UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

AGR 390 INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

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LOCATION : STESEN PENYELIDIKAN PERTANIAN KABULOH

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BACKGROUND OF STESEN PENYELIDIKAN PERTANIAN KABULOH

Stesen Penyelidikan Pertanian Kabuloh is one of branches of Department of Agriculture Sarawak. Stesen Penyelidikan Pertanian Kabuloh is founded in 1964 with area approximately 500 hectare. Stesen Penyelidikan Pertanian Kabuloh shared same vision and mission with Department of Agriculture Sarawak. Their Vision, 'spearheading commercialization of agriculture and transformation of agriculture community to achieve high income' and their Mission, 'we commerialise and modernise agriculture to improve income of the agriculture community'.

Objectives of Stesen Penyelidikan Pertanian Kabuloh are

- Handling research for crop yield.
- Producing high quality of crop yields for farmers.
- Handling demonstration plots with/for farmers.
- Giving advice and help in handling internship program.

Latest manpower of Stesen Penyelidikan Pertanian Kabuloh are 29 staffs. The staffs are consist of an Officer In-Charge as the head of the Stesen Penyelidikan Pertanian Kabuloh and helped by two Research Officer. Those two Research Officer is helped by six of Agriculture Assistants in conducting and work handling. They are given one section each to do some research and management. There are also two administration staffs to control the inventory management and other administration works. The remaining number is the workers that helped Agriculture Assistants.

Stesen Penyelidikan Pertanian Kabuloh is divided into six main sections. Each section has its own specialties. Those six main section is Mix Fruit section, Herbs section, Annual/Field Crop section, Rubber section, Tree Planting and Other Crop section and Commodity section.

i. MIX FRUIT SECTION

Mix fruit section is a section where many varieties of fruit tree were planted. Some of the fruit trees are using for research study. This section is handled by Agriculture Assistant (AA) Muriani binti Harry and helped by 4 workers. Area of this section is approximately 40 hectare. Objectives of this section are;

- **Conducting studies on several of the fruit tree varieties and its clone.**
- **Fruit trees collection that recommended including locally and internationally varieties.**

Below is what I and my other internship mates have done during having a two week internship in this section.

a. Pruning activity

Objective of pruning activity is to remove the unwanted branches of the fruit tree so that the competition between branches can be reduce to get nutrients from sunlight and fertilizers. Next objective is to control disease attack to the fruit tree. Branches that have been affected by disease need to be remove or cut so that the disease will not fully attack the fruit tree. Last objective of this pruning activity is to beautify the environment and to reshape the tree's canopy.

We pruned several types of fruit trees such as pumelo trees, 'langsat' trees, magical fruit trees and jackfruit trees. Materials that we have used for this activity are pruning saw, chainsaw, and secateurs. Pruning saw is needed to cut the unwanted branches in slating hand positon. Chainsaw is needed to cut the bigger size of the unwanted branches. Secateurs is needed to cut off the medium size and soft branches. After finish the pruning activity, we collected the unwanted branches at one place as sanitation practice.

I have learned the importance of pruning activity. Even this activity seems not so important but if we do not prune the fruit tree, it will be affected by disease. Besides, pruning activity is for sanitation practice so the environment is neat and hygienic. This activity actually can make the fruit tree to produce more quality of fruits. It is because we remove the unwanted branches and control the competition between branches to get the nutrients so that the photosynthesis process become effective.