



Astra Agro Biodiversity Conservation



Planting endangered tree species and named forest trees were the headline of soft launching of local conservation area of 2017 ha in PT Sukses Tani Nusasubur (PT STN), Penajam Paser Utara and 1500 ha in PT Karyanusa Eka Daya (PT KED), Muara Wahau, East Kalimantan at 22 th and 24 th June 2010 respectively. The program entitle "Astra Agro Biodiversity Conservation" is a manifestation of the commitment of PT Astra Agro Lestari Tbk to be actively involved in preserving biodiversity for next generation. The conservation program is also run by developing information center that contains comprehensive information about flora and fauna, ecosystem services as well. The main function of the information center is as media for public education about the importance of biodiversity conservation. Conservation activities are concentrated on protecting karst ecosystem, restoration of riparian ecosystem, and maintaining the remaining forest.

Karst ecosystem is found in PT STN, it is a unique ecosystem that involves a long geological process, occurring over many thousands of years, results in unusual surface and subsurface features ranging from sinkholes, vertical shafts, disappearing streams, and springs, to complex underground drainage systems and caves. It occurs in a certain location, contains unique faunas, and irreversible. Karst ecosystem plays a very important role in providing water supply during dry season.

Riparian zone is essentially the land adjacent to streams and rivers, a unique transitional area between aquatic and terrestrial habitat. Riparian ecosystem plays a very important role in providing various essential ecosystem services such as water quality improvement, flood mitigation, riverbank stabilization, fauna habitat, and natural corridor for many species.

The remaining forest contains a high extent of biodiversity including flora and fauna that interact to form complex ecological system. Through "Astra Agro Biodiversity Conservation Program", PT Astra Agro Lestari Tbk tries to be involved in nature conservation and promoting sustainable management of oil palm landscape. The ultimate goal of the program is to achieve sustainable development for a better future of the planet. (*)

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