

## REVIEW

# Maximizing Oil Palm Yield: Innovative Replanting Strategies for Sustainable Productivity

*Ahmed Abubakar<sup>1</sup>, Susilawati Kasim<sup>2\*</sup>, Mohd Yusoff Ishak<sup>1</sup>, Md Kamal Uddin<sup>2</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> Faculty of Forestry and Environment, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Serdang, Selangor, 43400, Malaysia

<sup>2</sup> Faculty of Agriculture University Putra Malaysia, Serdang, Selangor, 43400, Malaysia

## ABSTRACT

This paper examines the significance of innovative replanting strategies in maximizing oil palm yield while ensuring sustainable productivity. Through a comprehensive review of literature and analysis of current practices, the major findings of this research highlighted the importance of advanced breeding and clonal selection in developing high-yielding and disease-resistant oil palm varieties. Precision agriculture technologies, including IoT devices, drones, and sensors, were identified as critical tools for data-driven decision making, optimizing resource efficiency, and reducing environmental impact. Sustainable land use planning and agroforestry integration emerged as key strategies to balance productivity with environmental conservation. The broader impacts of this work extend to other agricultural sectors and land use planning, offering valuable insights for policymakers and stakeholders to promote responsible and resilient agricultural practices. By embracing innovative replanting strategies, the oil palm industry can contribute to a more sustainable and prosperous future, balancing economic growth with environmental stewardship. Continued research and collaboration are essential to achieve these goals and foster a harmonious coexistence between productivity and sustainability, integrating precision agriculture technologies for resource optimization and reduced environmental impact, promoting sustainable land use planning and agroforestry integration to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services. Strengthening collaborations between governments, industry players, and research institutions for innovation and knowledge exchange is essential.

**Keyword:** Replanting strategies; Oil palm yield; Sustainable productivity; Precision agriculture; Agroforestry integration

### \*CORRESPONDING AUTHOR:

Susilawati Kasim, Faculty of Agriculture University Putra Malaysia, Serdang, Selangor, 43400, Malaysia; Email: [susilawati@upm.edu.my](mailto:susilawati@upm.edu.my)

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## 1. Introduction

The oil palm (*Elaeis guineensis*) is an essential crop that plays a significant role in meeting the ever-growing global demand for edible oils, industrial applications, and biofuels<sup>[1-3]</sup>. Renowned for its high oil content and efficient land use, the oil palm has become a crucial contributor to the economies of various tropical regions<sup>[4-6]</sup>. To ensure the long-term viability of this industry and meet the escalating demand, it is imperative to focus on enhancing oil palm yields through innovative replanting practices<sup>[7,8]</sup>.

Replanting, the process of replacing old and unproductive oil palm trees with high-yielding varieties, is a pivotal step in the journey towards sustainable productivity<sup>[9-11]</sup>. In this pursuit, traditional approaches have often led to challenges related to environmental impact, resource inefficiency, and disease susceptibility. To address these concerns, the implementation of innovative replanting practices has emerged as a crucial solution to boost yields while simultaneously minimizing.

Previous studies have examined various aspects related to oil palm replanting and its consequences on the ecosystem<sup>[8,12]</sup>. These studies encompass a range of topics, including the potential decline in regional oil palm productivity due to the age-distribution structure within existing plantations<sup>[13]</sup>, the challenges faced by smallholders during the replanting process<sup>[14]</sup>, the impact of smallholder palm oil replanting programs<sup>[15]</sup>, the income of growers during replanting<sup>[16]</sup>, and the income from independent oil palm farming after replanting<sup>[17]</sup>. Additionally, research has explored the influence of oil palm replanting, age, and management zones on soil carbon<sup>[18]</sup>, both internal and external factors affecting oil palm replanting<sup>[17]</sup>, priority patterns for replanting among independent smallholders<sup>[19]</sup>, and predictions regarding the contribution of smallholders' income to household living expenses during the replanting period<sup>[20]</sup>. Other studies have focused on assessing the effects of oil palm replanting on arthropod biodiversity<sup>[20]</sup>, determining the incidence of Ganoderma disease among smallholder farmers participating in oil palm replanting incentives<sup>[21]</sup>, developing an es-

timation method for oil palm replanting potential<sup>[22]</sup>, and identifying an optimal replanting rate for the oil palm industry in Malaysia<sup>[23]</sup>. Despite several previous studies examining various aspects of oil palm replanting, none have comprehensively addressed the significance of innovative replanting strategies in maximizing oil palm yield while ensuring sustainable productivity. The study conducted by Ardana et al.<sup>[24]</sup> underscores the urgent need for innovation in Indonesian palm oil production. This necessity arises from the challenges posed by ageing plants and the presence of illicit seeds.

