# Are you inclined into agribusiness? Perspectives from Graduating Students

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Abstract - This study examines the level of graduating students' inclination to venture into agribusiness. The study also tries to examine and measure the relationships between knowledge, attitude, social environment, and level of graduating students' inclination to venture into agribusiness. In this study, 158 students of Bachelor of Science Technology and Plantation Management (AT220) at UiTM Cawangan Melaka, Kampus Jasin, Melaka were selected as respondents from the population of Faculty of Plantation and Agrotechnology. This study used the quantitative method as the best way to address the issue of the new generation's intention towards the agribusiness sector in Malaysia. In the quantitative method, stratified and convenience sampling techniques were employed as a data collection method. The first finding indicated that the students had a high level of inclination to venture into agribusiness. The second findings reported that there were positive significant relationships between knowledge, attitude, social environment, and agribusiness intention. These findings provide insight to the government officials in the Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-based Industries to resolve unemployment issues and achieve successful economic growth through the agriculture sector. The results obtained offer several key implications for increasing our understanding of factors related to students' intention to venture into agribusiness. It may able to overcome the issue of the unemployment rate by creating more job opportunities for the new generations in Malaysia. Thus, universities play an important role in creating young agricultural entrepreneurs which is a crucial issue in this country. Implications and conclusions are also discussed.

*Keywords* – Agribusiness Intention, Entrepreneurial Knowledge, Personal Attitude, Social Environment, University Students,

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# I. Introduction

Agriculture is a primary sector in economic activities for every country. It is the foundation of our rural economy. Generally, it is reported that food production is the number one objective of agricultures and for farmers (Casini, Contini, Scozzafava, 2011). In other words, food security is an alarming issue that concerns every nation across global. This is because agriculture still contributes to their country's economy where they can generate their food and do not have to rely on food supply from other countries. Although most of the countries still pay attention to agricultural activities, special attention is always focused on their secondary and tertiary sector. It is emphasized that the agriculture sector should become a fundamental sector beyond the economic fabric of our rural communities as it contributes largely to the nation's food supply and security.

According to the Central Bureau of Statistics/BPS (2014), business actors in an agricultural commodity are only represented about 44.20 million people (0.17 percent) of the Indonesian population. It is said that developing agricultural entrepreneurship is needed to drive the human resource productivity of the sector. The sector contributes a higher idleness number in Indonesia than in other sectors. This higher contribution indicates that agricultural employments are not able to accommodate those amount workforces or moving to other sectors. In the African country, the effort was also undertaken by the Republic of Ghana. According to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture of the Republic of Ghana (2012), they have identified one of the economic pillars is the agriculture sector. The relationship between agriculture development and Ghana's ability to achieve its food and nutrition security goals are inextricably linked. Ghana's economy still depends on the agricultural sector as a major source of employment provide direct and indirect jobs to about 80 percent of Ghana's workforce (MOFA, 2012). Besides, Rwanda youths had been urged to embrace agribusiness as a source of livelihood to curb unemployment problems where it is reported that 13.5 percent of college graduates remain unemployed (New China News Agency, May 4, 2016). Further to that Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources of Rwanda, Dr. Geraldine Mukeshimana urged youths to venture into agribusiness which has become beneficial for youngsters in the developed countries. They conducted a forum with Rwanda youths, therefore the meeting aimed at launching a Rwanda Youth in Agribusiness Forum that will encourage them to engage in agribusiness hence the creation of jobs, poverty lessening, and fast-tracking rural transformation. Rassameethes (2014) stated that in the ASEAN, agriculture is the pillar of e-ASEAN economies as it occupies an essential place in the development of all ASEAN members. For instance, Joint Foreign Chambers (2010) found that in the Philippines, the agricultural exports were the smallest among the other ASEAN members such as Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam, because the Philippines imported more agricultural goods than it exported.

In Malaysia, the contributions and roles of agriculture in the economy are fairly visible. The government has never stopped in placing their effort to further improve this sector and it can be proven through the establishment of a number of high-impact agriculture policies and projects a. Its Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Ministry has unveiled a five-point plan geared towards ensuring national food security and boost revenue in the agriculture sector via 'Priorities and Strategies 2019 - 2020' (*News Straits Times*, February 14, 2019). Greater emphasis via the five points will be achieved via the execution of 18 strategies and 51 initiatives to ensure that the agricultural industry becomes even more competitive. It is interesting to note that, one of them is in the third point, which covers efforts to make agriculture a solid, sustainable, and profitable revenue source for farmers, livestock breeders, fishermen, and young agropreneurs. This is probably due to the increasing global demand for agricultural products gives huge potential to enlarge the sector's contribution to GNI and raise rural revenues.

