

**RM2mil start:**  
 (From left)  
 Faculty of  
 Agriculture dean  
 Prof Dr Mad Nasir  
 Shamsudin, Dr  
 Radin, Tan, UMB  
 director Tan Sri  
 Ahmad Mohd  
 Don, UMB CEO Dr  
 Leong Tat Thim  
 and UMB director  
 Teo Leng.



# Research endowment

Plantation firm provides funds for plantation management research

**P**LANTATION company United Malacca Bhd has established an endowed Chair in oil palm plantation management at Universiti Putra Malaysia. A memorandum of agreement between United Malacca and UPM was signed last Friday at the university by the United Malacca chairman Tan Siok Choo, and UPM vice-chancellor Datuk Dr Radin

Umar Radin Sohadi. Under the agreement, United Malacca will provide an endowment fund of RM2mil to fund the activities of the Chair. To be named the "United Malacca Professorial Chair in Oil Palm Plantation Management," the Chair will be set up in the Faculty of Agriculture. The professor appointed to the Chair will

conduct and oversee research and development activities in oil palm plantation management. In her speech, Tan said the aim in setting up the Chair is to enable UPM to undertake more extensive research in oil palm plantation management. The university, she said, will also benefit from having top researchers in palm oil,

which in turn will benefit the industry and the Malaysian economy. She said the company hopes to also create greater awareness among young Malaysians about the rapidly expanding career opportunities in palm oil. "Working in palm oil isn't limited to field work in the plantations, it also involves cutting-edge research and science," she said.