MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF SOIL SCIENCE(MSSS)

NEWSLETTER Issue 2, 2020

Message by the MSSS President

Year 2020, Malaysian Society of Soil Science celebrates its 49th year as a professional body representing the interest and aspirations of the soil scientists in Malaysia. However, this year, we face the challenges that COVID19 has placed upon us. Nevertheless, I hope that this challenge should not stop us from supporting International Union of Soil Science (IUSS) initiatives to raise awareness of the importance of soil quality for human well-being, food security and ecosystems and to highlight soil's importance on Earth. SOILS2020 had just been concluded and on behalf of MSSS, I wish to convey our heartfelt thanks to Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) for giving excellent support and contribution as the co-organizer of SOILS2020. The success of this conference owed to their hard work, efforts and commitments with the conference theme '*Soil Management towards Plant Productivity and Environmental Sustainability*'.

In December 2013, the 68th session of the United Nation General Assembly declared 5 December as the World Soil Day. For the year 2020, the theme for World Soil Day is 'Keep soil alive, Protect soil biodiversity'. It is aimed at raising awareness of the importance of maintaining healthy ecosystems and human wellbeing by fighting soil biodiversity loss and encouraging governments, organizations, communities, and individuals around the world to commit to proactively improving soil health. Thus, MSSS as part of the global soil scientist network, should increase the momentum and extent of our contributions on these issues At MSSS level, we actively support IUSS initiatives to reach out to the public through webinars and tree planting programmes.

Malaysian Society of Soil Science is aware of the tremendous efforts made, and the large investment in funds and scientific effort by every sector involved in conserving our soil resources. MSSS is happy to note that we still have many active soil experts whom are willing to share their knowledge and expertise even though they are passing government retirement age. The MSSS management committee has initiated a membership drive to attract many young scientists to become active society members. This is crucial for the sustainability of MSSS.

In year 2021, the Malaysian Society of Soil Science is celebrating its 50th year of existence. I would like to inform that MSSS gained the majority vote to host the next conference, the 15th International Conference of ESAFS2021 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It will be tentatively held on November 15-19 2021 at Hotel Istana Kuala Lumpur. I urge members to contribute articles and share their soil science work experience with others in the society through the MSSS Newsletter.I look forward for great and active participation from MSSS members. I also welcome ideas from members and together we promote wise use of soil resources.

Soil is Life

DR. ROSAZLIN ABDULLAH
President MSSS 2020/2021

Soil Science Conference of Malaysia 2020 (SOILS 2020)

Soil Science Conference of Malaysia 2020 (SOILS 2020) was held on 6 - 8 October at Holiday Villa, Johor Bahru in Johor. The event was successfully organised by the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) and the Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS) with the support of the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS). The conference was officiated by the Chief Minister of Johor, YAB Datuk Ir Hasni Mohammad. Datuk Hasni also launched two books written by FRIM Scientists, entitled "Correlation of Soil Types and Tree Species Distribution for Peninsular Malaysia" and "Life Journey of Rengam Under the Feet". The former provides a good guide for tree species selection based on soil suitability of a particular site while the latter, is a book for children about the effects of human activities on soil.

Opening speech by YAB Datuk Ir. Hasni Mohammad

President MSSS, Dr. Rosazlin Abdullah and Chairperson SOILS 2020, ChM. Rozita Ahmad with the best oral and best poster presenters

The conference themed "Soil Management towards Plant Productivity and Environmental Sustainability" had gathered more than 110 participants and invited speakers comprising experts, researchers and entrepreneurs from Malaysia as well as from Japan, Fiji and Indonesia who joined through online channel and video presentations. The scientific programme of SOILS 2020 comprised six sessions as follows: soil in greater landscape and forests, soil fertility and health, soils in the Anthropocene, soil biodiversity and ecology, soil bioremediation and environment and soil management in plantations.