Despite the government's tremendous effort in promoting agribusiness industries, however, a study by Nor Amna, Nik Rozana, and Mohd Khairul (2015) discovered that the contribution of youths aged 15 - 34 years old in entrepreneurial activity is low, as well as in the agriculture sector. Mohd Arif, Darshini Subramaniam, and Shafril Izham (2015) stated that various reasons have been identified for this poor response, among which is the perception of the younger generation in the agriculture sector. They reported that most educated youth today perceived agriculture especially traditional farming is an unattractive proposition. This is further contributed to how agriculture has been practiced over the years by the older generation. Agriculture reflects a poor social status and as a result, they seek better alternatives and opportunities in the urban sectors (Mohd Arif et. al. 2015). Hence many of the rural youth are migrating to cities in search of a more lucrative opportunity, be it an unskilled job than to pursue a career in the agriculture sector. According to a former Minister of Agriculture and Agro-based Industries, Datuk Seri Ahmad Shabery Cheek at 5th ATI Convocation 2015, he said "the current trend shows that only 15 percent of those aged 40 and below are in the agricultural sector, which implies that the youths still have the notion that the field is not for them but older people." (Bernama, October 25, 2015). In this context, it shows that the percentage of youths to join the agriculture sector is very low and they refuse to join because they believe that there are more disadvantages rather than advantages in joining the agriculture sector. This claim is also further validated by a study conducted by Asliza et al., (2015) where youth are

reluctant and less inclined to work in the agriculture sector because there is a conventional view that work in this sector is rough, low pay, and do not promise a bright future. To address the problem of low yield, low earnings, and unproductive farms into high yield and better earnings, the government believes in the shift from traditional practice into a commercial-based practice (Nurul Hisifbli & Abdul Rahman (2017). They reported that the government objectives can be achieved if the yield and revenue keep increasing and the market condition is improved.

As far as the above issue is concerned, it has driven this paper to its main objective which is first, to examine the inclination level of graduating students to venture into agribusiness. Second, this paper proposes to identify the nature of relationships between entrepreneurial knowledge, personal attitude, social environment, entrepreneurial education, and the level of graduating students' inclination to venture into agribusiness. Next, this paper suggests ways to encourage university students to venture into agribusiness. Discussion is presented in the third section, while recommendations are in the last section.

#### **II.** Literature Review

# **Agribusiness and Youth's Intention**

Hudu, Hamza and Afishata (2014) defined agribusiness as all business-oriented entities involved in the production, input supply, agro-processing, marketing, and distribution of agricultural commodities. Meanwhile, Industry Research Development (2015) defined agribusiness as "the business of agricultural production or synonyms with corporate farming. It includes a range of activities and methods involving modern food production food such as agrichemicals, breeding, crop production (farming and contract farming), distribution, farm machinery, processing, and seed supply, marketing, and retail sales (p.5). Historically, back in the mid-1980s, the country had suffered from the declines in economic development which were caused by the world's low market price for basic agricultural commodities (Asliza et al. 2015). This incident has consequently impacted the country's policy whereby the interest in the agricultural sector has been shifted to other sectors such as manufacturing and services.

The demand for agricultural production is increasing as the world's population is growing year by year. Asliza et al. (2015) further stressed out that in a developing country such as Malaysia, the agriculture sector is seen as a major contributor to the country's economy as it supplies food, provides raw materials for agro-based industries (Hassan et al., 2009: Okezie and Baharuddin, 2012). It is said that given the issue of sustainable performance in agriculture and government emphasis on food security and nutrition situation, the country needs an agro-based entrepreneurial workforce who is young, educated, stable, and can seize short-term and long-term opportunities. Earlier, Richards and Bulkley (2007) associated agroprenur as those who embody all activities that help farmers in adopting free-market activities. In this context according to Asliza et al. (2015), they claimed young agropreneurs are considered a promising target to create agricultural competitiveness because they are more inclined to collaborate with others, make their brands, have a sense of social justice, employee-centric, mission-driven, flexible, and manage their ways of working to finish the task.

