

East Kalimantan is Sovereign

Parlementaria East Kalimantan

Heavy Cabbage

Kukar City Raja

Kaltara Bt

Home Tribune Etam Berau

Palm plantations

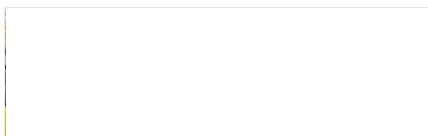
No Palm Oil Left in the CPO Process at Astra Agro Lestari

Thursday, 19 February 2015 23:39



East Kalimantan stands

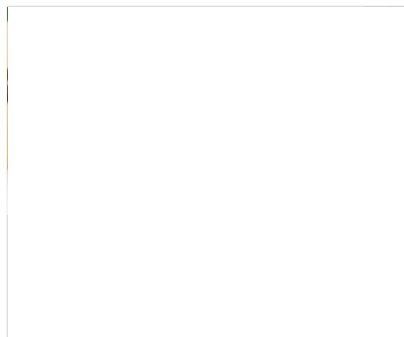
One of the production processes of Crude Palm Oil (CPO), with this machine the fruit and palm bunches are boiled, the aim is to kill the enzyme content in the oil bunches. This enzyme affects the acidity level of CPO.



TRIBUNKATIM.CO - There were many interesting experiences when a group of journalists, including Tribun Kaltim, participated in an agro-tour to the oil palm plantation owned by PT [Astra Agro Lestari](#). This valuable experience is seeing firsthand the process of making Crude Palm Oil (CPO).

So far, not a few journalists have made articles or news related to oil palm plantation companies. It is common, palm oil companies produce CPO, but not many know, if the CPO production process is so complicated.

PT Sumber Kharisma Persada (SKP), a palm oil plantation company owned by [Astra Agro Lestari](#) which operates in East Kutai, is an oil palm plantation that has a CPO manufacturing factory.



The newly harvested palm oil is directly transported by truck to the CPO mill. There, thousands of palm bunches are dumped onto the conveyor. Mobile conveyors carry thousands of palm bunches into the boiler.

A boiler is a tool for cooking oil palm bunches using hot water. In addition to making it easier for the machine to separate the bunches from palm kernel shells, this heating process is also useful for turning off the enzymes contained in each palm oil grain.

"This enzyme creates acid in the CPO content, therefore it must be turned off by cooking it in hot water," said Syahutra Lubis, Assistant Processor of PT Sumber Kharisma Persada (SKP).

After boiling, the palm bunches are ground using a machine that has metal blades resembling a drill bit with a diameter of about 15 centimeters. This is just the initial process before producing CPO. After the shells and palm bunches separate, the process continues automatically.

The machines that make the floor vibrate continue to rotate, pulling the conveyor filled with palm bunches, while the other conveyor brings the palm shells to the second floor, into the digester machine. Inside the machine, which is shaped like a cone, squeezes out the oil content in each palm kernel shell, the resulting juice becomes CPO.

But the process doesn't stop there. "After the oil has been squeezed out of the palm kernel shell, the process is continued by separating the shell fibers from the oil palm kernels," he explained. The palm fibers are then ground into thin fibers, but coarser than cotton.

These fibers fuel the power plants. This steam power plant that drives the production machines, the rest is used to provide electricity around the employee's residence.

Meanwhile, the oil bunches that were separated from the palm fruit are pulled by a conveyor to the pile stock. There, the palm bunches are turned into compost. Apart from producing solid waste, the process of making CPO also produces liquid waste.

This liquid waste contains decomposing bacteria and is used to water oil palm bunches so that the decomposition process is faster. As a result, the compost is used as fertilizer to fertilize thousands of hectares of oil palm plantations.

The great thing is, there is nothing left of the process of making this CPO, the palm kernel that resembles pecan nuts can actually be used as a base for making cosmetics and pharmaceuticals. **(done)**