The conference had two keynote papers delivered by Professor Dr Takashi Kosaki, IUSS President, as well as Professor Dr Shinya Funakawa, a member of the East and Southeast Asia Federation of Soil Science Societies (ESAFS). Two plenary papers were presented by MARDI, Dr Wan Abdullah Wan Yusoff, a Senior Researcher and Xaviar Arulandoo, an agronomist consultant. There were altogether 21 oral presentations and 58 posters as well an exhibition of products, services and latest technologies by 13 companies. Oral presentations were carried in three different modes which were oral, video and

live conferencing. Video and live conferencing were conducted by international speakers and local presenters from Sabah and Sarawak. Five best posters and one best oral presenter awards were given based on the quality of papers and research coherence.

The conference, previously scheduled from 7 - 9 April 2020, was postponed until six months later due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The conference was held with a new norm adopting the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) outlined by the National Security Council. The conference also included a tour to the Rubber Research Institute Malaysia (RRIM) in Kota Tinggi, Johor on the third day of the conference, to study on two soil pedons. The tour ended with a visit to KEJORA agricultural farm in Bandar Penawar, Johor.

Visit to one of the booth exhibition

Plenary presentation by Dr. Wan Abdullah from MARDI

Group photo of all participants of SOILS 2020 with the guest of honour, the Chief Minister of Johor

FRIM Officers as part of the Main Organising Committee

Advisor: Dr. Norwati Muhammad
Chairperson: ChM Rozita Ahmad
Vice-Chairperson: Dr. Ho Wai Mun
Secretary: Nur Hafiza Abd Halim
Treasurer: Dr. Wan Rasidah Abd Kadir
Scientific and Technical : Dr. Jeyanny Vijayanathan
Post Conference Tour: Mohamad Fakhri Ishak
Siti Noratikah Mustafa
Faridah Ahmad Azam

By: ChM. Rozita Ahmad (FRIM)

Post Conference Tour

A soil familiarisation tour to the Rubber Research Institute Malaysia (RRIM) Research station in Kota Tinggi, Johor was arranged as part of SOILS 2020 post conference programme. The tour was organised by Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) and Rubber Research Institute Malaysia (RRIM) and Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS). A total of 40 participants from different fields of interest and working areas joined the tour. Latest information on soil mapping, classification, as well as land utilisation and management were highlighted. Two soil pedons based on different parent material from Granodiorite and riverine alluvium were examined. The session was led by Dr. Shafar Jefri Mokhatar from Faculty of Agriculture, Universiti Putra Malaysia. The soil classification and morphology properties such as texture, colour, depth, drainage, and others were determined based on soil profile description and analysis on data of the soil pedons. From the discussion, two soil series were identified as Jerangau and Sitiawan from Granodiorite and riverine alluvium parent materials, respectively. Soil management and practices as well as crop suitability were discussed and highlighted. After the soil profile observation, participants were brought to the Desaru Fruit Farm in Bandar Penawar. Participants were taken to observe the cultivation of various fruits and vegetables while being briefed by an experienced guide. Participants were also briefed on bee breeding and enjoyed the honey produced in the farm.

Participants had their temperature check and scanned QR mode upon arrival at RRIM, Kota Tinggi

Briefing by Dr. Shafar from UPM, assisted by Mr. Mohamad Fakhri from FRIM

Group photo of post conference tour (PCT) participants

Visit to Desaru fruit farm in Bandar Penawar, Johor

By: Mohamad Fakhri Ishak and Faridah Ahmad Azam (FRIM)

PROGRAM TREE PLANTING @UCYP "Green Campus for Sustainable Biodiversity" in conjunction with WORLD SOIL DAY 2020 "Keep Soil Alive, Protect Soil Biodiversity"

Sharing session from Dr. Rosazlin Abdullah, President Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS)

Faculty of Agrotechnology, University College of Yayasan Pahang (UCYP) in collaboration with Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS) has organized Tree Planting @UCYP programme at Main Campus UCYP, Tanjung Lumpur, Kuantan on 4th December 2020 (Friday).

Programme theme "Green Campus for Sustainable Biodiversity" aims to provide landscaping for the campus area, awareness to the community on the importance of sustainable biodiversity, knowledge transfers about soil fertility and industrial linkages between faculty, UCYP staff and external agencies. Other objective for this programme was to celebrate World Soil Day 2020 "Keep Soil Alive, Protect Soil Biodiversity".

