

Sarawak implements new GPL regulation for export products

October 26, 2018, Friday



Abang Johari (second right) with Uggah (second left) and others at the launch of the GPL regulation.

KUCHING: The Grading, Packaging and Labelling (GPL) regulation for Sarawak was launched by Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Openg during the Sarawak AgroFest 2018 yesterday.

The new regulation is a standard enforced by the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (Fama) to enhance the standard and quality of export products.

Under the GPL regulation, products are graded, packaged and labelled to ensure that they are safe for consumption before they are marketed outside the country.

Products that are meant for export must be graded according to the Fama Standard (FS) or Malaysia Standard (MS).



A sample of the GPL certification seen at the booth.

For instance, they are graded into Premium, 1 or 2 in terms of quality as well as XL, L, M or S in terms of size.

The grades are given based on certain aspects including freshness of the products.

On packaging, products must not weigh more than 30kg to facilitate product handling so as to cut the risk of damage to the products.

All products must be properly labelled to include information such as name and address of the exporter; name, size, grade, weight and country of origin of the products to enable traceability.

The GPL regulation has been implemented in Peninsular Malaysia since July 1, 2011 and in Sabah on Oct 30 last year.

In Sarawak, supermarkets that presently adopt the GPL regulation include Giant, Mydin, Aeon, Emart and Boulevard.

It is hoped that with the GPL regulation in place, Malaysia as well as Sarawak will enhance product value, ensure the safety of products, boost market confidence and stay competitive in the global arena.

Joining Abang Johari at the launch was Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas, who is also Minister of Modernisation of Agriculture, Native Land and Regional Development.