

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah and the most Gracious and Merciful.

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1.1 INTRODUCTION OF ESTATE

Giram Estate consists of Main division which is called as Giram itself and another 3 sub division namely Kochin, Sipit and Ulu Balung division. Giram Estate is situated on the east coast of Sabah State, 19 km away from Darvel Bay which is one of the most picturesque natural bays in South East Asia.

Giram estate merged with one management under Golden Hope Plantation Sdn Bhd in early February 2001, and now is known as Sime Darby Plantation Sdn Bhd. Giram Estate derives its name from the river which flows through the estate, from Sungai Giram to the South of the property.

Giram Estate was initially a virgin jungle and logging activities were carried out by Sabah Timber Company or British Borneo Timber Company in the early 50', near Kalumpang were planted with tobacco by Darvel Tobacco Company.

The basal lava flow constitutes the major soil type of Giram. It is relatively young with the surface unweathered rocks, which impedes both ease of access for husbandry activities and root penetration, leading to palm stress after an extended dry weather.

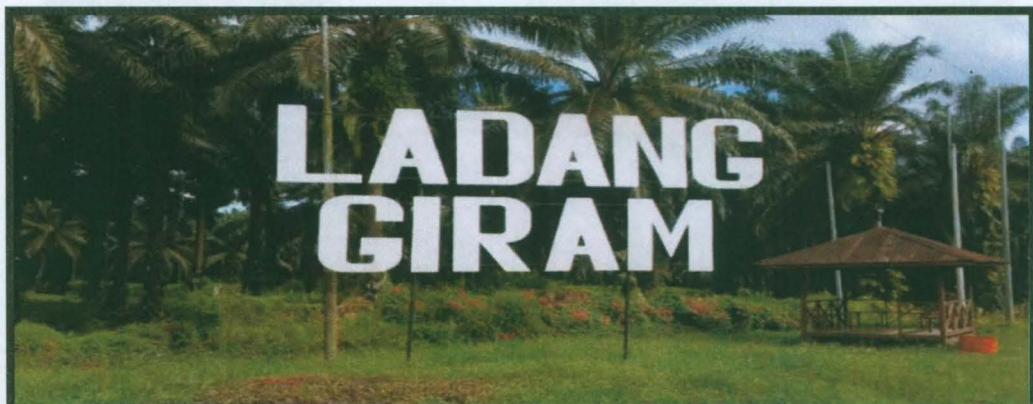


Figure 1.1: Signboard of Giram Estate