This programme involved about 31 UCYP staff from Kelab Warga Kerja IKIP (KWKI) and 9 students from Young Planters Society (YPS) club. This program was also supported by Food and Agriculture Organizations of United Nations (FAO), the Global Soil Partnership and Majlis Perbandaran Kuantan (MPK).

Sharing session of the lecturer from Faculty of Agrotechnology, UCYP.

Among activities conducted during the programme were sharing session by Dr Rosazlin Abdullah, President of Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS) and tree planting at main campus area. About 137 landscape tree

Among the trees planted by participants for the landscape purposes

Group photo of participants

Tree planting by Program Director and President of MSSS

were planted such as *Loropetalum chinense*, *Duran-tha erecta*, *Syzygium campanulatum* dan *Pisonia alba*. Besides that, there were also sharing sessions with lecturer from Faculty of Agrotechnology, UCYP, Dr Mohd Nozulaidi Nordin about introduction to different types of fertilizer, DIY hydrophonic sys-tem using bottles, sowing seed, demonstration on biopesticide for pest and disease control and demonstration on making *bokashi* using wastes from kitchen.

Program Director, Cik Zahidah Ab Razak and also Dean Faculty of Agrotechnology UCYP stated that, besides celebrating World Soil Day 2020, this programme also give exposure to partici-pants about importance of maintaining the sus-tainable biodiversity and at the same time, pro-mote the available expertise from Faculty of Agro-technology. Dr Rosazlin also stressed the im-portance of healthy soil for sustainable biodiversity and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for food security. Participants were also able to har-vest vegetables form Urban Garden plot before the programme ended.

By: Zahidah binti Ab Razak (UCYP)

AGRO ART KIDS 2020 "Shaping Youth for Agriculture"

Faculty of Agrotechnology, University College of Yayasan Pahang (UCYP) with the Institute of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, University of Malaya (UM) has organized the Agro Art Kids 2020 Program at UCYP Main Campus, Tanjung Lumpur, Kuantan on 26th September 2020 (Saturday). The program themed Shaping Youth for Agriculture aimed to cultivate the interest of planting as well as instilling the spirit of love for the environment from an early age. Programs involving participants aged between 5 to 12 years around Kuantan exposed the participants on the basic ways of growing organic vegetables.

Dr. Rosazlin presented *kokedama* plant as souvenir to Vice Chancellor of UCYP and her innovation, Biorenewable Resource Biochar Kiln to Dean Faculty of Agrotechnol-

The program was also joined by parents where they had the opportunity to learn how to make kokedama (hanging ornamental plant) presented by UM. These activities were additional activities while they were waiting for their childrens' activities to end on the plot. Among other attractions during this program was the Exotic Life Pets Exhibition from J's Animal Kingdom where participants can play, take pictures and approach exotic wildlife. In addition, the Biochar Exhibition also provided exposure to the community on how agricultural waste can be converted into an organic matter that can be used to fertilize the land for agricultural activities.

Participants learned how to make compost using agricultural wastes (dried leaves and goat manure)

This Agro Art Kids program is also in line with the 5 directions of Sustainable Development Goals namely: **Good Health and Well-Being, Quality Education, Sustainable Cities and Communities, Climate Action and Life on Land.**

The Agro Art Kids program has the support of YB Dato' Sri Shahaniza Shamsuddin (Chairman of the Pahang State Unity, Culture, Women, Family and Community Development Committee) as well as cooperation from YP Land, YP Mining, Green World Genetics (GWG) and Young Planters So-

Participants transplanting vegetables seedling onto the bed

ciety (YPS). The program was attended by the Vice Chancellor of UCYP, Professor Emeritus Dato' Dr. Ahmad bin Haji Zainuddin where he presented certificates of participation and souvenirs of appreciation to the participants and the UM team.

Agro Art Kids Program Director, Cik Zahidah Ab Razak informed that the program is the first program organized by the Faculty of Agrotechnology UCYP. Clearly, the goal of this program, among others, aims to introduce the existence of the newly established Faculty of Agrotechnology in January 2020 and the Urban Garden UCYP site for urban agriculture projects to the public community.