Furthermore, to ensure the sustainability of agricultural activities, the country will have to depend largely on a highly ambitious workforce of young people. Agribusiness will benefit the people itself, as the government also encourages young people such as graduating students to involve in agribusiness. Transformation of the agricultural sector has offered in more a positive view from the society and more youngsters are willing to have the chance to involve in agribusiness.

On the other hand, the inclinations of university students to venture into agribusiness are considered as the government's main concern. An entrepreneurial intention is an appropriate tool for forecasting individual entrepreneurial behaviors and activities (Halder, Pietarinen, Havu-Nuutinen & Pelkonen, 2010). Besides, Hosseini, Mohammadi and Mirdamadi (2011) state that entrepreneurial intention is a state of mind that directs individual actions to create and build up a new business or entrepreneurial activity. Moreover, Hosseini et. al. (2011) said that entrepreneurial intention could be considered a goal of an individual to performing an uncertain behavior. Previously, a study of entrepreneurial inclination and psychological attributes by Hian (1996) reported that entrepreneurially inclined students had greater imaginativeness and higher inclination to take risks as compared to the students that were not entrepreneurially inclined.

According to Ooi, Selvarajah and Meyer (2011), they observed that male students and students with selfemployed parents have a higher inclination towards entrepreneurship. Moreover, students that have working experiences were more inclined towards entrepreneurship than those with no working experiences. Abdul and Jasmani's (2012) study found that Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI) students were inclined to consider entrepreneurship as a highly desirable career opportunity. A past study by Nor Amna et. al. (2015) also showed that 71 percent of youth tend to be agropreneur as the high percentage clearly shows that agribusiness has the potential to be developed more especially among youth. On the other hand, Ridha et al., (2017) also studied entrepreneurship intention in the agricultural sector of the young generation in Indonesia. Findings reported that attitude toward the behavior factor does not affect the youth entrepreneur's intention in the agricultural sector.

#### **Entrepreneurial Knowledge**

Knowledge is about the institutional environment for a start-up may play an important role in the pattern of entrepreneurial intentions (Luthje & Franke, 2003). Besides, according to Liñan et al., (2011), they found that "the entrepreneurs' knowledge significantly influences the venture creation decision". Thus, better knowledge of the entrepreneurial institutional structure gives a greater awareness about the presence of that professional career choice and will make the plan to become an entrepreneur more dependable (Liñán et.al., 2011). Meanwhile, Othman and Kutty (2010) studied that knowledge can guide to more abilities to youngsters as planning to set up their own business. Furthermore, a study by Hudu et. al., (2014) found that entrepreneurial knowledge has a significant relationship with their intention to engage in self-employment in agribusiness after graduation. Therefore, based on the discussion, this study proposes the following hypothesis:

H1: There is a positive relationship between entrepreneurial knowledge and the level of inclination of graduating students to venture into agribusiness.

#### **Personal Attitude**

According to Ajzen (1991) the intention of carrying out given behavior will rely on the individual attitudes toward that behavior. Liñán (2004) highlighted that attitudes would determine the level to which individual values were positively or negatively some behavior. Further, Liñán et.al (2011) found that a positive relationship between personal attitude and entrepreneur intention. Abdul Aziz and Norhilmatun (2013) found that attitude has significantly affected the interest among youth to get involved in agricultural entrepreneurship. Attitude is the main determinant of a person's achievement in entrepreneurship (Othman & Ishak, 2009). It was also reported that the intentions of youth entrepreneurship in Chinai's agricultural sector are influenced by the attitude factor (Devi, 2015). A study undertaken among students from Nigeria at University Utara Malaysia discovered that attitude is the strongest factor affecting the intention of entrepreneurship. Zampetakis et al., (2013) attitude becomes an influential variable in a young entrepreneur's intention in the agricultural sector. Also, Saheed and Kavoos (2016) suggested that youth entrepreneurship in Africa has a positive attitude that is active and ready to take risks and standalone. Therefore, based on the discussion, this study proposes the following hypothesis:

H2: There is a positive relationship between personal attitude and the level of inclination of graduating students to venture into agribusiness.

