

PREFACE

In recent years, Agricultural Statistics has emerged as an important research field and there has been a rapid growth in this field over the last few decades. This is evidenced by the number of international conferences that have been organised and one such prominent conference is the International Conference of Agricultural Statistics (ICAS), which is a triennial event since 1998.

In line with the niche area of Universiti Putra Malaysia (which is Agriculture and Food Security), the Laboratory of Computational Statistics and Operations Research, Institute for Mathematical Research (INSPEM), UPM had taken the initiative in promoting and developing Agricultural Statistics in Malaysia by organising the Conference on Agricultural Statistics 2015 (CAS 2015). This conference was jointly organised with the Faculty of Agriculture Food Sciences (FSPM), UPM Bintulu Sarawak Campus and supported by the Sarawak Convention Bureau (SCB).

In this conference, over 50 papers were presented and around 20 papers were submitted for reviewing process. The editors would like to express their deepest gratitude to all presenters, contributors/authors and participants of this conference for their overwhelming supports that turns this conference into a big success. From the orally presented papers, 10 best papers were selected by the editors through stringent reviewing process to be included and published in this Special Edition. On behalf of the Organising Committee, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the experts who have reviewed the papers.

Special thanks note to all committee members for their ceaseless commitment to the success of the conference. A great debt is owed to the committee as this conference would not have been a success without their constant efforts. Appreciation and gratitude are also extended to the keynote, plenary and invited speakers, sponsors and reviewers for their unconditional support.

Finally, special thanks to the Institute of Mathematical Research (INSPEM), Universiti Putra Malaysia for their willingness and approval to publish the selected papers in the Malaysian Journal of Mathematical Sciences for Special Issue: Conference on Agricultural Statistics (CAS 2015).

Guest Editors:

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