A collaborative partner from UM, Dr Rosazlin Abdullah also stressed on the importance of food security and food safety to participants and parents during this program so that they emphasize more nutritious food intake and ensure adequate daily food supply. Dr Rosazlin Abdullah was also honored to present kokedama souvenirs to the Vice Chancellor of UCYP and to present her innovation, Biorenewable Resource Biochar Kiln to the Faculty of Agrotechnology UCYP.

Photo session with the Vice Chancellor of UCYP, UCYP's staff, UM's staff and the participants

By: Zahidah binti Ab Razak (UCYP)

MSSS International Webinar 2020
" Soil: Forestry and Environment"

In conjunction with the World Soil Day 2020, the Malaysian Society of Soil Science successfully organized the International Webinar 2020 under the theme of SOIL: Forestry and Environment on the 22nd December 2020. Three invited speakers delivered their speech on the topics related to their expertise and research works. Dr. Muhd Firdaus Abdul Karim (UMK), Haidar Fari Aditya (UPN "Veteran, East Java) and Dr. Daljit Singh (UPM). The webinar was moderated by Dr. Jeyanny Vijayanathan (FRIM) and attracted 185 participants. Topics presented during the webinar include 'Plant influence on nitrous oxide emission in rice', 'Forest soil morphology' and 'Issues and management in the current state of tropical forest in Malaysia'. The audience were from Malaysia, Indonesia, Afghanistan, Phillipines, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Nigeria, India and Bangladesh. The Malaysian Society of Soil Science received rave reviews and recommendations for future webinars on soil sustainability.

By: Dr. Daljit Singh A/L Karam Singh (UPM)

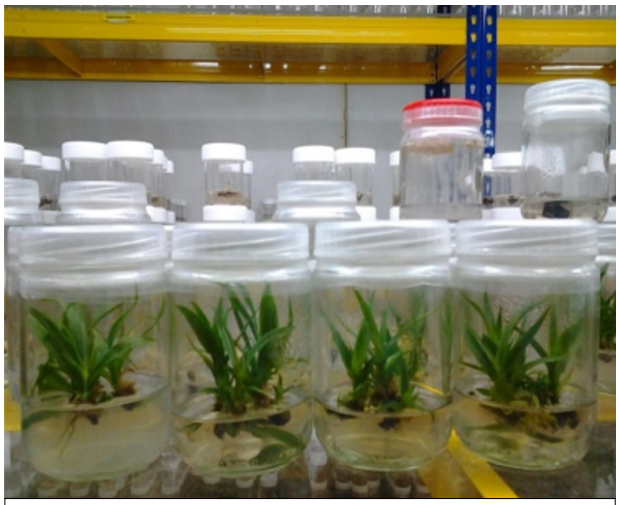
MSSS WEBINAR 2020

"Celebrate Word Soil Day 2020: Keep Soil alive, protect soil biodiversity"

In conjunction with the World Soil Day 2020, the Malaysian Society of Soil Science successfully organized the MSSS Webinar 2020 under the theme of World Soil Day 2020 : Keep Soil alive, protect soil biodiversity on the 7th December 2020 to celebrate healthy soils for the future of food. Opening remarks by En. Eliyas bin Saad, Deputy Director General Department of Agriculture (Development of Industry and Extension). Four invited speakers delivered their speech on the topics related to the theme and their expertise. Datin Dr. Rosenani Abu Bakar , Dr Anizan Isahak, Pn. Aini Zakaria and an independent young farmer from Sawah Sempadan, En Zulkarnain Haidzir. The webinar was moderated by Dr. Rosazlin Abdullah, President of MSS. Over 200 participants joined, including from international students and farmers in this webinar. Topics presented during the webinar include *'Soil Biodiversity and Life', 'Rice System and Soil Health', "Regenerating Soil and Biodiversity' and 'Grow Life in the Soil'.*

By: Dr. Rosazlin Abdullah (UM)

Integrated Approach to Crop Improvement and Sustainable Agricultural Practices: Key Aspects in Addressing Food Insecurity



MD2 pineapple plantlets, produced through tissue culture

Crop breeding programs have led to remarkable advances in improvement of food quality and yield over the last century. For example, plant tissue culture has been the method of choice for breeding of industrially important crops (such as oil palm), as well as for biodiversity conservation of endangered plant species. This technique can be applied as a sustainable approach for mass and rapid propagation of various plant species, while minimizing the harvest of the plant from its natural habitats. It is also an efficient technique to generate a large supply of crops in a shorter time. However, the success of tissue-culture based plant propagation largely depends on the success of its transfer to the environment and fertilization after ex vitro transfer onto the field is key for this process.

