KUALA LUMPUR: About 2.5 million Berita Harian readers can look forward to various agriculture articles in the nation’s No 1 newspaper soon.

The articles will be contributed by Universiti Putra Malaysia Alumni which has more than 100,000 members. These articles will be published every week on a same day, which will be decided later.

To realise this project, a memorandum of understanding was inked between the New Straits Times Press Bhd Berhad group editor-in-chief Datuk Hishamuddin Aun and the Alumni president Datuk Seri Syed Razlan Jamalullail at UPM in Serdang yesterday.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by the Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Ministry secretary-general Datuk Dr Zulkifli Iskandar, UPM vice-chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Nik Mustapha R. Abdullah and Berita Harian group editor Datuk Manja Ismail.

Syed Razlan said the move was necessary so that people, especially players in the agriculture sector, could have better understanding of the products and produce they grow or rear.

“With wider knowledge about the vegetables, fruits and livestock they produce, they can be more competitive and productive.

“We cannot expect most of the farmers to buy agriculture journals to improve themselves. Thus, the availability of articles in the newspaper will give them easier access to the latest knowledge and development in the industry,” he said.

Earlier, Zulkifli launched a 826-page book entitled ‘50 Years of Malaysian Agriculture: Transformational Issues, Challenges and Directions’.