## **Social Environment**

Environmental factors refer to environmental components that where a person lives and impact on individual behavior (Hyytia & Kola, 2005). According to Ikerd (1993), environmental factors can assist or obstruct entrepreneurial activity. The social environment will play a successful role in analyzing or encourage graduating students' intention to venture into agro-business. For example, when the students already know or have a relationship with someone that already a success in agropreneur. On the other hand, when the student is viewed as an unfavorable social environment for agriculture, they will have less intention to venture into agriculture even though he/she can make better changes in involving in the agriculture sector because the student already knows, fresh ideas and creativity in changes, and also government provide assistance to support agriculture population. Environmental factor plays an essential role in weakening or strengthening the intention of graduating students to create a new business in the agriculture sector. It is because the graduating students will influence by belief value and their social environment. Therefore, based on the discussion, this study proposes the following hypothesis:

H3: There is a positive relationship between social environment and level of inclination of graduating students to venture into agribusiness.

# **III.** Methodology

The study used quantitative method with a questionnaire survey as a means of collecting data. A total number of 158 respondents from Bachelor of Science (Hons) Technology and Plantation Management (AT220) final year students were surveyed in UiTM Cawangan Melaka, Kampus Jasin. Out of the 181 sets of questionnaires distributed, 158 questionnaires returned were usable for analysis. The constructs in this study

were measured by using 5 points Likert scales as drawn from a previous study. It was adapted and modified from the past researcher. In that response, the graduating students were asked to evaluate their levels of agribusiness intention based on the statements such as, "I'm ready to put a lot of effort to be an agropreneur", My professional goal is becoming an agropreneur, I will make every effort to start and run my own agribusiness, I'm determined to create an agribusiness in the future, I have very seriously thought in starting an agribusiness and "I have got the intention to start agribusiness someday". Knowledge was assessed with the scale from Liñán, et. al., (2011). The scale consists of six statements such as "I have knowledge about loans in especially favorable terms." answered on a 5-point Likert-type scale ranging from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). Next, the attitude was assessed with the scale from Liñán, et. al., (2011). The scale consists of eight statements such as "I am prepared to start an agribusiness in future." answered on a 5-point Likert-type scale ranging from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). Lastly, the social environment was assessed with the scale from Liñán, et. al., (2011). The scale consists of six statements such as "Agribusiness activity does not contradict with the culture in my country" answered on a 5-point Likert-type scale ranging from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). Those gathered data are then analyzed using descriptive and correlation analysis. Cronbach alpha was employed to determine reliability. The following table 1 summarizes the Cronbach alpha values for each construct. As the values are between 0.814 and 0.918, the high reliability of each construct is indicated.Table 1:

Table 1: Reliability Test (N	'=158)
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Variables	No. of item	No. of item drop	Cronbach's alpha
Agribusiness Intention	6	-	.918
Knowledge	6	-	.848
Attitude	8	-	.894
Social Environment	6	-	.814

### **IV. Results**

Table 2 illustrates the profile of respondents of the study. Based on the gender of the respondents, 44.3 percent were male students and 55.7 percent were female students. Most of the respondents 56.3 percent aged from 21 to 23 years old, while 4 percent of the respondents aged from 18 to 20 years old. 50.6 percent of the respondents were from semester six and 48.7 percent was semester five. 49.4 percent of the respondent was from the semi-urban area, 37.7 percent from the rural area, and 13.3 percent from the urban area. The majority of the respondent, 39.2 percent of their parents' level of education received secondary school, and only 2.5 percent of their parents received no formal education. Moreover, 27.8 percent of the respondents mostly respond to parents' current occupation were self-employed or entrepreneurs, and 7.0 percent that their parents were unemployed. Last but not least in the demographic profile, 62.7 percent of respondents did not have a background of a family that was involved in agribusiness, while 36.1 percent of the respondents had a background of a family that involved in agribusiness.

