A STUDY ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS AND ASSOCIATED IMPACTS OF SELECTED FARMS MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

NUR EZIRA BINTI RAMLI

FACULTY OF SCIENCE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA KUALA LUMPUR

2011

A STUDY ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS AND ASSOCIATED IMPACTS OF SELECTED FARMS MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

NUR EZIRA BINTI RAMLI

DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER IN TECHNOLOGY (ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT)

FACULTY OF SCIENCE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA KUALA LUMPUR

2011

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

ORIGINAL LITERARY WORK DECLARATION

Name of Candidate: NUR EDIRA BINII RAMU(I.C/Passport No: 830826-14-5250)

Registration/Matric No: SCH 0600/2

Name of Degree: MASTER IN TECHNOLOGY CENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT)

Title of Project Paper/Research Report/Dissertation/Thesis ("this Work"):

A STUDY ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS AND ASSOCIATED IMPACTS
OF SELECTED FARMS MANAGEMENT PRACTICES.

Field of Study:

I do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

(1) I am the sole author/writer of this Work;

(2) This Work is original;

Any use of any work in which copyright exists was done by way of fair dealing and for permitted purposes and any excerpt or extract from, or reference to or reproduction of any copyright work has been disclosed expressly and sufficiently and the title of the Work and its authorship have been acknowledged in this Work;

(4) I do not have any actual knowledge nor do I ought reasonably to know that the making

of this work constitutes an infringement of any copyright work;

(5) I hereby assign all and every rights in the copyright to this Work to the University of Malaya ("UM"), who henceforth shall be owner of the copyright in this Work and that any reproduction or use in any form or by any means whatsoever is prohibited without the written consent of UM having been first had and obtained;

(6) I am fully aware that if in the course of making this Work I have infringed any copyright whether intentionally or otherwise, I may be subject to legal action or any other action

as may be determined by UM.

Candidate's Signature

Date

13 APRIL 2011

Subscribed and solemnly declared before,

Witness's Signature

Date 13/4/2011

Name: [Designation:

Dr. Noor Zalina Mahmood n: Pensyarah Kanan Institut Sains Biologi, Fakulti Sains Universiti Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur

ABSTRACT

Livestock farming contributes the production of food at the expense of environmental degradation on air, water and soil/land. The qualitative study, an initial environmental review (IER) was conducted to identify overall farm operation and management practice via various environmental aspects and associated impacts. The study has identified activities in selected farms with significant impacts on environment are transportation, resource consumption, manure and wastewater management. As observed, two farms have initiated a sustainable and environmentally livestock farming practice by taking consideration on natural resources consumption, animal, waste and impacts to nature. An increase of livestock population with time, a periodically review and assessment on baseline information is proposed in future hence findings might quite different. Other farms operator can adapt a Good Farming Practice (GFP) implemented in two farms determined by the study findings. As recommendation, activities with significant impacts should taken into consideration to mitigate the impacts and proposed modification on any technology used in farm operation so that it meets the economic resources and other aspects of farm producer to achieve sustainable farming in Malaysia.

ABSTRAK

Penternakan binatang menyumbang kepada penghasilan makanan dengan menjejaskan alam sekitar iaitu elemen udara, air dan tanah secara tidak langsung. Kajian kualitatif ini dilakukan secara penilaian alam sekitar peringkat awal untuk mengenalpasti keseluruhan operasi ladang dan pengurusan melalui aspek dan impak alam sekitar. Kajian menunjukkan antara aktiviti-aktiviti yang memberi impak signifikan pada alam sekitar adalah pengangkutan, penggunaan sumber alam, pengurusan baja dan air sisa. Hasil peninjauan juga menunjukkan amalan penternakan binatang yang mapan dan bercirikan alam sekitar telah diadaptasi di dua ladang dengan mengambil kira elemen penggunaan sumber alam, binatang ternakan, sisa dan impak terhadap alam semulajadi. Penilaian semasa berdasarkan maklumat asas disyorkan kerana keputusan didapati mungkin berbeza disebabkan peningkatan populasi ternakan seiring dengan masa,. Keputusan kajian menentukan dua ladang yang mengamalkan amalan penternakan yang baik boleh diadaptasi. Sebagai cadangan, aktiviti-aktiviti yang memberi impak signifikan harus diambilkira untuk mengawal impak-impak tersebut dan modifikasi pada penggunaan teknologi yang digunakan di operasi ladang adalah perlu untuk menepati sumber ekonomi dan aspek lain pengurus ladang dalam mencapai penternakan mapan di Malaysia.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost, I would like to thank the Almighty god for standing by me all the way and helping me to complete this research project.