In this article, we explore a range of forward-thinking techniques and methodologies that aim to revolutionize oil palm replanting practices. By embracing cutting-edge technologies, environmentally friendly approaches, and data-driven decision-making, the oil palm industry can significantly optimize productivity, ensuring the supply of high-quality palm oil to meet the needs of a growing global population<sup>[24]</sup>.

Through careful consideration of factors such as palm variety selection, nutrient management, pest control, water usage, and climate-smart agriculture<sup>[25]</sup>, we delve into the various facets that contribute to elevating oil palm yields. By adopting these innovative approaches, oil palm plantations can not only achieve enhanced yields but also promote sustainable practices that protect the environment and support the livelihoods of local communities<sup>[26]</sup>.

As we embark on this exploration of innovative replanting practices, it becomes evident that the future of the oil palm industry lies in the hands of those who embrace progressive and eco-conscious methodologies<sup>[27]</sup>, that offer an opportunity for additional income for farmers, presenting a profitable and sustainable business model<sup>[28-30]</sup>. The objective of this review is to explore innovative replanting practices for oil palm plantations, aiming to maximize oil palm yield while promoting sustainability and environmental responsibility. This research seeks to identify and evaluate a range of modern techniques and methodologies that can be implemented during the replanting process to optimize productivity, resource efficiency, and disease control. By focusing

on innovative practices, this research aims to offer practical insights and recommendations for the oil palm industry to enhance its yields and ensure the long-term viability of the sector.

This research contributes innovative replanting practices, sustainable approaches, and data-driven decision-making insights to enhance oil palm cultivation. It aims to optimize yields, minimize environmental impact, and meet the increasing global demand for palm oil, promoting responsible and sustainable production in the industry. The beneficiaries of this research include oil palm growers and plantation managers, palm oil industry stakeholders, environmental conservation organizations, consumers, and the academic community. These stakeholders are expected to gain valuable insights and recommendations to adopt innovative and sustainable practices,

ensuring increased yields, improved profitability, and responsible palm oil production that protects the environment and meets global demand.

## 2. Understanding the oil palm lifecycle and replanting necessity

Oil palm is a versatile and widely cultivated crop primarily grown for its fruit, which produces both palm oil and palm kernel oil. Oil palm plantations are significant contributors to the global vegetable oil supply, with palm oil being used in various food products, cosmetics, biofuels, and industrial applications <sup>[31,32]</sup>. Understanding the oil palm lifecycle and the necessity for replanting is crucial for sustainable cultivation and maintaining productivity. The data presented in **Table 1** can serve as an illustrative example of this phenomenon.

**Table 1.** Summary of studies related to oil palm replanting.

Author and year	Title of the article	Research objectives	Significant findings	Comments
[13]	“Replanting and yield increase strategies for alleviating the potential decline in palm oil production in Indonesia”.	“To assess the potential decline of regional oil palm productivity given the landscape-level age-distribution structure on existing oil palm plantation land and evaluated strategies to alleviate this potential decline”.	Replanting oil palm at 4% annually with yield improvements stabilizes production by around 45 million metric tons. Combining both counters declining trends.	This study highlights the crucial role of replanting and yield improvement strategies in stabilizing palm oil production in Riau. Collaboration among stakeholders is imperative.
[14]	“Replanting challenges among Indonesian oil palm smallholders: a narrative review”.	“To highlight the challenges that smallholders face during replanting”.	Smallholder oil palm replanting is critical; delayed or poorly executed replanting worsens socio-economic and environmental issues, requiring targeted support.	Overaged smallholder oil palm plantations demand replanting for enhanced productivity and livelihoods. Overcoming barriers like input access and knowledge is crucial.
[15]	“Technical formulation for estimating the economic loss impact of the smallholder oil palm replanting program in Indonesia”.	“To determine the impact of the smallholder palm oil replanting program (SPR Program) in stages as a material for consideration in formulating more anticipatory and responsive policies so that they are right on target”.	Increasing the productivity of smallholder oil palm plantations in Indonesia (42% of the national area) is crucial for the sustainable palm oil industry. Replanting old trees is vital but challenging for smallholders.	Increasing smallholder oil palm productivity is crucial for Indonesia’s sustainable palm oil industry. Replanting old trees, addressing income loss, and informing policies are essential.
[16]	“Analysis of oil palm smallholder income during replanting in Siak Regency, Riau”.	“To identify the types of food crops and to know the analysis of farming as well as the income contribution of oil palm and food crop farmers in Siak Regency”.	This study highlights the income impact of oil palm replanting on farmers, emphasizing the significance of diversifying income through food crops in Siak Regency. Food crops contribute 71.89% to total income, emphasizing their economic importance.	This study in Siak Regency highlights the income loss in oil palm replanting and the importance of diversifying income sources with food crops.

