

NATURAL PRODUCTS R&D

GETS INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION



Over 50 research and development (R&D) activities on natural products carried out by various universities and industries have been recognized and applied at both the national and international levels a strong and apparent evident that researches by local scientists can generate commercial value as well as economic revenue for the country.

According to the Chairman of Malaysian National Products Society (MNPS), Professor Dato' Dr. Ikram M Said, local scientists have participated in such activities for almost 50 years now, and the outcome of these researches have

contributed significantly to the country.

"R&D on natural products encompasses a wide scope of activities and the outcome has been known to benefit mankind," said Professor Dato' Dr. Ikram at the official opening of the Malaysian Natural Products International Seminar 2009 (MNPIS2009) held at the M.S. Garden Hotel in Kuantan recently.

Themed " Natural Products R&D: Leads from Nature", the two-day seminar was organized by the Faculty of Industrial Science & Technology (FIST) of Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) in

collaboration with MNPS, on November 23-24.

In conjunction with MNPS' Silver Jubilee celebration, the seminar also acted as a platform for young scientists and field experts to converge and exchange views, and to identify opportunities and challenges in enhancing R&D in natural products.

"Advancements made in science and technology has benefitted not only researchers, but the country as well," emphasized Professor Dato' Dr Ikram.

"As many as 214 participants are attending the seminar, 150 working