

Community Service Program on Awareness Creation about Parthenium Hazards

On 29 December 2016 a public lecture and posters display on Parthenium hazards and its management was organized by the Parthenium Weed Research Group (PWRG) of Universiti Malaysia Kelantan in collaboration with Department of Agriculture (DOA), District Jeli. The leader of PWRG, Prof. Dr. S. M. Rezaul Karim, Faculty of Agro Based Industry (FIAT) was invited by the District Agriculture Officer, Mr. Hisham Bin Ismail to give this lecture. The program was initiated by Mr. Hisham at his community meeting hall, DOA, Jeli and all the officers and responsible staff of different departments related to agriculture, fisheries, livestock etc. along with a good number of local farmers were invited. One representative officer from Daerah Jeli was also participated the program.



Prof. Karim, in his lecture, focused the morphology of parthenium weed, way of identification, bad effects on human, animals, crops and biodiversity, present scenario of parthenium infestation in Malaysia and how to control this invasive weed. Some posters focusing on the ill impacts of parthenium weed on crop production, human and animal healths were displayed for public awareness. The weed has been gazetted as Quarantine Pest and a penalty of RM10,000 or two years Jail may be imposed to the person who allows this plant to grow in his area and/or carry this plant from one place to another without the permission of DOA authority.



He has emphasized to avoid the parthenium contract, and has suggested the public to participate the national coordinated management program and to inform the appropriate authority any presence of the weed in the vicinity of their own residence or field areas. Among the members of PWRG, Dr. Zul Ariff Bin Abdullatiff, Dr. Dwi Susanto and Dr. Laila Naher from FIAT have helped Prof. Karim for accomplishment of the program. Maszura Che Mat, the GRA of Prof. Karim FRGS project, has helped to prepare the banner, to display the parthenium informatic posters and to keep the records of the program. Prof. Karim is thankful to MOHE, Malaysia for supporting this event through providing with the FRGS grants to conduct research and extension on Risk Assessment of Parthenium weed.



Prof. Karim also likes to acknowledge the helps and cooperation from DOA, Jahahan Jeli in organizing this program. The program started at 10 am and finished at 1.0 pm.