Table 1 continued

Author and year	Title of the article	Research objectives	Significant findings	Comments
[17]	“Identification of internal and external factors in replanting oil palm”.	“To identify internal and external factor in replanting oil palm”.	Indonesia’s leading role in crude palm oil production since 2006 emphasizes oil palm’s vital role in national economic sustainability, demanding strategic replanting initiatives considering internal and external factors.	Oil palm plantations are vital for national growth; Indonesia a leading CPO producer since 2006. Sustainability is crucial. for the economy; replanting program assessed.
[18]	“Influence of Oil Palm Replanting, Age and Management Zones on Soil Carbon”.	“To assess whether there is a build-up of soil carbon throughout the growth of oil palm and will those amassed carbon (if any) be lost during replanting”.	This study finds that oil palm cultivation doesn’t significantly impact soil carbon levels, with no losses during replanting, but variations in sections warrant consideration.	Oil palm cultivation doesn’t significantly affect soil carbon; replanting doesn’t cause losses. Soil carbon varies in plantation sections.
[19]	“The impact of replanting oil palm plantations on the farming income of the Sungai Bahar community in Muaro Jambi Regency”.	“To know the description of oil palm farming income in replanting to underplanting and conventional method”.	The findings indicated variations in the plant counts between the two replanting scenarios, which subsequently influenced both production levels and income.	This research explores oil palm farming income in replanting vs. underplanting and conventional methods, highlighting income disparities.
[20]	“Assessing the effects of oil palm replanting on arthropod biodiversity”.	“To assess the impacts of replanting over 8 years period on arthropods in the ground, understorey and canopy microhabitats”.	Palm oil, a globally traded vegetable oil, shows resilience in arthropod abundance after replanting but alters community composition and spider biodiversity.	Palm oil trade thrives in Southeast Asia, impacting biodiversity. Replanting affects arthropod and spider communities, requiring further ecological assessment.
[21]	“Surveillance of Ganoderma disease in oil palm planted by participants of the smallholders replanting incentive scheme in Malaysia”.	“To determine the status of incidence and distribution of Ganoderma disease of smallholders (SH) particularly participating in replanting incentive scheme in Malaysia”.	Basal stem rot disease (BSR) caused by Ganoderma sp. affects 9.2% of Malaysian oil palm plantations, with high incidence in Johor, Sabah, and Perak states.	The Malaysian Palm Oil Board conducted a survey to assess Ganoderma disease in oil palm, finding a 9.2% incidence, with the highest in Johor, Sabah, and Perak. Important data for disease management.

## 2.1 Oil palm lifecycle in stages

1) Nursery Phase: The oil palm lifecycle begins in the nursery, where seeds are germinated to produce seedlings. These seedlings are carefully nurtured until they are ready for transplantation into the field <sup>[33]</sup>.

2) Field Planting: Once the seedlings have developed sufficiently, they are transplanted into the plantation field. The planting distance and arrangement are planned to optimize land use and facilitate efficient management <sup>[33]</sup>.

3) Immature Phase: During the first three years after planting, the oil palm trees are in the immature phase. They grow and establish their root systems, trunk, and fronds.

4) Juvenile Phase: After the immature phase, the oil palms enter the juvenile phase, which lasts from the fourth to the seventh year. During this stage, the trees continue to grow taller and produce more leaves, but they do not yet bear fruit.

5) Pre-Pruning Phase: Around the seventh year, the pre-pruning phase begins. The lower fronds are

removed to improve access and visibility within the plantation, making it easier for workers to carry out essential tasks.

6) Prime Phase: The prime phase typically begins in the eighth year and can last up to around 25-30 years. During this phase, the oil palm trees reach maturity and start producing fruit bunches. This is the most productive phase of the oil palm's lifecycle.

7) Senescence Phase: After several decades of productive life, oil palm trees enter the senescence phase, where their productivity declines. The rate of fruit production decreases, and the trees become less economically viable<sup>[34-36]</sup>.

