

## **Young Farmers Want Farming Mechanisation As TN50 Aspiration**

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SERDANG, Sept 29 (Bernama) -- A comprehensive use of technology and innovations and the creation of hardy hybrid seedlings and plants are among the aspirations of young farmers in the National Transformation (TN50) Dialogue series with participants of 2017 Nafas Agro Youth Camp. Vegetable entrepreneur, Mohd Zafaruddin Mdzuifakar, 25, when submitting the matter said utilising innovations especially in planting could save costs and reduce costly manpower needs. "My aspiration is for the country's agricultural industry to flourish with various technology and innovation facilities that can help speed up plantation and production works. "Most farmers are still using traditional methods compared to western nations which are very advanced,"he said during TN50 Chillax Dialogue attended by 500 participants, here today. The dialogue was organised by the Muda Agriculture Development Authority (MADA) in conjunction with Farmers, Livestock Breeders and Fishermen's Day 2017. The dialogue session was also participated by MADA Chairman and Deputy Minister of Finance Datuk Othman Aziz. TN50, which is the brain-child of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, is a futuristic policy to map the national direction in the next 30 years after 2020. Meanwhile, local fruit entrepreneur, Muhammad Fakrurafie Adam, 24, said the production of durable and disease resistant seedlings could help farmers save costs due to losses if the seedlings were not developed. "Sometimes, despite looking after our crops properly, factors such as the strength of the seedlings often result in their failure. Local fruit seedlings still have weaknesses as they easily succumb to diseases and pests. "These impact on output and productivity in the harvest of quality fruits,"he added. –

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