

FROM LAB TO LAND:

THE SECOND SERIES

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On 15th July 2026, the Faculty of Pharmacy, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), successfully organised FROM LAB TO NATURE 2026: Program Pemerkasaan Bioteknologi Tumbuhan – Pisang & Orkid Kultur Tisu at Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Rantau Panjang (SMKRP), Bestari Jaya, Selangor.

This programme marked the second series of the community engagement initiative, following the successful implementation of the first programme in July 2025, which focused exclusively on banana tissue culture. Building on the achievements of the previous programme, this year's event expanded its scope to include orchid tissue culture, providing students with greater exposure to modern plant biotechnology.

The programme was attended by approximately 70 Form 4 students, together with teachers and school administrators. A key highlight was a presentation by Duta Kecil Pisang, who shared the progress of the banana plants established during the 2025 programme.

After 11 months, the original tissue-cultured banana plantlets supplied by the Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory, Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM, had multiplied into more than 100 healthy banana plants, with several already beginning to bear fruit.



The students also reported that the school had begun generating income by selling banana seedlings and fresh banana leaves to the surrounding community, demonstrating the project's sustainability and economic value.

Plant Biotechnology: Orchid Tissue Culture

The programme also featured an educational talk on plant biotechnology, with a special focus on orchid tissue culture, delivered by Mdm Noor Anilizawatima Sulong. She introduced the principles of orchid tissue culture and explained its role in plant conservation, commercial orchid production, and biodiversity preservation.



Students also participated in a practical session involving the transfer of tissue-cultured orchid plantlets into growing pots, allowing them to gain hands-on experience in the acclimatisation process.

MoU Signing & Strategic STEM Collaboration

The programme concluded with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM, and SMK Rantau Panjang for strategic collaboration in plant biotechnology education and STEM empowerment. Overall, From Lab to Land: The Second Series successfully demonstrated the long-term impact of the 2025 programme while further strengthening the partnership between UiTM and SMK Rantau Panjang through sustainable plant biotechnology and STEM education initiatives.

MoU signing between the Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM, and SMK Rantau Panjang, followed by the presentation of a token of appreciation to the Deputy Dean Industry, Community & Alumni Network, Faculty of Pharmacy UiTM, Associate Professor Dr. Fazleen Haslinda Mohd Hatta.

