

Foreword

Welcome to the **Third Issue 2013** of the Journal of Tropical Agricultural Science (JTAS)!

JTAS is an open-access journal for the Tropical Agricultural Science published by Universiti Putra Malaysia Press. It is independently owned and managed by the university and run on a non-profit basis for the benefit of the world-wide science community.

This issue contains **seven articles**, out of which **one** is short communication, while **five** are regular research papers and **one** is a case study. The authors of these articles are from **Malaysia, Nigeria and Thailand**.

The short communication reports an update made by the group of researchers in Malaysia. The group reports that the use of goat manure to fertilise grasses grown for animal feed may lead to parasitic diseases, specifically by strongyle infection (*Basripuzi, H. B., Sani, R. A., Ariff, O. M. and Chandrawathani, P.*). The study also suggests that the manure can still be applied as a safe fertiliser.

The five research papers cover a wide range of topics. A group of researchers from the National Fish Health Research Centre, Malaysia, reports an infestation of protozoan parasites in imported mangrove oysters. (*Kua, B. C., Mohd. Salleh, M. T. and Noraziah, M. R.*). The other research group from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Malaysia, describes in detail the genetic variations and population structure of the genus *Cynopterus*, a megabat in Malaysia (*Fong, P. H., Yuzine, E. and Abdullah, M. T.*), while another group from Malaysia describes the vitrification technique on *Lignosus rhinocerus* that can preserve dikaryotic mycelial cells with 100% regeneration and without trace of genotoxicity (*Lai Wei Hong, Ninie Noor Diana Enche Baharuddin, Shu San Loo, Azura Amid, Fauzi Daud, Abas Mazni Othman and Norihan Mohd Saleh*).

The researchers from Nigeria describe in detail the influence of feed restriction and realimentation on performance and carcass characteristics of growing rabbits in a humid environment (*Adeyemi, O.A, Ajeboriogbon, O.O. and Aderinoye, S.A.*), while another group from Nigeria reports that the root knot nematodes infection on cowpea can be managed with the leaf powder of *Azadirachta indica*, *Parkia biglobosa*, *Eucalyptus gigantea* and *Cassia siamea* (*Chimbekujwo, I. B., Bukar, A. M. and Channya, F. K.*).

The last manuscript in this issue is a case study by a group of researchers from Thailand. They report that electroejaculation was useful for semen collection in perineal urethrostomy goat. (*Sringam, S., Suwanathada, P., Sangkaew A., Thuangsanthia, A. and Leingchareon, N.*).

I anticipate that you will find the evidence presented in this issue to be intriguing, thought-provoking and useful in reaching new milestones in your own research. Please recommend the journal to your colleagues and students to make this endeavour meaningful.

I would also like to express my gratitude to all the contributors, namely, the authors, reviewers and editors who have made this issue possible. Last but not least, the editorial assistance of the journal division staff is fully appreciated.

JTAS is currently accepting manuscripts for upcoming issues based on original qualitative or quantitative research that opens new areas of inquiry and investigation.

Chief Executive Editor

Nayan Deep S. KANWAL, [FRSA](#), [ABIM](#), [AMIS](#), Ph.D.

nayan@upm.my