



DuPont and Genting Plantations collaborate to improve oil palm yield

*Collaboration leverages experience and innovation to address food security
by unlocking the natural potential of the oil palm*

KUALA LUMPUR, DECEMBER 3, 2012 - [DuPont](#) (NYSE:DD), a world leader in market-driven innovation and science, and Genting Plantations Berhad (KLSE: GENP), a leading Malaysian public listed company with interests in plantation, property development and biotechnology, announced a major science and technology collaboration aimed at increasing oil palm yield.

The collaboration leverages on DuPont's suite of scientific crop yield innovations and Genting Plantations' valuable experience and leadership in the oil palm industry, particularly its scientific results such as the reference oil palm genome sequence. Working through its subsidiaries, ACGT Sdn Bhd and GGT Sdn Bhd, Genting Plantations aims to improve oil palm yield by using marker-assisted selection (MAS) to identify high performance oil palm breeds. This will unlock the natural potential of the oil palm.

Both organizations share common concerns, including food security and renewable resources. As such, the collaboration brings together a commitment from both partners to innovate solutions to address global food security issues and later on, potentially explore new areas in renewable materials, energy and chemicals.

Genting Plantations Chief Executive Tan Sri Lim Kok Thay said, "I am pleased to see the coming together of our organizations with both having similar commitment towards developing global renewable solutions. In my opinion, this collaboration, which started with a Master Research Collaboration Agreement in August 2011, is timely considering palm oil is the world's leading edible oil, accounting for 56% and 26% of oils and fats trading and consumption respectively in 2011. In addition, palm oil is versatile in its use which extends to edible and non-edible applications. Oil palm biomass can also be used for materials, chemicals and fuel. As such, this collaboration clearly has a global impact and will further strengthen the industry."

"At Genting Plantations, we are proud to be able to add DuPont to our list of world-class collaboration partners and we look forward to working closely with them to make our vision of superior oil palms a reality," said Genting Plantations President and Chief Operating Officer Yong Chee Kong.



That vision started in 2006 with the establishment of ACGT. “We have made significant investments in genomics and bioinformatics and our pioneering work has delivered important results,” said ACGT CEO Derrick Khoo Sin Huat. These achievements are paving the way for ACGT to commercialize its research and development investments. “This collaboration will accelerate the use of genes and biomarkers to identify superior oil palms for the plantation industry,” Khoo said.

[DuPont Malaysia Managing Director](#), Ong Ewe Hock, said, “DuPont has been applying science technology to corn and soy beans and seen significant improvement on productivity. In this respect, DuPont will transfer specific innovation to ACGT, which will then customize it to suit their approach on oil palm plant selection and production technologies.” Ong further added that this collaboration is consistent with the DuPont focus on securing [food security](#) for the increasing population.

Hsing Ho, [DuPont ASEAN Group Managing Director](#), remarked that DuPont is a science company. “DuPont has been in ASEAN for over 40 years and we have been applying our broad range of scientific knowledge and expertise to provide solutions to various industries. We have more than 9,500 scientists and engineers, over 150 R&D centers worldwide, and five Innovation Centers in Asia, with one in Thailand. Through innovation and collaboration, we are pleased to bring science to improve the agriculture productivity for local community. We recognize that while challenges can be global, science solution must be local.”

Malaysia is one of the world’s largest producers and exporters of palm oil. In 2011, the industry exported 24.3 million tonnes of palm oil products generating RM80.4 billion in export earnings, an increase of 34% from 2010, according to Malaysian Palm Oil Board. Palm oil exports for the period January to October 2012 registered at RM60.1 billion. Malaysian palm oil is currently exported to more than 150 countries including China, European Union, Pakistan, India, United States, Egypt and Japan. The combination of these seven markets account for 11.8 million tonnes or 65% of total Malaysian palm oil exports in 2011.

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About DuPont

DuPont (NYSE: DD) has been bringing world-class science and engineering to the global marketplace in the form of innovative products, materials, and services since 1802. The company believes that by collaborating with customers, governments, NGOs, and thought leaders we can help find solutions to such global challenges as providing enough healthy food for people everywhere, decreasing dependence on fossil fuels, and protecting life and the environment. For additional information about DuPont and its commitment to inclusive innovation, please visit www.dupont.com.

About Genting Plantations

Genting Plantations Berhad (KLSE: GENP), a 54.6%-owned subsidiary of Genting Berhad, commenced operations in 1980. It has a landbank of about 66,000 hectares in Malaysia and some 162,000 hectares in Indonesia through joint ventures. It owns 6 oil mills in Malaysia and one in Indonesia, with combined milling capacity of 310 tonnes per hour. It is an early member of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). Genting Plantations has also diversified into property development to unlock the value of its strategically-located landbank and has invested significantly in biotechnology in a major effort to apply genomics to increase crop productivity and sustainability. Visit www.gentingplantations.com for more information.

About ACGT

ACGT Sdn Bhd is a plant science company committed to be a world-class genomic centre of excellence. Its research and development activities use genomics-based technologies and solutions to increase the productivity and enhance value creation from oil crops like oil palm, jatropha and others. Among ACGT's key contributions to the agricultural and biotechnology industry in Malaysia are the completion of sequencing the genome of the oil palm on May 21, 2008, the *Jatropha* genome sequence on May 20, 2009 and the *Ganoderma* genome sequence on November 2, 2010. The understanding of these genomes paves the way to better food, chemicals and fuels. ACGT was awarded BioNexus status in 2006 by Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation Sdn Bhd. Incorporated in 2006, ACGT conducts its genomic research at ACGT Laboratories at Technology Park Malaysia, Bukit Jalil in Kuala Lumpur with field research stations in Malaysia. ACGT is a subsidiary of Genting Plantations. Visit www.acgt.asia for information about ACGT's science.

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