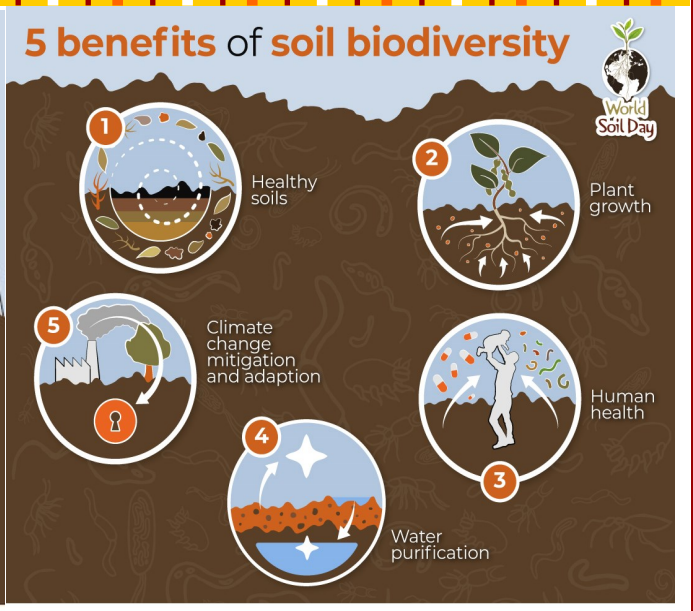
In order to provide sufficient nutrients to support plant growth and development, the macro and micro-nutrients can be provided by supplementation of inorganic or organic fertilizers. Nowadays, pollution of soil and water sources due to excessive use of chemical fertilizers is of great concern, therefore shifting towards usage of organic fertilizers as an alternative is the way forward for sustainable agriculture. In a recent study funded by Universiti Malaya (RP015B-14AFR) conducted on tissue culture-derived MD2 pineapple plants, it was found that the use of vermicompost at the rate 10 t ha^{-1} (applied twice throughout the planting period) produced competitive results (in terms of plant growth) with that obtained through regular supplementation with chemical fertilizer. Vermicompost application also significantly increased the soil pH and was able to retain the soil nutrients content. In addition, the fruits produced also contained higher total soluble solids, ascorbic acid content, titratable acidity, chlorophyll content and antioxidant potential than those produced using chemical fertilizer.

However, more research is needed to further improve crop quality and yield, especially in the face of climate change and the increase in world population. For example, one of the ways to help bolster and support plant and crop breeding is by maintaining plant genetic diversity. For this purpose, mutagenic agents had been used to create and expand genetic diversity of selected species. For example, the rice cultivar 'Zhefu 802' was produced through gamma-ray induction and widely planted in China in 1990s, due to its excellent properties (shorter growing season, cold tolerance and high yield potential under low-input conditions). Nevertheless, the biological impact of any mutagenic agent used to create or expand genetic diversity depends on the chemical nature of the induced lesions, as well as on the efficiency and accuracy of the repair processes. Recent advancement through targeted mutagenesis also depends on the host's repair processes, to yield different products from

different pathways. Funded by Universiti Malaya (IIRG009A-19FNW), the ongoing project aims to yield an improved understanding of DNA repair mechanisms and their regulation in plants, as well as to provide a platform of knowledge for effective utilization of mutation technologies in future crop improvements. These advancements, paired with sustainable agriculture practices can be the way forward to address food insecurity brought upon by climate change and population growth.

