



THE PLANTER

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Agri Solutions

Oil Palm - Best Management Practices for Yield Intensification

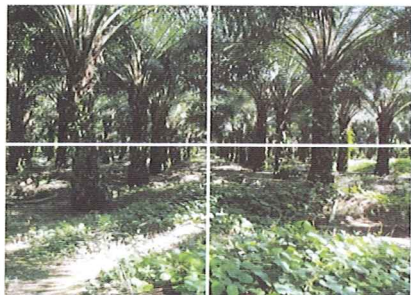
Authors: Thomas Fairhurst and William Griffiths

Publisher: International Plant Nutrition Institute, Southeast Asia Program (IPNI SEAP)

Edition: First Edition 2014; Soft Cover (7 inches x 10 inches); 162 pages

Oil Palm

Best Management Practices for Yield Intensification



Thomas Fairhurst and William Griffiths

This book reaches out and grabs the planter, the planter who genuinely wants to advance in his career and run a top-notch estate. It is a book written with a heart for the planter. At the end of each chapter is a bullet summary of the important points for ‘practical planters’. (Planters are all practical managers, ‘practical planters’ is not necessary.)

You can also view this book as a recipe book for increasing ffb (fresh fruit bunches) and oil yield per hectare. The book is written with confidence and clarity that comes with hands-on experience. Would you trust a surgeon

who has only book knowledge and has never operated before?

It has nine chapters covering: 1. Introduction; 2. Characteristics of yield improvement; 3. Relevance and causes of yield gaps; 4. Planning the implementation of BMP in mature plantings; 5. Implementation of Pilot Phase BMP; 6. Case studies of Pilot Phase BMP implementation; 7. Statistical analysis of Pilot Phase results; 8. Operational requirements for BMP implementation and lastly, 9. Summary and recommendations.

Pilot Phase BMP means BMP (best management practices) applied in limited commercial blocks (about 250 ha per estate). This book has a set of planter-friendly appendixes – sort of for dummies - at the end, covering: Field auditing, Information for agronomists and Useful management techniques!

I know Thomas Fairhurst and Christopher Donough, both of whom are driven promoters of BMP. I met Thomas in 2005 at Harapan Sawit Lestari Estate in West Kalimantan. Chris’ and my paths crossed in Sungei Rangit Estate, Central Kalimantan where he would be monitoring the BMP plots from 2006-2010.

The BMP idea started in 2001-02 when IPNI was asked to help rehabilitate two large estates in Indonesia - PT Asiatic Persada and PT Harapan Sawit Lestari. In four years, yields of test commercial blocks (230 ha and 216 ha)

in both estates jumped from 13-15 mt/ha to 28-30 mt/ha. The pilot projects in these two estates are case studied in Chapter 6 of the book. The test projects were later successfully repeated in six other Indonesian estates from 2006 to 2010. Now, wouldn't you want to comb

through this book with a magnifying glass?

Planters, remember that useful information never goes to waste; what more, information is power.

Chiu Sheng Bin

Editor's note:

This book is available from ISP at: RM170.00 and from IPNI at USD40 (order form: <http://seap.ipni.net/article/store>)



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