



Overview of IAS in Malaysia

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Examples of IAS

- **Outbreak of *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* (red palm weevil)**
 - Believed to originate from date palms
 - Recent attack on coconut trees in the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia
 - Larvae tunnel inside the palm
 - Symptoms of attack are not obvious
 - May threaten the oil palm industry
 - Currently, FRIM is helping in phylogenetic study



Recent attack of red palm weevil on coconut plantation in Terengganu, east coast of Peninsular Malaysia

• ***Pennisetum polystachion***
(feather pennisetum)

- Widespread, common along roadsides
- Threatening endemic plants on the Klang Gates ridge
- Fire risk in dry weather



Klang Gates quartz ridge



Aleisanthia ruspestris



Eulalia milsumii

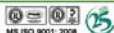
- ***Cabomba furcata***
(Cabomba waterweeds)

- Infestation of Cabomba in Chini Lake
- Block waterways
- Impedes movement of boats
- Lotus regeneration affected
- Cultivated for aquarium trade



- ***Arapaima gigas***

- Was released into Kenyir Lake in Peninsular Malaysia
- Aggressive predator, preying on local fish in the lake



FRIM's project on IAS



- **Pilot IAS surveillance program for Acacia (2007-2008)**

- Implemented in Port Klang, which handles 50% of import and export trades in the country
- Collaboration between FRIM, DOA, port authorities, APFISN
- Method: Sentinel acacia seedling + panel intercept trap
- Result: So far no IAS recorded, majority of the catches are Coleoptera (Tenebrionidae, Nitidulidae, Bostrichidae, Chrysomelidae)
- Discontinued due to lack of funds



Temporary holding site



Pallets

High risk sites



Dept. of Agriculture's inspection site



Acacia refuge



Setting up trap



Panel trap and sentinel acacia seedling



Trap servicing

- **Upcoming FRIM–La Trobe Univ Project: Biocontrol of Lac Scale on Christmas Island**

- Yellow crazy ant (*Anoplolepis gracilipes*)–invasive in Christmas Island
- Dependent on the lac scale insect, *Tachardina aurantiaca*
- Controlling the lac scale will control the population of yellow crazy ant
- The lac scale in Malaysia are highly parasitised
- Testing host specificity of the parasitoids before introduction



Parasitised *Tachardina aurantiaca*

- Assistance needed from APFISN:
 - Funding
 - Training in taxonomy of IAS
 - Assistance in identifying pest

THANK YOU