Transplanting tissue-culture-derived plants onto the field (top) and harvesting samples for analysis (bottom)

By: Dr. Jamilah Syafawati bt Yaacob (UM)



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

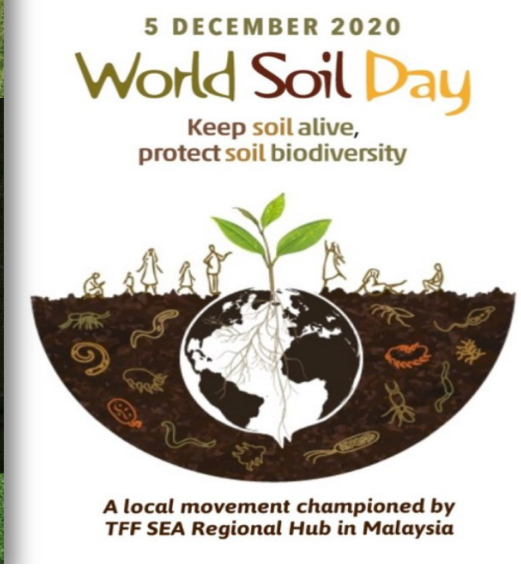
GLOBAL SOIL PARTNERSHIP

World Soil Day 2020: The Future of Agriculture is Regenerative Thought for Food (TFF)

World Soil Day 2020

In conjunction of World Soil Day 2020, President Malaysian Society of Soil Science received invitation as one of the guest speakers in a livestream event, The Future of Agriculture is Regenerative organised by Thought for Food (TFF) SEA on 5th December 2020.This event was led by Dr Ting Ho, founder of Back2Nature. Topics discussed in this event were ; How natural farming with modern bioscience can be profitable and productive, Scientific evidence from leading panel of researchers – on the regenerative role of the soil for sustainable agriculture; Working with Nature to restore soil biodynamics and an overview of a pilot project in Malaysia for natural farming. On behalf of Malaysian Society Soil Science, Dr. Rosazlin alked about the scenario of soil degradation in Peninsular Malaysia, how can farming boost food security and safety and also topics related production of rice in Malaysia. Watch the recorded sessions of our #WorldSoilDay below.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puOqDPL_BME&feature=emb_logo



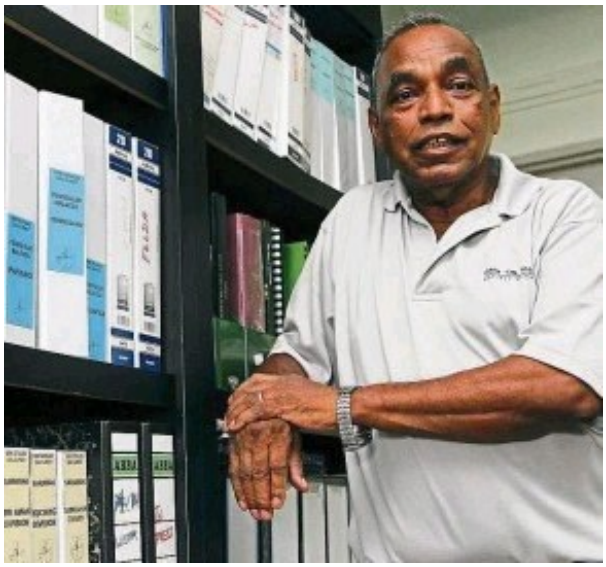
By: Dr. Rosazlin Abdullah (UM)

Book Review: Correlation of Soil Types and Tree Species Distribution for Peninsular Malaysia

Species-site matching is important for growers as it relates to the ability of plant species adapting to the soil whilst also being influenced by altitudes and climates. The book entitled "Correlation of Soil Types and Tree Species Distribution for Peninsular Malaysia" by Abd Latif M., Wan Rasidah K., Jeyanny V. and Lim J.S., was published by the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) in 2020. The book focused on forest soils up to the series level in Peninsular Malaysia and how they correlated to naturally growing forest species and other species adapting vigorously to the soils. This book is a great reference in selecting suitable forest tree species to be planted in a particular area based on their soil characteristics. Soils are classified thoroughly using pictorial description of soil cross-section and further mapped to provide better understanding of pedology, soil genesis and classification. Mapping of soils covered the coastal east coast through the main range and ending in the coastal west coast crossing various terrains and elevations. Information on soils was matched to the forest vegetation types to draw relationships between soil types and tree species distribution. As a conclusion, this well written book provides valuable information to tropical trees and suitable soil types for their planting in Peninsular Malaysia.

