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Intensification of Malaysia rice agro ecosystems based on sustainable development in enhancing rice production

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The 10th Malaysia Plan (10MP) had been launched on the 10th June 2010 by Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak the Prime Minister of Malaysia. The main aim is to propel the country towards becoming a high-income and high productivity economy. Agriculture including rice production is in the 12 National Key Economic Areas (NKEAs) under the 10 MP having great potential to generate high income for the nation. The rice production is still not sufficient where 40% are still import. The positive correlation between increase yield production and the healthy environment of rice ecosystems is to be enhanced. The crucial issues such as contamination and ecosystem food web destruction cannot be compromised. Intensive use of chemicals such as herbicides and other pesticides have to be greatly reduced. Rice field agro ecosystems should apply the ecology concepts particularly on sustainable development. Towards high income, farmers are encouraged to be innovative and creative particularly in using green technology. They are recommended to manage their rice fields by utilizing all the niches in the ecosystems. By doing this, in turn they are not only increase the rice field fish populations, but also provide suitable habitats for birds including the migratory species. In addition, a scenic rice field landscape can be one of the sites for ecotourism.