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As a requirement report for the semester 2 students of Diploma in Plantation and Agriculture Technology, we are required to complete and submit our industrial training report for the subject FPA210 Industrial Training. The subject FPA210 Industrial Training must be taken by all students of MARA University of Technology (UiTM) in order to ensure that the students are able to obtain knowledge and exposures in the field of practical as well as to introduce some of the basic techniques and tools that can be used by future executive office in managing their estate. All knowledge obtained in the midst of preparing this can be used by the students to face the complex and challenging business world when they have graduated.

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INTRODUCTION TO PEAT SOIL

INTRODUCTION OF PEAT SOIL

Peat soil is an important ecosystem that provides a significant contribution to the global climate stability. In Malaysia, peat soils are considered as a soil with little economic benefit, only apart from it being used for agricultural activity. There are about 2.4 million hectare of peat in Malaysia with sixty percent of it located in Sarawak. Peat is brownish-black in color and is formed by decomposed organic matter that have been accumulated over thousands of years, with lack of oxygen and under waterlogged conditions. It also known as organic soil (histosol) that composed mainly of organic materials which contain at least 20-30% of organic matter by weight and are more than 40 cm thick. Histosols typically form in settings where poor drainage inhibits the decomposition of plant and animal remains, allowing these organic materials to accumulate over time. In agricultural and gardening purposes, peat soil is used as a soil improvement material. By adding milled peat to the soil it is possible to make it better since the peat adds nutrients and retains moisture, thus making the soil more optimal for growing plants.

18) CONCLUSION

As conclusion, there are a lot of knowledge and experience that I have gained during 1 month 2 weeks as a trainee practical student at Rinwood Plantation Sdn Bhd (Kenya Estate). Firstly, I had got some basic information about Rinwood Plantation Estate Sdn Bhd, one of the largest oil palm in Malaysia. Rinwood Plantation Estate Sdn Bhd has set their own mission, vision, and core values that help them to become one of the leading companies in oil palm plantation instead of make their company policies to protect the welfare of their workers.

As a practical student, it is compulsory for me to learn about the operation in the field area. One of the most important operation in estate is harvesting. Harvesting operation is basically required in the estate as it is important for every oil palm plantation to harvest the fresh fruit bunches (FFB), loading FFB and deliver it to the mill for grading before it will undergo processing. I also learned about the variety of oil palm and types of bunches instead get a few knowledge about harvesting interval and black bunches.

Next, I had gain some valuable knowledge about the field upkeep and maintenance especially oil palm plantation at peat soil area. Field upkeep and maintenance are vital operation in the oil palm plantation as it will help to produce good and high quality of fresh fruit bunches and oil extraction rate. These are few operation that can be found in field upkeep and maintenance such as fertilizer management, pest and disease, canopy management and spraying programme.

Furthermore, it is important for me to know about road, railway, drainage and bridge. The main modes of transportation used in the estate is locomotive and mini carrier, so it is important for me to study about the railway system as the roads system have limited accessibility in the estate. The things that I learned about railway system are the layout, construction, upkeep and maintenance and problem or hazard in the railways system. Although roads system is less used by the estate, it also vital for us to know a little bit about the system. Proper drainage system also needed in the estate as most of the estate are covered with peat soil, which has very serious limitation for any agricultural activities.

Another that I learned during 1 month 2 weeks practical at Kenya Estate is immature area. Immature area is area of the new development site of plantation which most of the palms are below 3 year old age. It is essential for us to learn about immature area because it will help to taught us about experience and knowledge on how to handling operation and solving problems