

PROGRESS REPORT ON FISH HEALTH

PROJECT COLLABORATIONS BETWEEN
FRI (NaFish, FRITD, FRIGL)
& IPTA (UPM, IIUM, UMK)

2018 2020



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2018
2020

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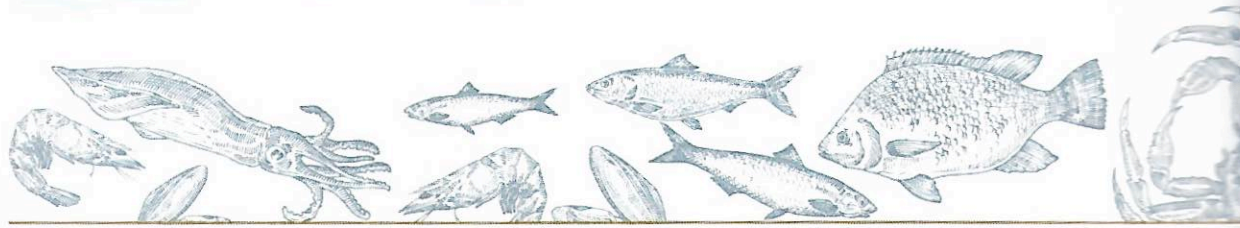
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Progress report on fish health project collaboration extends the results of the FRI and IPTA researchers' cumulative efforts over the 3 years (2018 - 2020) of the study. The purpose of publishing this report is to ensure all the information and methods used in this research programs are properly documented so that it can be used as a guide and reference for researchers, fisheries managers, and public universities students, particularly in Malaysia. It is hoped that through the findings and recommendations submitted, better management strategies can be implemented to ensure a more sustainable aquaculture industry in Malaysia.

As a result, this progress report on the fish health project collaborations display the findings of research conducted from 2018 to 2020 using the development funds that are fully funded by the Government of Malaysia. A sum of RM7 million has been allocated to the Fish Health Research Program led by NaFisH. From this allocation, RM1.43 million was managed by FRITD, whereas the budget for university has been in the form of providing research materials such as chemicals and consumables which cost around RM250,000. Most of the allocation received during the three (3) years is used for equipping facilities and research needs such as equipment, laboratory disposables and chemicals besides infrastructure upgrades and payment of allowances to research assistants, progress meetings and field studies. The 11th Malaysian Plan (11 MP) research is conducted in a focused and comprehensive manner covering 3 scopes of research namely epizootiology, development of vaccine and diagnostic kits and alternative medicines for the Fish Health Research Program.

Beginning 2018, several new projects focused on the field of virology started This collaboration project was deviated from the usual project approaches which

focused more on bacteriology and herbal medicine. Throughout three years of the study, as many papers were published in the index and journals such as Aquaculture International, Journal of Fish Disease, Journal of Applied Biotechnology, as well as Pertanika Journal of Agricultural Science. Some of the project results also presented at various National and international Conferences such as Asean-FEN 8th & 9th International Fisheries Symposium in HatYai and Kuala Lumpur respectively, and ICOSMap 2019, Kuantan. The students were the driving force leading to the output of this project. Thus, the project has successfully produced a total of 11 postgraduate students, 6 of them were already graduated while the other 5 are pursuing their studies either in MSC or PhD.

In addition, many awards have been won through the participation of the students in the presentation and innovations competitions. Finally, the research conducted as part of the 11th Malaysian Plan is expected to unravel some of the problems in fish health and the findings which have also been able to contribute to the country's aquaculture progress effectively. Some of the projects have just started in 2020 and a major output is expected to be accomplished in the 12th Malaysia plan.

It is hoped that the Government will continue to support potential further research to ensure the sustainability of aquaculture and national fisheries target can be achieved.



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