My deepest gratitude to both Dr. Noor Zalina Mahmood and Dr. Noraida Ismail, my research supervisor and co-supervisor for all their guidance, advice, assistance and time throughout the course of this research. I would also like to extend my grateful and sincere thanks to all five farms that allowed me to conduct my research, observation and review in understanding the overall farm operation, and made it possible for me to carried out this research.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my friends for their fellowship during my time of site-visit and thesis writing.

I would love to express my gratitude and grateful to my parent, Haji Ramli and all my family members for their continuously support, encouragement and prayer for me to succeed in my studies.

CONTENTS

			Page
ABS	TRACT	•	ii
ACK	KNOWL	EDGEMENTS	iv
LIST	r of co	ONTENTS	v
LIST	Г ОГ ТА	ABLES	viii
LIST	Γ OF FIG	GURES	ix
LIST	Γ OF AB	BBREVIATIONS	xi
LIST	Γ OF AP	PPENDICES	xiii
CHA	APTER 1	INTRODUCTION	
1.1	Introd	uction	1
1.2	Evolu	tion of livestock production in Malaysia	4
1.3	The en	nvironmental impact from livestock production	7
	1.3.1	Livestock	7
	1.3.2	Climate change	8
1.4	Overv	riew of EMS in farming	9
1.5	Objec	tives of the study	11
1.6	Benef	it of the study	11
CHA	APTER 2	LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1	Challe	enge on small-ruminant production in Malaysia	12
2.2	Sustai	nable livestock production practices	14
	2.2.1	Animal Husbandry System	16
	2.2.2	Housing	17
	2.2.3	Ventilation	18
	2.2.4	Handling Equipment	18
	2.2.5	Feeders	18
	2.2.6	Water	19
	2.2.7	Feed Storage	19
	2.2.8	Dead Animal Disposal	19
	2.2.9	Manure Storage	20
2.3	Enviro	onmental Management System (EMS)	21
	2.3.1	Overview of Principles and Elements	23
	232	Initial Environmental Review	23

	2.3.3	Identifying environmental aspects and impacts	25
2.4	Case S	Studies	28
	2.4.1	Environmental Aspects and Impacts	28
	2.4.2	Farming Management	29
СНА	PTER 3	METHODOLOGIES	
3.1	Introd	uction	32
3.2	Raw I	Data Analysis	33
3.3	Metho	odologies to conduct IER	33
	3.3.1	Environmental Review Observation	33
	3.3.2	Register of Environmental Aspects and Impacts	34
	3.3.3	Significance Evaluation on Environmental Aspects and Impacts	34
СНА	PTER 4	4 RESULTS	
4.1	Initial	Environmental Review (IER) findings	38
	4.1.1	Farm A	45
	4.1.2	Farm B	50
	4.1.3	Farm C	55
	4.1.4	Farm D	61
	4.1.5	Farm E	66
СНА	PTER 5	5 DISCUSSION	
5.1	Analy	sis of Initial Environmental Review Findings	71
	5.1.1	Evaluated Significance on Environmental Aspects	73
5.2	Good	Agricultural Practices towards sustainable farming	75
	5.2.1	Feeding Ruminants	75
	5.2.2	Health Concerns	76
	5.2.3	On-Farm Manure Sources, Storage and Handling	77
	5.2.4	Hygiene and pathogen control	82
	5.2.5	Health and safety of workers	83
	5.2.6	Record Keeping	84
5.3	Green	house Gaseous	84
	5.3.1	Impacts of growing livestock populations and intensifying	
		production	84
	5.3.2	Reducing ammonia emissions from livestock farming	85
5.4	Waste	e (Manure) Management	86

5.5	Summary of improving environmental management on farm	89
СНАР	PTER 6 CONCLUSIONS	
6.1	Summary of main findings	91
6.2	Implication of findings	93
6.3	Limitations of the study	94
6.4	Recommendation	94
REFERENCES		103
APPENDICES		108

LIST OF TABLES

		Page
Table 1.1	Production, Demand, % Self Sufficiency Level and	
	Per Capita Consumption 2007, 2008	5
Table 1.2	Goat meat nutrition comparative chart	6
Table 3.1	List of selected farms and the characteristics	32
Table 3.2	Significant Ranking Criteria for animal farm	35
Table 3.3	Significance Assessment Matrix	36
Table 4.1	Scientific Evaluation of the Potential Importance of AFO	
	Emissions at Different Spatial Scales	41
Table 4.2	Summary on Initial Environmental Review (IER) findings	
	on all farms	43
Table 4.3	Significance Assessment Matrix on Farm A	49
Table 4.4	Significance Assessment Matrix on Farm B	54
Table 4.5	Significance Assessment Matrix on Farm C	60
Table 4.6	Significance Assessment Matrix on Farm D	65
Table 4.7	Significance Assessment Matrix on Farm E	69
Table 5.1	Results on the identified environmental impacts in five farms	72
Table 5.2	A specific diseases that occur among goat rearing practice in	
	Malaysia	79
Table 5.3	A common diseases occur among the goats or sheep in Malaysia	81
Table 5.4	A summary on existing management implemented in five	
	selected farms	89

