



STA dan Rakan2

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Workshop on Tree Nutrition

This monthly news bulletin is produced by Sarawak Timber Association (STA) to disseminate information to our counterparts on training, research and other relevant areas.

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Photo: (top) Dr Glen explaining the nutrient deficiency identified on an Eucalyptus on site, (bottom) Participants of the Workshop having their first hand experience at identifying nutrient deficiency in Eucalyptus

SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation Sdn Bhd (SFC) organised a Workshop on Tree Nutrition from 12 to 13 January 2017 at Sarawak Forest Tree Seed Bank, Semenggoh, Kuching. The Workshop, attended by approximately twenty eight (28) participants from SFC and Licencees for Planted Forests (LPF) as well as STA Secretariat was conducted by Dr Timothy Smith, Consultant from Forest Solutions Services Sdn Bhd (FSS).

Dr Smith briefed the participants of the Workshop on the importance of balanced plantation nutrition in achieving maximum yield. In addition to

that, he introduced to the participant of the Workshop, plant's essential nutrient elements as well as the mechanism of uptake of nutrients in plants.

Nutrient mobility and roles of every part of a plant were also highlighted by Dr Smith as such knowledge are deemed essential in making a diagnosis of nutrient deficiency in plant. Participants of the Workshop were also informed of the methods of diagnosing nutritional disorders in plant such as soil analysis, foliar analysis and visible symptom expression.

(Continue on page 4)

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Presentation Ceremony to Hand Over the Assistance-in-kind to Sekolah Kebangsaan Nanga Kua



Photo: (left) Sekolah Kebangsaan Nanga Kua is one of the schools nominated by the Big 6 groups of STA member companies to receive assistance in the 1st part of the project, (right) Students reacting upon learning that they will each receive a school bag and a complete set of stationeries.

Sarawak Timber Association (STA), through its subsidiary company STA Mutual Sdn Bhd (STAM) has allocated a financial contribution sum of RM3.0 million for projects under its corporate social responsibility (CSR), with the support from STA member companies.

The CSR project is divided into two (2) parts to provide a better education environment to the local communities living within the member companies' license areas. Part 1 of the project is to provide assistance-in-kind (e.g. school bags and complete set of stationeries) to schools nominated by STA member companies which are located within their license areas.

The first delivery of assistance-in-kind took place on 13 January 2017. The main purpose of this assistance-in-kind is to ease the parents' burden of supporting their children school's expenses. Ms Deborah Tai, Senior Manager representing the Managing Director, Dato' Tiong Ing as well as Mr Paul Wong Siu Nang,

General Manager, Manufacturing, Admin & Human Resources cum Forest Planning Department of Subur Tiasa Group of Companies attended and witnessed a simple presentation ceremony of 100 sets of school bag and stationeries to students ranging from Pre-school to Primary 6 of Sekolah Kebangsaan Nanga Kua, Selangau. Mr Matu Anak Ekum, Headmaster of Sekolah Kebangsaan Nanga Kua and his fellow teachers also took part in the presentation ceremony while the students of Primary 6 received the assistance-in-kind on behalf of the students.

Part 2 of the project is to assist in the repair works and maintenance of furniture and key facilities in rural schools of the communities located within STA member companies' license areas. Members have started the repair and maintenance projects which are expected to be completed in year 2017.

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Did you know that.....

Indonesia's first legally certified timber shipment arrived in England in January 2017. Its Ambassador to London, His Excellency Dr Rizal Sukma said this was the result of hard work from a number of parties that continuously monitored the implementation of Timber Legality Verification System (SVLK). In addition to that, the implementation of the FLEGT license is believed to increase importers' trust regarding the legality of Indonesia's timber exports and subsequently increase the Indonesia-England trade volume and revenue in the coming years.

Source: MTIB News Extracts (Vol.04/01/17)



Did you also know that....

A new study has analyzed all the threats to Southeast Asia's biodiversity and concludes that the region may be under some of the greatest levels of biotic threat and that it has never been more threatened before. The two (2) main drivers of biodiversity loss in the Asian tropics are identified as hunting and trade, and habitat loss. Since many of the threats act in synergism, scientists and researchers are compelled to understand each driver in its specific context prior to creating and suggesting solutions.