By: Dr. John Keen Chubo (UPMKB)

MSSS Fellow



DR. PARAMANANTHAN s/o SELLIAH

(MSSS Honorary Member)

Current position:

1. Managing Director Param Agricultural Soil Surveys (M) Sdn. Bhd.
2. International Collaborative Partner of UTAR
3. Member of Project Assessment Committee
4. Member of International Advisory Panel of MPOB

Education History:

1. DSc. Soil Genesis and Classification (Ghent University) 1977
2. Postgraduate Dip. in Tropical Agronomy (Queensland) 1971
3. B.Sc (Hons) in Geology (UM) 1965

Career History:

1. Tutor at UM (1965)
2. Soil Scientist/Head Department od Agriculture (1966)
3. Drainage and Irrigation Department (1977)
4. Associate Professor, UPM (1980)

Professional Qualification:

1. Honorary Member of Soil Science Society of Malaysia
2. Fellow of Geological Institute of Malaysia
3. Life member of Geological Society of Malaysia
4. Member of Agricultural Institute of Malaysia
5. Fellow of Incorporated Society of Planters
6. Fellow of Academy of Sciences Malaysia

Significant Achievements:

1. Member of International Committees on Classification of Low Activity Clays (ICOMLAC) and Oxisols (ICOMOX)
2. World Bank funded Transmigration Project in Indonesia
3. Soil Surveyor in Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, Cambodia, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Madagascar, Nigeria, Gabon, Cameroon, and Timur Leste

SOIL FAMILIARISATION TOUR 2021
(CALCAREOUS AND INLAND SOIL)

9TH – 10TH JUNE 2021
GUA MUSANG, KELANTAN

The Malaysian Society of Soil Science (MSSS) would like to welcome the society members and non-members to participate in a Soil Familiarisation Tour at Gua Musang, Kelantan. The objective of this tour is to provide a platform for fellow planters, agronomists, soil scientists, academicians and interested parties to understand the type of soils, their properties and classification.

To achieve the abovementioned objective, a few pedons have been selected to represent the soil commonly found in Peninsular Malaysia, especially in Gua Musang, Kelantan. With the understanding of the soils, further discussion will be on the suitability of various crops and the specific agro-management inputs to realize the potential and productivity.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Fellow Planters
Agronomists
Soil Scientists
Academicians
Researchers
Individuals who involved in agriculture, resource management, land use planning and development and plantation management.

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

9TH June 2021 (Wednesday)

0800	Registration at Kesedar Inn, Gua Musang
0830 – 1200	Technical description of pedon from DOA
1230	Lunch
	Examine pedon in Merapoh
	-Pedon 1
	-Pedon 2
	-Pedon 3

10th June 2021 (Thursday)

0800	Meet at Kesedar Inn, Gua Musang
0900	Technical description of pedon from DOA
	Examine pedon in Gua Musang
	-Pedon 4
	-Pedon 5
	-Pedon 6 (reserved)
1700	End of Soil Familiarisation

Notes: Directions and GPS coordinates of all areas will be provided to participants upon successful registration.

REGISTRATION FEE

Fee amounting to RM750/pax for MEMBERS and RM850/pax for NON-MEMBERS of MSSS.

Payment will cover the tour bulletin, refreshments, meals and certificate during the tour (transportation and accommodation is EXCLUDED).

Due to the limited space available, participation will be on first come first serve basis.

Payment should be made to:
The Malaysian Society of Soil Science
(CIMB: 8602990800)

REGISTRATION FORM

- Scan the barcode for registration, OR
- Fill in online form via https://forms.gle/Tpemb42ND1VUcKxCA

CONTACT US:

E-mail: soiltour2020@gmail.com
Phone: 013-3582942/06-2645334

ORGANIZED BY:

The International Union of Soil Sciences (**IUSS**)

WHY JOIN THE IUSS?

The International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) is the global union of soil scientists. The objectives of the IUSS are to foster all branches of the soil sciences and their applications, and to give support to soil scientists in the pursuit of their activities. In addition, the IUSS aims to put soils and soil science on the global agenda. Annual subscriptions from National Soil Science Societies, either directly or indirectly via National Academies, are essential for maintaining a strong presence of the IUSS for effective promotion of soil science and its wide range of applications to fellow professionals, policy and decision makers, and the general public. This is critical to keep our discipline strong and viable and to enhance its visibility and impact in all parts of the world.

