THURSDAY, 17 APRIL – Agarwood tree planting is gaining popularity among entrepreneurs and farmers in Malaysia because it could yield high returns.

Thus, consistent with its role as a learning centre, Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) through the School of International Tropical Forestry (SPTA) had organised a National Workshop on Agarwood Inoculation 2014.

A two-day workshop was held to share information on new methods and technologies in the Agarwood industry by local and foreign experts.

In his opening speech, the Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry Minister, Datuk Yahya Hussien said the industry was seen to be growing rapidly with an increasing number of Agarwood farmers in Sabah every year.

“I believe this workshop is timely to gather all Agarwood entrepreneurs either from the government or private sector to jointly find the most suitable method in the inoculation of Agarwood in Sabah,” he said. His speech was read by the Deputy Director of Agriculture Department Sabah, Julia Lamdin.

Earlier, the Vice-Chancellor of UMS, Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd. Harun Abdullah said the Agarwood entrepreneurs should have the knowledge on the inoculation of Agarwood to have good returns.

“Therefore, this workshop will provide a useful entry to participants thus able to provide a solid foundation for the advancement of the Agarwood industry in Sabah,” he said in his speech read by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs and Alumni), Assoc. Prof. Datuk Dr. Hj. Kasim Hj. Md. Mansur.

The National Workshop on Agarwood Inoculation 2014 organised in collaboration with the G&G Management and Consultant Sdn. Bhd. had successfully brought together about 200 entrepreneurs from all over the nation. – ZMD (fl)