Table 2: <i>Profile of Respondents (N=158)</i>	Table 2:	Profile	of Respo	ondents	(N=158)
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Demographic Profile	Classification	Percentage (%)	Frequency
Gender	Male	44.3	70
	Female	55.7	88
Age (years old)	18-20	2.5	4
	21-23	56.3	89
	24-26	37.3	59
	27-29	3.8	6
Current semester of final year students of	Semester 5	48.7	77
AT220	Semester 6	50.6	80
Place of residence	Urban area	13.3	21
	Semi-urban area	49.4	78
	Rural area	37.3	59

Parents level of education	No formal education	2.5	4
	Primary school	12.0	19
	Secondary school	39.2	62
	Certificate	20.9	33
	Higher education	25.3	40
Parent's present occupation	Public sector employee	27.2	43
	Private sector employee	20.3	32
	Self-employed or	27.8	44
	entrepreneur	17.7	28
	Retired	7.0	11
	Unemployed		
Family involvement in agribusiness	Yes	36.1	57
	No	62.7	99

# Level of Graduating Students' Inclination to venture into Agribusiness

Table 2 explains the level of students' intention to venture into agribusiness. Table 2 indicates the measure for students' intention to venture into agribusiness that consists of 6 items. Analysis of the results descriptively shows that most students have a high significant average on all items. The result found that the majority of respondents 96.7 percent said that they agreed "I have got the intention to start agribusiness someday" (item 6) 1 strongly disagrees to 5 strongly agree. This item had recorded the highest mean for the students' intention to venture into agribusiness M (3.93). The results also showed that 94.3 percent of the respondents agreed that "I am determined to create an agribusiness in the future"second-highest only disagree to 5 strongly agree. This statement recorded was the second highest mean M (3.92). Moreover, item 1 "I am ready to put a lot of effort to be an agropreneur" shows that 97.5 percent based on the survey results indicated that the students agreed to the item 1 statement. The mean of the item shows that most of the students agreed that they are ready to put a lot of effort to be an agropreneur indicating a mean value of 3.87. It is worth mentioning that, slightly more than 93 percent of them agreed that "I have very seriously though in starting an agribusiness)" (item 5) 1 strongly disagree to 5 strong students and the lowest mean recorded was M (3.70). Therefore, the overall level of students intention to venture into agribusiness M (3.84), suggests that the students' of UiTM Kampus Jasin had a moderately high level of intention to venture into agribusiness.

Table 3: Level of Mean Score and	Percentage for each item	in Students' Agribusiness Intention

Items	Mean	Percentage
I am ready to put a lot of effort to be an agropreneur	3.87	97.5
My professional goal is becoming an agropreneur	3.84	94.3
I will make every effort to start and run my own agribusiness	3.78	94.3
I am determined to create an agribusiness in the future	3.92	94.3
I have very seriously thought about starting an agribusiness	3.70	93
I have got the intention to start agribusiness someday	3.93	96.7

#### Relationship between Knowledge, Attitude & Social Environment and Agribusiness Intention

Preliminary analyses to ensure no violation of the assumptions of normality, linearity, multicollinearity, and homoscedasticity were run and checked. Table 4 shows the results of the correlation between knowledge, attitude, social environment, and agribusiness intention. The first correlation analysis is between knowledge and agribusiness intention. The result indicates that there is a significant positive relationship exists between knowledge and agribusiness intention, which is the r-value of correlation was .505 (p < .05). Therefore, the higher agribusiness intention of the students associated with higher knowledge. Thus, H1 is supported.

Next, the second correlation analysis is between attitude and agribusiness intention. The results of the correlation indicate a significant positive relationship exists between attitude and agribusiness intention, which is the r-value of correlation is .661 (p < .05). As attitude increases the agribusiness intention also increases. Thus H2 is accepted.

The results of the correlation between social environment and agribusiness intention. indicate a significant positive relationship, with r-value of correlation is .468 (p < .05). Therefore, the higher agribusiness intention of the students associated with a higher social environment. Thus, H3 is supported.

Variables	r-value	p-value	Decision
Knowledge and Agribusiness Intention	.505	< .05	H1 is Supported
Attitude and Agribusiness Intention	.661	< .05	H2 is Supported
Social Environment and Agribusiness Intention	.468	< .05	H3 is Supported

Table 4: Summary of	f Relationship	using Correl	lation Analysis

# V. Discussion

The purpose of the present study was three-fold. The primary purpose was to examine the level of agribusiness intention among university students. These results indicated that most of the university students had a high level of intention to venture into agribusiness. According to Ooi, Selvarajah, and Meyer (2011), they observed that male students and students with self-employed parents have a higher inclination towards entrepreneurship. Moreover, students that have working experiences were more inclined towards entrepreneurship than those without the experience (Ooi, et. al. 2011). Additionally, a study by Abdul Jumaat and Jasmani (2012) found that Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris students were inclined to consider entrepreneurship as a highly desirable career option, therefore they tend to have a high level of inclination to venture into entrepreneurship. Similar to the past study by Nor Amna et. al. (2015), it showed that there was a high percentage of youth tend to become an agropreneur. The most probable explanation is that agribusiness has the potential to be developed more especially among youth. Based on the present findings, results show that the students from AT220 programme had a high level of inclination to venture into agribusiness. Based on the present findings it implies that this programme can encourage and cultivate more students to become agroprenur after their graduation.

