Foreword

Welcome to the first issue of 2022 for the Pertanika Journal of Tropical Agricultural Science (PJTAS)!

PJTAS 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 20 articles; a review article, a short communication and the rest are regular articles. The authors of these articles come from different countries namely Ghana, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand, and Vietnam.

A regular article entitled "Effect of Herbal Blend and L-arginine Supplementation on Growth Performance, Intestinal Morphology, and Caecal Microflora of Growing Guinea Fowls" investigated the effect of diet containing herbal blend (HB) of turmeric (*Curcuma longa*), scent leaf (*Ocimum gratissimum*), and moringa leaf (*Morinda lucida*) supplemented with or without L-arginine (L-Arg) on growth performance, intestinal morphology, and caecal microflora of guinea fowls. Based on the results, it concluded that guinea fowls fed the diet with HB supplemented or not with L-Arg had similar growth performance with those fed with an antibiotic. L-Arg supplementation of the diet with HB resulted in increased caecal *Lactobacillus* counts of growing birds. Full information of this study is presented on page 37.

A selected article entitled "Investigating the Potential of Endophytic Lactic Acid Bacteria Isolated from Papaya Seeds as Plant Growth Promoter and Antifungal Agent" evaluated plant growth-promoting potentials further and *in vitro* antifungal activity of the lactic acid bacteria against various plant pathogens. The results highlighted the possibility of the bacterial consortium to be exploited as bioinoculant to promote plant growth and inhibit phytopathogens causing plant diseases. The further details of this study are found on page 207.

Diana Rachmawati and her teammates from Diponegoro University identified the impacts of yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) enhanced feed on feed efficiency, growth, and survival rate of Sangkuriang catfish fingerlings. Various dosages of the commercial feed were given. The findings concluded that supplementing yeast (*S. cerevisiae*) in the commercial feed could increase feed efficiency and growth in Sangkuriang catfish fingerlings. However, it did not affect the survival rate. The detailed information of this article is available on page 273.

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 PJTAS, who have made this issue possible. PJTAS 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
executive_editor.pertanika@upm.edu.my