LIST OF FIGURES

		Page
Figure 4.1	Input and output flow in the feedlot area	39
Figure 4.2	Feedlot area located in Farm A	45
Figure 4.3	A man-made pond located nearby and can be seen from	
	Farm A	45
Figure 4.4	A pile of manure collected being exposed for drying	
	process at Farm A	47
Figure 4.5	Improper drainage system without end-point in feedlot	
	area at Farm A	47
Figure 4.6	Feedlot area located in Farm B	50
Figure 4.7	A riverbank located next to Farm B	50
Figure 4.8	A proper drainage system that flows the wastewater into	
	a retention pond	53
Figure 4.9	Feces are separated by the filter before wastewater	
	entering the pond	53
Figure 4.10	Feedlot area located in Farm C	55
Figure 4.11	A stream flowing within Farm C area	55
Figure 4.12	Wastewater runoff caused by improper drainage system	
	in Farm C	57
Figure 4.13	E. crassipes covering the wastewater in collection pond	
	at Farm C	58
Figure 4.14	Grass planted and watered with treated wastewater in Farm C	58
Figure 4.15	One of the feedlots area located in Farm D	61
Figure 4.16	A river located within Farm D boundaries	61
Figure 4.17	Soil-based under the feedlot house at Farm D	63
Figure 4.18	Soil-based surrounded by cement concrete border at Farm D	63
Figure 4.19	A newborn goat died in one of the crowded pens in Farm D	64
Figure 4.20	A concrete-base at the feedlot area on Farm E	66
Figure 4.21	Holding pond was not maintained at feedlot area in Farm E	67
Figure 4.22	First sedimentation pond at anaerobic wastewater treatment plant	68
Figure 4.23	Third retention pond at anaerobic wastewater treatment plant	68
Figure 6.1	Flow chart of anaerobic wastewater treatment for dairy	
	livestock in Farm F	97

Figure 6.2	The main feedlot area for dairies with proper drainage system	98
Figure 6.3	Equipment for milking activities with sensor detection located	
	in the feedlot	98
Figure 6.4	Separator tank that separate the wastewater for release or	
	treatment pond	99
Figure 6.5	Drainage that leads to treatment ponds from the separator tank	99
Figure 6.6	Wastewater in holding pond before entering the inlet for	
	treatment process	100
Figure 6.7	Wastewater flowing from the holding pond through the	
	concrete pipe	100
Figure 6.8	Wastewater in the first pond undergone for sedimentation	
	process	101
Figure 6.9	Sedimentation process continuously take place in the second	
	pond	101
Figure 6.10	The third pond of anaerobic treatment pond before flowing	
	out to sand bed	102
Figure 6.11	Grass (feeders) area receives treated wastewater via sprinkler	102

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AFO Animal Feeding Operation

AI Avian Influenza

CAP Common Agricultural Policy

CH₄ Methane

CLA Caseous Lymphadenitis

CO₂ Carbon Dioxide

Cu Copper

DOE Department of Environment, Malaysia

DVS Department of Veterinary Service, Malaysia

EMP Environmental Management Program
EMS Environmental Management System

EPA Environmental Protection Agency

EU European Union

FAO Food and Agricultural Organization

Fe Ferum ft feet

FEC Fecal Egg Count

GAHP Good Animal Husbandry Practice

GAP Good Agricultural Practice

GFP Good Farming Practice

GHG Greenhouse gaseous

HACCP Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points

H₂S Hydrogen Sulfide

IER Initial Environmental Review

IMO Indigenous Microorganisms

ISO International Standard Organization

JE Japanese Encephalitis

Km Kilometer

MOA Ministry of Agriculture, Malaysia

N₂O Nitrogen Dioxide

NH₃ Ammonia NH₄⁺ Ammonium

NO_x Nitrogen Oxide

NRC National Research Council

SAM Significance Assessment Matrix

SPS Sanitary and Phytosanitary

SOP Standard Operating Procedure

SS Suspended Solids

TDS Total Dissolved Solids

UN United Nation

VOC Volatile Organic Compound

WTO World Trade Organization

Zn Zinc

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX A:	
QUESTIONNAIRES TO FARM MANAGER AND OPERATOR	108
APPENDIX B:	
INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW CHECKLIST	109