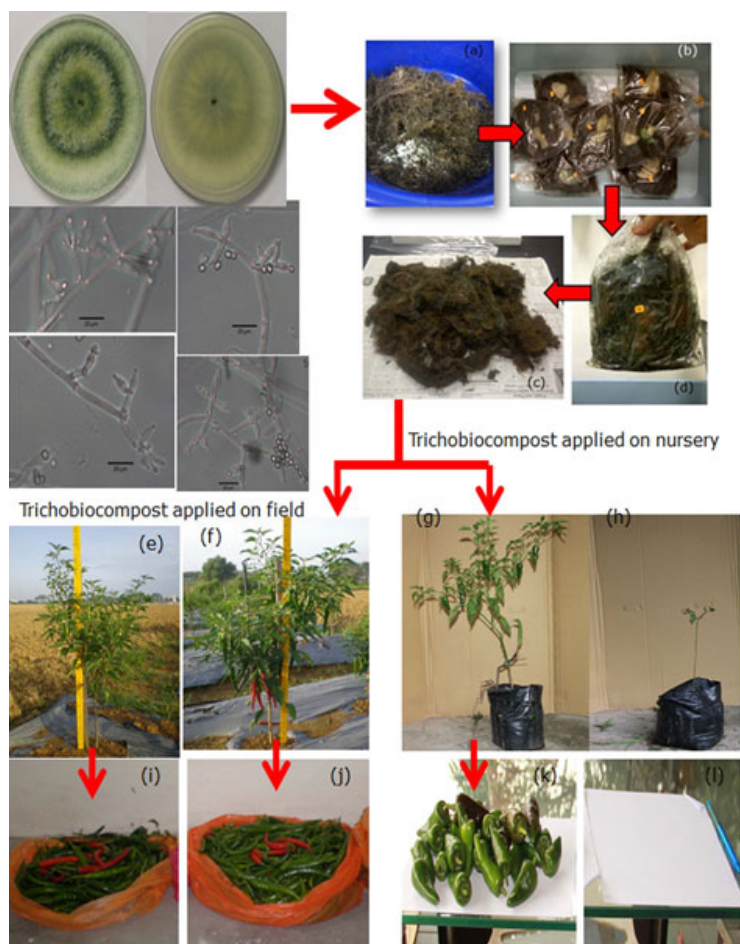
Published: Monday, 19 August 2013 16:25 | [Print](#) | Hits: 2286

Tweet

Share

G+ Share

0



**MONDAY, 19 AUGUST** – Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) through the Microbiology Research Group Biotechnology Research Institute has successfully produced a bio compost from the oil palm fibres especially empty fruit bunches (EFB) of oil palm in 40 days.

The research using a specific-strain of Trichoderma in composting oil palm wastes into biofertiliser has been produced by Senior Lecturer Dr. Md Shafiquzzaman Siddiquee and Masters student Nur Shafawati Sali.

Dr. Md Shafiquzzaman said the method has many advantages compared to powder based products presently available in the market.

“Trichoderma has bio control agents that can kill or suppress the growth of fungal diseases in crops. It can also improve soil fertility and increase yield,” he said when met by UMS reporter.

According to him the research acts as an effort to reduce oil palm industrial wastes which adds to environmental damage and ecosystem degradation which will affect the health of the community.

“Thus, the UMS Microbiology Research Group is looking for local companies who are interested in this development of composting process for commercialisation in large scale application on agricultural crops,” he further added. -FL

By Salbinous Saribun

Chancellery Department