

Hong Kong's Agroforestry Group expands its Aquilaria R&D operations to Malaysia

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Hong Kong's Agroforestry Group has announced the expansion of its Aquilaria programme through collaboration with a Malaysian research and development company.

The collaboration is driven by renowned scientific advisor Dr Baharuddin Salleh and includes Aquilaria inoculation and post-inoculation product development. In terms of inoculation, it is aimed specifically at increasing the success, speed and yield of agarwood in inoculated trees. Each stage in the inoculation process requires a different mixture of compounds. Agroforestry Group invests heavily in finding an optimal balance between performance enhancement and cost minimization.

Established in 2015, Agroforestry Group have applied their thirty years of private forestry management experience into the establishment and commercial development of durian and agarwood plantations, product distribution and sales. As an asset class, agriculture and forestry have expanded rapidly over the last decade. This is due to interest from risk-averse private investors attracted by the green credentials of the industry and the long-term high returns of agroforestry.

Paul Martin, Managing Director of Agroforestry Group, stated, "This collaboration has enhanced our research and development programme and has marked a significant milestone as we near the end of our inoculation research programme for Aquilaria trees planted in 2018 and 2019. By expanding our programme, we will be able to safeguard our ongoing research and development efforts as well as focus on post-inoculation product development. Aquilaria-based products include tea, fragrances, and other products".

Martin further emphasized the immense value of the partnership, by highlighting the decades of experience that renowned Aquilaria expert, Dr. Baharuddin Salleh provides to the company. Dr Baharuddin Salleh, a distinguished researcher and author, formerly served as a Professor of Plant Pathology & Mycology at the University of Sains Malaysia (USM) and boasts an impressive portfolio of over 100 published works. His expertise and contributions will be instrumental in the progress of Agroforestry Group's initiatives in Aquilaria research and development.