

UMS SPOR Receives Funds For Palm Oil Related Research

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FRIDAY, 28 NOVEMBER – Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) through the Unit for Sustainable Palm Oil Research (SPOR) received funding of RM153,200 to conduct research into the effectiveness of organic acids in Ganoderma Boninense, a type of fungus that causes the Basel Stem Rot (BSR) disease on palm trees.

The funds donated by two companies pioneering in the local palm oil industry, Kam Cheong Plantations Sdn Bhd and Agri-Biotech Marketing Sdn Bhd at a ceremony to sign a letter of intent with UMS in Biotechnology Research Institute Auditorium.

UMS Registrar, Datuk Abdullah Mohd Said representing UMS signed the letter of intent with the two companies, while Kam Cheong Plantation represented by its director, Cheong Sun Yan and Agri-Biotech Marketing represented by its director, Lawrence Ang.

Earlier, Datuk Abdullah who represented the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd Harun Abdullah said BSR disease spreads on palm trees in the Southeast Asia had resulted in a loss of nearly USD500 million in a year in Malaysia.

“Thus, SPOR’s proactive efforts to cooperate with the oil palm industry players in finding ways to address the issues and current issues are very important and beneficial to the industry,” he said. – *MA (fl)*

Photo: Ernest Berinus

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