Source: <https://news.mongabay.com/2017/01/new-study-analyzes-biggest-threats-to-southeast-asian-biodiversity/>



DF Circular No 1/2017 - Royalty Assessment inside Licenced Area for Forest Timber Licences Affected by the Establishment of One Stop Compliance Centres (OSCCs)

Sarawak Timber Association (STA) received a DF Circular No 1/2017 from the Forest Department Sarawak ref DF.681.76 (VII) – 42 dated 3 January 2017 addressed to Regional Forest Officer in Kuching/Sibu/Bintulu/Miri and SARAWAK FORESTRY Corporation Sdn Bhd on the Royalty Assessment inside Licenced Area for Forest Timber Licences affected by the Establishment of One Stop Compliance Centres (OSCCs).

The following is an excerpt of the Circular for your information:

"Please be informed that the State Government has established forty eight (48) One Stop Compliance Centres (OSCCs) throughout Sarawak as an initiative to carry out royalty assessment in the forest timber licensed area close to the felling sites. At the same time, to closely monitor the harvesting operation within the licensed area.

Therefore, under this initiative, with effective from 1st February 2017, all forest timber licences in Sarawak are to royalty-assess their forest produce harvested from the natural forest at the registered place of royalty marking inside their respective licensed area."

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61st World of Wood Annual Convention

The International Wood Products Association (IWPA) will be hosting the 61st World of Wood Annual Convention from 5 to 7 April 2017 at the Hotel Nikko in San Francisco, California USA. It is the only event in the USA that brings together executives from every segment of the North American imported woods industry.

Over 300 importers, USA manufacturers, exporters, wholesalers, offshore suppliers and service providers to the global wood products industry from nearly 30 countries is expected to gather for this annual event.

The Convention will include speakers and panel discussions focusing on economic trends affecting the wood products market, social media marketing, customs enforcement and audits, Lacey Act Compliance, sustainable sourcing, as well as a deep dive on compliance

with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and California Air Resources Board (CARB) formaldehyde regulations impacting composite wood products.

A panel discussion entitled "Lacey Compliance: Strategies and Solutions" featuring leaders from companies from different segments of the wood products industry that have implemented compliance strategies tailored to their business models is included in this Convention.

This panel will provide a robust industry-led discussion on how to implement systems that integrate Lacey Act compliance into business practices. The discussion will be led by Mr Sam Witten, an attorney from Arnold & Porter, and feature Mr Hugh Reitz of UCS Global who chairs IWPA's Due Care Education Committee, Mr Brian Glick who focuses on trade compliance at Vandegrift and

(Continue on page 4)



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(Continued from page 1)

Mr Agus Alwi, researcher from Sabah Softwood Berhad (SSB), shared with the participants of the Workshop the results of various fertiliser trials of *Eucalyptus pellita* conducted by SSB and other companies under the project with Borneo Forestry Cooperative (BFC).

On the second day of the Workshop, a group led by Dr Glen Mitchell, Project Manager of SFC with the attendance of Dato' Ngieng Ping Wei, Managing Director of Polima Forest Bintulu Sdn Bhd, visited the trial plots of various tree species in LPF0042, Sampadi, Lundu.

The Group was briefed on the preliminary outcomes of the fertiliser trials and other planting trials established under

the SFC Planted Forest Research Program (PFRP). The visible symptoms of nutrition deficiency in the trial plots were also identified with the guidance from Dr Smith.

The participants were awarded with a certificate of attendance upon completion of the Workshop.

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(Continued from page 3)

Ms Elizabeth Baldwin of Metropolitan Hardwood Floors who co-teaches IWPA's Wood Trade Compliance course.

World of Wood Convention attendees who are interested in participating in the Wood Trade Compliance course can also sign up for the full-day training session that has been scheduled for 4 April 2017 at the same venue.

The full-day IWPA's due diligence training course was developed in partnership with the World Resources Institute utilising USA Agency for International Development funding. The course provides attendees with a comprehensive analysis of the requirements of the Lacey Act and other laws relevant to the trade in wood products. Attendees will also receive IWPA's Formaldehyde Fact Sheet for Importers valued at USD989.