

# Foreword

Welcome to the First Issue of 2020 for the Journal of Tropical Agricultural Science (JTAS)!

JTAS is an open-access journal for studies in Tropical Agricultural Science published by Universiti Putra Malaysia Press. It is independently owned and managed by the university for the benefit of the world-wide science community.

This issue contains 6 articles; 1 is short communication, 2 are review articles and 3 are regular articles. Articles submitted in this issue cover the scope of algae biotechnology, biotechnology, crop and pasture production, fisheries sciences, microbiology and veterinary sciences.

The first paper presented in the issue is written by Ainatul Nadia Rusnan and her teammates from Universiti Putra Malaysia. They provided an overview of the occurrence of emetic and diarrhoeal food poisoning caused by *Bacillus cereus* in Southeast Asia. It concluded that the food poisoning by *B. cereus* used to be underreported as it had a short duration of illness and the symptoms are usually mild. The further details of the study are found on page 1.

A short communication entitled “The Role of *Nannochloropsis* sp. Methanolic Extract in Reducing Hydrogen Peroxide-induced DNA Damage in L929 Cell Line” discussed on the preventive effect of the phenolic compounds in the methanolic extract of *Nannochloropsis* sp. in protecting L929 normal cells from oxidative DNA damage. It concluded that the compounds in the extract might protect cell from oxidative DNA damage and thus prevent genetic mutation and cancer formation. The detailed information of this article is presented on page 81.

We 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.

All the papers published in this edition underwent Pertanika's stringent peer-review process involving a minimum of two reviewers comprising internal as well as external referees. This was to ensure that the quality of the papers justified the high ranking of the journal, which is renowned as a heavily-cited journal not only by authors and researchers in Malaysia but by those in other countries around the world as well.

We would also like to express our gratitude to all the contributors, namely the authors, reviewers, Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Board Members of JTAS, who have made this issue possible.

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

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