

Preface

The 4th International Conference on Agriculture, Animal Sciences, and Food Technology (ICAFT 2025) serves as a vibrant platform where researchers, academicians, and industry professionals convene to share insights, innovations, and solutions that advance sustainable practices in agriculture and food systems. The conference, proudly organised by the Faculty of Bioresources and Food Industry, Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (UniSZA), Malaysia, gathers global participants at the Paya Bunga Hotel, Kuala Terengganu, Malaysia, on 11–12 August 2025.

The papers presented at the ICAFT 2025 are now published in the Proceedings of ICAFT 2025, hosted under the *Pertanika* Journal of Tropical Agricultural Science. This publication encapsulates the spirit of the conference theme — “Sustainable Synergies: Bridging Agriculture, Food Innovation, Animal Science, and Environmental Sustainability.” It highlights the interdisciplinary collaboration and research advancements that drive transformation across agricultural and food-related sectors in facing future global challenges.

Research contributions such as “Isolating and Characterising Phosphate-solubilising Bacteria from Oil Palm and Forest Soils for Improved Agricultural Practices”, “Palm Kernel Expeller and Empty Fruit Bunch Inclusion in Beef Cattle Feed Formulation and Rumen Fermentation”, “Indoor Hydroponic Growth of *Labisia pumila* Clone”, and “Nutritional Composition and Protein Quality of the *Keropok Lekor* By-products” reflect the conference’s commitment in fostering innovative research with practical implications for sustainable resource management, animal nutrition, and food technology development.

This proceedings is a testament to the collaborative spirit of our scientific community — a convergence of minds dedicated in advancing agricultural and environmental sciences through research and innovation. We extend our sincere appreciation to *Pertanika* and the UPM Press Centre for their support in realising this publication, and our heartfelt gratitude to all keynote speakers, reviewers, participants, and the organising committee for their commitment, hard work, and intellectual contributions that have made the ICAFT 2025 a success.

Guest Editors

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