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Terusmaju Padigen proves capable of enhancing yield

Cheah Chor Sooi

TERUSMAJU may not be a familiar name as yet to Malaysian farmers, but it is taking the country's agricultural sector by storm.

A breakthrough product after 25 years of intense research, the invigorant has proven its capabilities to enhance the quality and yield of agricultural crops and livestock by an average of 15 to 25 per cent without any side effects.

"Along with this, the crops and livestock tend to be more resistant to disease and stress factors brought about by high density farming methods, extreme weather and soil conditions.

"Terusmaju also appears to have the ability to degrade or deactivate residual pesticides, and reduces the use of chemicals in crop and livestock, making them much safer for human consumption.

"In addition to the slightly shorter harvest cycle, the crops tend to be more uniform in size with richer colours and have a longer shelf life," Invigorant Maju Sdn Bhd joint managing director Rashid Ghazali said during an interview in Kuala Lumpur recently.

The company is a subsidiary of steel group, the Maju Holdings Group.

An advanced Malaysian patented formulation, Terusmaju was developed by a team of scientists and agricultural researchers based in China and Malaysia through extensive laboratory and field research.

The principal elements of Terusmaju are lanthanoid compounds, with a complex of amino acids, nitrogen and other trace elements such as boron, zinc and magnesium.

Trials on padi plants using Terusmaju's Padigen (also usable on other grain crops like wheat, barley and maize) had shown a reduction in pest infestations, thus enabling more organic type and environmentally friendly farming practices.

Apart from higher yields, it had also proven to increase root mass by 50 to 100 per cent, therefore allowing for the absorption of more nutrients.

"The stems are also stronger, the leaf blades are thicker and broader, and overall, the padi plant is healthier and full of vigour.

"This will enable farmers to sell more of their harvest at premium prices," he said, adding that reduction in the use of fertilisers, pesticides and antibiotics would also decrease farming cost, thus enabling for a rise in income.

"Above all, the invigorant is very affordable and cost-effective. For RM150 per litre, a padi farmer can easily secure an additional one tonne of harvest per hectare which easily fetches RM600," said Rashid.

A preliminary report by the Muda Agriculture Development Authority in Kedah on the use of Padigen revealed that padi sprayed with Terusmaju's lanthanoids are able to achieve yields of 5.5 to 7.2 tonne/hectare compared to yields of between 4.7 and 6.6 tonnes/hectare from the control plots (without lanthanoids).

"In general, increases of nine to 18 per cent were obtained from padi fields sprayed with lanthanoids in the first season of 1999 in the Muda area," added the report.

Padigen, the first variant within Invigorant Maju's product range, was launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Langkawi last year.

Besides Padigen, there are 10 other products in the Terusmaju range which include Hortigen (for horticultural plants), Palmogen (for oil

palms), Rubbergen, Fruvigen (for fruit trees), Teagen (for tea trees), Birdigen (for poultry), Aquagen (for aquaculture), Tobacogen, Sugargen and Spicigen.

The invigorants come in a highly concentrated liquid solution and are applied after dilution by means of foliar spray evenly on both sides of the leaves of the plants.

On the possibility of Invigorant Maju embarking on export business or commercialises its technology, he said:

"We have initiated discussion with Taiwan, Thailand and Australia as well as sending samples of our products abroad for trials.

"We also have plans to set up a local research and development base in collaboration with Universiti Putra Malaysia to further explore the potential of our products.

"Our ultimate aim is to come out with a tangible product before penetrating the export market."

Currently, the company has two principal distributors Harrisons Trading Peninsular Sdn Bhd and Health Impian Sdn Bhd.

For more information, call Invigorant Maju at 03-9594790, 03-959431 or fax 03-9594641.

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