

## ABOUT THE LECTURE SERIES

The FGV Chair of Sustainable Oil Palm Management in Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) was established in 2016 with the endowment fund from Felra Global Ventures Holdings Bhd. The Chair is responsible to conduct research on sustainable oil palm management which focuses on improving soil health via several strategies. The ultimate goal is to create a healthy and living soil environment for oil palm. As part of the Chair's activities, FGV Chair Lecture Series is being organised to disseminate the latest research findings in this area. With the theme for the first lecture this year as "Better understanding of oil palm soil-microbes interaction towards a sustainable oil palm management" the lecture will gather experts not only from UMS but also from FGV and University of Nottingham Malaysia to share their cutting edge research with the participants.

## REGISTRATION FORM

Salutation : \_\_\_\_\_  
Name : \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization : \_\_\_\_\_  
Designation : \_\_\_\_\_  
Address : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact No : \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax No : \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address : \_\_\_\_\_

## MORE INFO:

Contact:  
FGV Chair Lecture Series Secretariat  
Faculty of Sustainable Agriculture  
Universiti Malaysia Sabah  
UMS Sandakan Campus, Mile 10, Sungai Batang,  
90000, Sandakan, Sabah, Malaysia  
Tel: +6089-248100  
Fax: +6089-220703  
Email: fgvchair@ums.edu.my

## FGV CHAIR LECTURE SERIES: I

*Better understanding of oil palm soil-  
microbes interaction towards a  
sustainable oil palm management*

*5 November 2019*

**Universiti Malaysia Sabah**

**Faculty of Sustainable Agriculture  
Sandakan, Sabah  
Main Hall**



ORGANIZED BY



UMS  
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH



## PROGRAMME

- 7.30 am : Registration of participants
- 8.30 am : Welcoming remarks by the Dean of Faculty of Sustainable Agriculture, UMS  
**Professor Dr. Abdul Hamid Ahmad**
- 8.40 am : Opening speech by Vice-Chancellor of UMS  
**Prof. Datuk Dr. Taufiq Yap Yun Hin**
- 8.50 am : Tea break
- 9.30 am : **Lecture 1: Oil Palm and Healthy Soil: The Way Forward**  
**Dr. Chong Khim Phin**  
FGV Chair of Sustainable Oil Palm Management  
Faculty of Sustainable Agriculture  
Universiti Malaysia Sabah
- 10.00 am : **Lecture 2: Roles of Microbes in Sustaining the Oil Palm Health and Productivity**  
**Mr. Hamdan Ibrahim**  
Chief Researcher/Head of Crop Protection  
FGV Research & Development Sdn Bhd
- 10.30 am : **Lecture 3: Rhizosphere Microbiome Indicators for Biological Control of Ganoderma spp. In Mineral and Peat Soil**  
**Dr. Christina Vimala Supramaniam**  
Associate Professor  
University of Nottingham, Malaysia Campus
- 11.00 am : Questions and Answers Session
- 12.00 pm : Lunch break and end of session

## CHONG KHIM PHIN



Dr. Chong Khim Phin holds a PhD in Plant Science from the University of Nottingham, United Kingdom. He is currently the FGV Chair of Sustainable Oil Palm Management in Faculty of Sustainable Agriculture, Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS). Dr Chong has authored and co-authored 80 papers in international and national referred journals, four books and two chapters in book. He has involved in 45 research and community/industry engagement projects from 2005-2019 mostly in the capacity as the principal investigator which related to plant diseases sponsored by industries and government agencies nationally and internationally with total amount of RM 3.5 million. Apart from that, in 2015, his proposal managed to secure an endowed Professor Chair with RM 2 million from Felda Global Ventures Holdings Bhd, one of the giant palm oil companies in Malaysia on Sustainable Oil Palm Management. Dr Chong is also an active member of the National Steering Committee on Malaysia Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO) under the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI). He also serves as editor and reviewer to several journals published by Elsevier, Wiley, Springer and others. He was the founder of the Sustainable Palm Oil Research Unit (SPOR) in UMS and former Head of the Unit for four years. Dr Chong also served as the Deputy Dean (Research and Innovation) for School of Sustainable Agriculture, UMS in 2010-2011. He has been invited to talk in several conferences as keynote and plenary speaker and also as a Visiting Professor to Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology (Philippines), Visiting Scientist to Seoul National University (South Korea) and University of Hull (United Kingdom). Dr Chong is also actively involves in several consultancy work related to oil palm diseases. He has five PhD and five MSc students graduated under his supervision and won several medals, in research competitions including the Gold medal in 2010 Seoul Invention Fair.

## HAMDAN IBRAHIM



Mr. Hamdan Ibrahim is a Researcher, and currently Head of Crop Protection Department at FGV R&D, a subsidiary of FGV Holdings Berhad. He is a Microbiologist and hold more than 15 years of experience in Agricultural Microbiology and Oil Palm Plantation research. His main research focus is on development of bio-fertiliser, biocontrol agent and bioaugmentation product for oil palm plantations. Since 2004, he involved and established the commercial scale production of Arbuscular Mycorrhizal, Metarhizium, Trichoderma fungi and Bacillus based products for oil palm applications. Currently, he involves in implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for oil palm and disease management. He has research interest in Prospecting of Microbial products, Biological Control Agents, Mass production of Microbial products, Oil Palm Crop Protection Advisory, Waste Water Management, Oil Palm Empty Fruit Bunch Composting and Oil Palm Mill Effluent Treatment. He obtained his BSc. (Hons) in Microbiology from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia in 1995 and MSc in Microbiology from the same University in 2000. He won a Gold Award for PalmaShield, a biocontrol agent for Oil Palm Ganoderma Disease in the recent ITEX 2019.

## CHRISTINA SUPRAMANIAM



Dr Christina is an Associate Professor at the School of Biosciences, University of Nottingham Malaysia (UNM). She is the Director of Nottingham Centre for Sustainable Palm Oil and co-Director of the Beacon of Excellence Future Food Malaysia at UNM. Dr Christina Supramaniam obtained her PhD in Molecular Plant Pathology from the University of Nottingham, UK. Her research focuses on the epidemiology, molecular interaction, and biological control of *Ganoderma* basal stem rot (BSR) disease in oil palm. She is the principle scientist for field trials to determine the efficacy of organic waste compost to improve soil microbial populations in oil palm plantations. She has vast experience working on microbial communities in diverse oil palm fields, soil types and manuring program for the suppression of BSR. Dr Christina has published several papers and has been invited to give keynote addresses on *Ganoderma* disease of oil palm in both local and international conferences. She has won several awards such as the UNMC- CESPOR- Eureka Synergy Research Award in 2015 and has received more than RM 1m in research funding. She has supervised 45 undergraduate research projects and more than 10 postgraduate students. She has also been nominated as an internal examiner for four PhD candidates. Dr Christina is a reviewer for top scientific journals such as Plant Pathology (Wiley), Fungal Biology (Elsevier) and Crop Protection (Elsevier). She is an Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Agency (HEA) UK and has memberships in the International Society for Plant Pathology (ISPP), British Society for Plant Pathology (BSPP) and Australasian Plant Pathology Society (APPS).