

Persekutuan Persatuan-persatuan Penternak Malaysia

馬來西亞禽畜業聯合總會

(Federation of Livestock Farmers' Associations of Malaysia)

PRESS STATEMENT WORLD EGG DAY 2015

World Egg Day is celebrated globally on the second Friday in October every year and this year it falls on Friday the 9th of October. The Federation of Livestock Farmers' Association Malaysia (FLFAM) is taking the opportunity to celebrate the occasion today on the side lines of the Livestock Asia Expo and Forum 2015. The purpose of this celebration is to raise awareness of the benefits of eggs and to generate media interest around eggs.

Eggs are one of the most affordable foods item but yet able to provide wholesome nutrients to a person. A large egg is able to provide an impressive six grams of high-quality protein and many essential vitamins and minerals. Research has also indicated that the presence of choline in eggs promote fetal brain development, as well as to help to prevent birth defects. In conjuction with the event, Dr Lim Ju Boo will be presenting informative and interesting information about the goodness of eggs.

We the producers of eggs and those providing the support and marketing services derive our income from the business that has existed for more than 60 years. We therefore have very good reasons to be thankful to the poultry egg that has served us well and to reflect on today day we celebrate it at the National level

Consumers, on the other hand, regard eggs as a nutritious, convenient and readily available food at affordable prices. That translates into our per capita consumption of about 328 eggs — among the highest in the world. It is like there is a layer hen serving each member of our population as fresh egg provider at the rate of one egg per day.

Much has changed in the last 60 years of layer farming in this country. Due to competitive factors and the advancement in genetics and production technology the number of farms companies has today fallen to only about 350 in Peninsular Malaysia but the bigger companies have production output of more than 2.5 million eggs per day.

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The transformation in production efficiency has kept the industry in Malaysia globally competitive and about 15 percent of our production is in fact exported. There had been occasions when our eggs have been exported to as far as Angola in West Africa.

While the transformation and modernisation of the layer farming activity has been largely successful, more needs to be done to ensure its continued viability and sustainability in terms of food supply security. The most important issue is the availability of land for farming. As the traditional farming environment get urbanised farms are subjected to stringent laws and regulation more in the line of industrial activities. At the same time it is very difficult for layer farms to relocate their operation as new suitable land is very difficult to find and getting approval from various authorities is a very long and complicated undertaking.

With the weakening of the ringgit our imported resources such as feed ingredients and genetic resources have been increasing sharply and this will soon affect our cost of production and may be reflected in the prices consumers have to pay.

In this regard we would like to reiterate our request to the government to reinstate the capital allowances in the 2016 budget that was given to investment in closed poultry houses to help the industry remain globally competitive in the future. Any other form of production incentives would be highly appreciated also.

Thus as we celebrate the table egg in the service of all of us as consumers its role in the food supply security of the country deserves to be supported for the benefit of the country as a whole.

Layer Unit Federation of Livestock Farmers Associations of Malaysia



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