The IUSS is the umbrella organisation for six important regional societies, one in Asia (the "East and South East Asian Confederation of Soil Science Societies"), three in Africa (the "African Soil Science Society", the "East African Soil Science Society", and the "West and Central African Soil Science Society"), one in Latin America (the "Latin American Society of Soil Science Societies"), and one in Europe (the "European Confederation of Soil Science Societies"). All these regional organisations act under the umbrella of IUSS and have specific tasks for promoting soil science.
Source https://www.iuss.org/about-the-iuss/why-join-the-iuss/

MSSS Publications for Sale!

BOOKS (RM 10/each)

1. Bibliography of Malaysian Soils
2. Recent Developments in Land Evaluation
3. Sustainable Land Management
4. Secondary & Micronutrients in Malaysian Agriculture
5. Developments in Soil Research In Malaysia
6. Soil Management for Food and Fruit Crop Production

JOURNALS (RM 10/each)

1. Malaysian Journal of Soil Science (Volume 1—12)
2. Malaysian Journal of Soil Science (Volume 15—16, 18)

PROCEEDINGS (RM 10/each)

1. Soil Science Conference of Malaysia year ('91. '93', '94, '95, '97, '98, '99)
2. Soil Science Conference of Malaysia year ('02. '03', '04, '06)
3. International Conference on Fertilizer Usage in the Tropics 1992
4. Workshop on Soil Science in Malaysia-Towards the year 2020
5. Proceedings of the International Conference on Fertilizer Usage in the Tropics (FERTROP) 1992

CONTRIBUTE TO OUR NEWSLETTER!

We are a big group of almost **300+ soil enthusiasts** and we like to hear from you! We are looking for article contributions on soil related issues, mainly

GENERAL ARTICLES: If you have a story/report about an activity related to soil, such as soil training/workshop/conference/meetings;

YOUNG SCIENTISTS: If you are currently a young soil scientist (below 40 years of age) working on a research project related to soil dynamics, you may send in your research article about 500 to 600 words which states on the intro, justification, brief methods, results and conclusion. Please include a digital copy of your research image.

THE EASTERN CONNECTION: Dedicated for any soil research endeavors and information from Sabah and Sarawak.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Of trainings or educational opportunities, forthcoming meetings, conferences or other international announcement regarding soil, agriculture, forestry, etc.

BOOK/PAPER REVIEW: If you have come across a recently published article you think may be of interest to other MSSS members, please alert the Newsletter Editor and we will highlight it for our readers.

ADVERTISMENTS: Submit your advertisement for RM 40 for half page and RM 80 for full page in our newsletter. Gain more visibility with your services and products! Submission information: For text send a word document with Arial font (11) to jeyanny@frim.gov.my or rosazlin@um.edu.my and for photos .jpg is preferred.

1081 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hasmah Mohidin

1082 Sivendran A/L Rajendran

1083 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Fauziah binti Shahrul Hamid

1084 Thayaalan A/L Sandirakasen

1085 Vigneswaran A/L Nallaiah

1086 Dr. Yong Soon Kong

1087 Dr. Amirah Alias

1088 Dr. Sii Longwin

Contact us

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MJSS - CALL FOR PAPERS

The Malaysian Journal of Soil Science (MJSS) is a scientific journal published by the Malaysian Society of Soil Science. It contains research papers in English on matters related to soil and soil-plant interactions. The journal welcomes original research works not previously or simultaneously published in any other scientific or technical journal from MSSS members as well as other scientists in Malaysia and abroad. The aim of the journal is to promote the development of soil science in Malaysia, other tropical and subtropical regions. **MJSS is a peer-reviewed, fully open access journal, is now indexed by Scopus and published annually.** Instruction for authors and other details are available on our website http://www.msss.com.my/journals/instruct.php

The IUSS song

It is our life! We call it soil
It is the stuff, in which we toil
From soil we've sprung, to soil we'll go
Protect the soil of this earth so we can grow