



Golden Hope

Nalek Rubber Estate Limited

Ladang Kelan

Karung Berkunci 103
81000 Kulai
Johore
Tel: 07-631505

6th February 1993

The Managing Director,
Interface Services Pte. Ltd.,
No. 12, Sussex Garden,
Seletar Air Base,
Singapore 2879.

Dear Sir,

FIELD TRIALS OF EX-T-EL OIL PALM HARVESTING TOOLS

Your 1/2 on the above refers.

As requested we append below observations of the trials conducted on Kelan Estate :-

Period covered : 9/11/92 to 28/1/93

<u>Year of Planting</u>	<u>Average Height (Meters)</u>	<u>Conventional (Bunches/day)</u>	<u>EX-T-EL (Bunches/day)</u>	<u>Productivity % age of increase</u>
1968	12.13	47	117	149
1974	9.10	81	106	31
1975	8.28	87	106	22

Observation

From the above it would be noted that the productivity increased significantly in field planted in 1968, as most of the taller palms ranging from 14 to 15 meters in height beyond reach previously were harvested using the EX-T-EL - made possible on account of the following contributing factors :-

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1. Telescopic/lightness/easy to handle ;
2. Does not swing uncontrollably unlike the conventional poles, hence, time saved in stabilising the poles can be better utilised in harvesting additional task ;
3. Higher reach due to extendability ;
4. Faster and easier movements of harvesters from palm to palm ;
5. Less strenuous hence added productivity.

Conclusion/Opinion

1. High capital outlay is required which can be a prohibiting factor in its use.
2. EX-T-EL is a promising harvesting tool especially for taller palms requiring experienced and skilled harvesters, which numbers are becoming scarce and dwindling. The timely introduction of EX-T-EL could be a great boost to oil palm plantations in arresting the acute problem of labour shortage.

Yours faithfully,

NALEK RUBBER ESTATE LTD.
KELAN ESTATE

Manager
(Yseu Chi Fui Stephen)

c.c. Oil Palm Research Station,
P.O. Box 207,
42700 Banting,
Selangor Darul Ehsan.
(Attn: En. Kamarudzaman Hj. Aribi)