

REGISTRATION FEE

A fee of RM50 (or US\$50 for foreign participants) will be charged for those who have confirmed their participation.

INDICATION OF INTEREST

Please complete and return the following preliminary registration form to:

Secretariat,
Seminar/ Workshop on Improved Utilization of
Tropical Plantation Timbers,
Forest Research Institute Malaysia, 52109 Kepong,
Selangor, Malaysia
(Attn : Dr Tan Yu Eng/ Ms Thilagawathy)
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Facsimile:+603-6280 4623
Email: tanye@frim.gov.my/thilagawathy@frim.gov.my

Name (Prof/Dr/Mr/Ms):

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Organization:

Address:

.....

.....

Country:

Telephone: Fax:

Email:

Signature:



VENUE AND DATE

The seminar/workshop will be held at the Legend Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, on 23 - 25 March 2010.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Day 1 (Seminar) is meant for scientists, researchers, policy-makers, plantation-owners, personnel from the timber industries and those interested in the utilization of plantation-grown timbers.

Days 2 and 3 (Workshop and Visit) are planned for research scientists and technical personnel interested in applying the proposed testing methodologies to establish the basic wood properties of plantation timbers.



Seminar and Workshop

ON

IMPROVED UTILIZATION OF TROPICAL PLANTATION TIMBERS

In conjunction with the completion of the ITTO Project

IMPROVING UTILIZATION AND VALUE ADDING OF PLANTATION TIMBERS FROM SUSTAINABLE SOURCES IN MALAYSIA

PD 306/04(1)

23 - 25 March 2010

The Legend Hotel
100, Jalan Putra,
50350 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Jointly organized by :



Forest Research
Institute Malaysia
(FRIM)



Forest Research
Centre Sabah
(FRC)



Timber Research & Techni-
cal Training Centre (TRTTC)

Sponsored by:



International Tropical Timber
Organization (ITTO)

Supported by:



FFPRI



APAFRI



IUFRO

INTRODUCTION

The current decrease in timber supply from natural forests is one of the reasons that has prompted more ventures into establishing plantation forests in many countries including Malaysia.

Many studies have also been carried out to correlate the rate of growth of plantation-grown timbers with planting variables including planting density, use of fertilizers, clonal and species variation or other silvicultural treatments. The results, however, will be more meaningful if they are further correlated to the quality of wood resources derived based on a harmonized set of testing methodologies for evaluating some basic properties developed here specifically for such plantation-grown timbers.

In addition, the experience gained from the technical and economic assessments conducted on selected plantation species will also be essential before these timbers are accepted as alternatives to the wood species currently used in various applications.

BACKGROUND

The project entitled "Improving utilization and value adding of plantation timbers from sustainable sources in Malaysia" approved by ITTO in 2006 was implemented for slightly more than three-year period. The overall development objective of the project was to improve end uses and value-adding of Malaysian forest plantation resources through systematic evaluation of basic physical, mechanical and other properties in order to contribute to the development of a sustainable wood-based industry.

The specific objectives of the project are:

(a) to produce technical data on wood characteristics of selected plantation-grown species from Malaysia based on a harmonized set of procedures developed; and

(b) to develop suitable techniques for the production of value-added timber products from existing plantations and the technology transfer.

The executive agency for the project was the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) while the collaborating agencies were the Timber Research and Technical Training Centre (TRTTC), Sarawak and the Forest Research Centre (FRC), Sabah. The international collaborator was the Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute (FFPRI), Tsukuba, Japan.

TENTATIVE TOPICS

The tentative program is as follows:

Day 1: Seminar on Plantation Timbers – A Viable Future Timber Resource

This seminar is dedicated to members of the wood-based industry where information and experience on the use of plantation timbers in some countries will be discussed.

Tentative topics are:

- Role of ITTO in the promotion of sustainable forest plantation projects in member countries (ITTO)
- Innovative uses of plantation timbers in Japan (FFPRI)
- Policy on forest plantation in Japan (Japan)
- R & D and utilization of plantation timbers in China
- R & D and utilization of plantation timbers in Malaysia
- Drying of *Acacia mangium* (FRIM)
- Properties and product developments from *Acacia mangium* and teak
- Properties and product developments from engkabang

Day 2: Technical Workshop - Harmonized Testing Methods for Tropical Plantation Timbers

This technical workshop is catered for those interested in the application of the proposed testing methods to the determination of basic wood properties of plantation-grown timbers particularly from the tropics.

Topics to be covered include brief reviews of the methodologies and their applications. They are:

- Sampling procedures
- Assessments of physical and wood anatomical properties
- Evaluations of mechanical properties
- Assessments of sawing and machining properties
- Assessments of accelerated durability and effective treatment against fungal and termite attacks
- Assessments of veneers peeling and slicing properties
- Optimization of conventional kiln-drying schedule
- Bonding and finger-jointing properties
- Quantitative chemical analyses and purification of bark tannin
- Economic aspects of the utilization of plantation timbers

Day 3 : Visit to FRIM Laboratories and workshops

The participants will be briefed on the harmonized testing methodologies proposed and the equipment used. Simple uses of specific equipment may be demonstrated.