The second purpose was to determine the relationships. As noted in Table 3, findings reported that there was a significant positive relationship exists between knowledge and agribusiness intention. The present result is supported by previous findings by Hudu et. al. (2014) which found that knowledge had a significant relationship with their intention to engage in self-employment in agribusiness after graduation. In addition, a study by Mazlina and Selvarajah (2015) also found that students' entrepreneurial inclination had highly significantly influenced by the personal independent learning approach.

Next, the results of the correlation showed a significant positive relationship exists between attitude and agribusiness intention. The findings are in line with a previous study by Liñán et.al (2010) which found that a positive relationship between personal attitude and entrepreneur intention. Likewise, Abdullah Aziz and Naem Sulaiman (2013) found that attitude has significantly affected the interest among youth to get involved in agricultural entrepreneurship. In contrast, these present findings were not in line with research conducted by Arisandi (2016) and Rizki, Burhanuddin & Wahyu (2017) expressing that attitude toward the behavior does not give any positive influence on entrepreneur's intention in the agribusiness sector. The most probable explanation is that the entrepreneurship attitude cannot determine how big intentions for entrepreneurs in the agricultural sector. Hence, the created entrepreneur's behavior is not based on attitude toward the behavior.

The results of the last correlation indicate a significant positive relationship exists between social environment and agribusiness intention. The results obtained are similar to a previous study by Mazlina and Selvarajah (2015) which found that a supportive environment has a positive influence on students' entrepreneurial intention. Likewise, the Nigerian students on Muhammad et al.'s (2015) study, found that the social environment influences entrepreneurial intention. This present result is in line with Masoomi et al.'s (2016) which reported highly correlated with entrepreneurial intentions of students in agriculture at the University of Shiraz, Iran.

## **VI.** Conclusion

Present research studied agribusiness intention among final year students from Bachelor of Science Technology and Plantation Management (Hons) (AT220) at UiTM Kampus Jasin Melaka. Based on reported findings on demographic profile, the study obtained that most of the female students responded to the survey and the respondent was aged between 21 to 23 years old. Most of the respondents were from semester six students. The study showed that 49.4 percent of the respondents were from the semi-urban area. The majority of respondents, their parents' level of education received a secondary school level, whereas, for parents' current occupation, most of the parents were self-employed or entrepreneurs. Most of the respondents do not have a family that is involved in agribusiness. The study also discovered that the students had a high inclination level to venture into agribusiness. Most of the students agreed that they ready to put a lot of effort to be an agropreneur. Results indicated that relationships between knowledge, attitude, and social environment, and agribusiness were correlated significantly.

This study recommended that students join or venture into agriculture sector and agropreneur. The government as the important party needs to play its roles by coming out with more policy-related to this field. The government agencies and non-governmental organizations also must take part to attract more young generation to involve in the agriculture sector. More programmes should be introduced and implemented by the government for the young generation. The government should be able to convey the benefit of involving in entrepreneurship so that their mental state of having no confidence in business and attitude towards farming can be removed. It is greatly emphasized by Damar, Abdul Qadir & Hasan (2019) that this could be done by exposing them to soft skill training such individuals before joining the entrepreneurship training program. Student intention to engage in self-employment in agribusiness is expected to be influenced by their perception regarding agribusiness, their experience, and training in agriculture which will shape their attitude and how they perceive the social and economic environment providing support to agribusiness enterprise development.

The study has several limitations. First, it was conducted using only 158 respondents from final year students at the Faculty of Plantation and Agrotechnology UiTM Cawangan Melaka, Kampus Jasin. Consequently, the results might be enriched if the number of respondents and faculties are increased. Second, the present study only relies on the instrument established by Linan et al. (2010) which was specifically developed for measuring entrepreneurial intention. In the future, it is suggested that additional factors that affect agribusiness intention such as perceived behavioral control, agricultural education, and subjective norms be incorporated.

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