## 2.2 Replanting necessity

The necessity for replanting oil palm plantations arises due to several reasons:

1) Declining Productivity: As oil palm trees enter the senescence phase, their productivity declines significantly. The yield per hectare decreases, making it economically unviable to keep the old trees.

2) Disease and Pest Management: Older oil palm trees may become more susceptible to diseases and pest infestations, which can further reduce yields and increase production costs.

3) Sustainability: Replanting allows for the adoption of more sustainable practices, such as using improved palm varieties with better disease resistance and higher oil yields, and implementing more efficient agricultural methods.

4) Land Optimization: Replanting allows for the proper management of land resources. By removing old, less productive trees, farmers can allocate land to new, high-yielding oil palm seedlings.

5) Legislation and Certification: In some regions, there are legal requirements or industry certifications that necessitate replanting to ensure compliance with sustainability standards.

6) Improved Technology: Replanting provides an opportunity to incorporate advancements in agricultural technology, irrigation systems, and precision farming, leading to improved overall efficiency.

## 3. Factors influencing the decline in productivity of ageing oil palm plantations

The decline in productivity of ageing oil palm plantations can be attributed to several factors<sup>[37]</sup>. As oil palm trees enter the senescence phase and reach the end of their productive life, they become more vulnerable to various challenges that affect their growth and fruit production. Firstly, as oil palm trees age, their oil yield per hectare decreases due to reduced fruit bunch production and a decline in the oil content of the fruit<sup>[37]</sup>. Secondly, older oil palm trees are more susceptible to various diseases and pest attacks, such as basal stem rot and Fusarium wilt, as well as pests like the red palm weevil and bagworm, which can significantly impact the health and productivity of the ageing palms<sup>[38]</sup>. Thirdly, over time, oil palm plantations may experience nutrient depletion in the soil, leading to deficiencies in essential elements like potassium, magnesium, and boron, which adversely affect tree growth and fruit production<sup>[39]</sup>. Moreover, ageing oil palm trees may face increased water stress, especially in regions with water scarcity or irregular rainfall patterns, leading to stunted growth and reduced fruit development<sup>[37]</sup>. Additionally, the root systems of ageing oil palm trees may become less efficient at absorbing water and nutrients from the soil, exacerbating nutrient deficiencies and water stress. Neglecting proper pruning and maintenance practices in ageing plantations can result in overcrowded canopies, reduced light penetration, and hindered fruit bunch development. Some older oil palm trees may also suffer from genetic degeneration, leading to weaker offspring with lower productivity and poorer disease resistance. Extreme weather events like storms, droughts, and floods can further negatively impact ageing oil palm plantations, disrupting growth and fruit production<sup>[25]</sup>. Lastly, as oil palm trees age and their productivity declines, the cost of maintenance and harvesting relative to the yield may become less economically viable for the plantation owner.



## 4. Growers replanting challenges

Oil palm growers face numerous challenges when it comes to replanting their plantations. In this review, we explored the multifaceted challenges that confront oil palm growers during the replanting process and emphasized the importance of addressing these issues for the industry's long-term sustainability and responsible agricultural practices. Petri et al. <sup>[14]</sup> identified that gaining access to inputs, and managing finances were pivotal challenges that could significantly impact the decisions of smallholders regarding the timing, methods, and choices involved in replanting. Other barriers to successful smallholder replanting include a lack of knowledge about replanting and inadequate training, unequal access to high-quality seedlings, and varying eligibility for public replanting funds <sup>[14]</sup>. Fauzia et al. <sup>[17]</sup> argued that capital is a crucial factor in farming, and in the context of replanting oil palm, access to capital is not readily available to farmers. On average, farmers often lack the financial capacity to undertake oil palm replanting using their own resources. Replanting is associated with elevated expenses and intricate management procedures. Consequently, effective pest control and precise fertilization practices become even more vital <sup>[8,14]</sup>.

## 5. Challenges in traditional replanting approaches

The traditional replanting approaches in oil palm cultivation face several challenges that can hinder their effectiveness and sustainability. The primary obstacles include the significant time and cost involved in uprooting old palm trees and replacing them with new seedlings, especially for large-scale plantations, leading to economic challenges for smallholder farmers and potential delays in rejuvenating the plantation <sup>[8,40]</sup>. Land preparation demands considerable effort and resources, involving labor-intensive activities and, at times, the use of heavy machinery, contributing to overall cost and time investment <sup>[41]</sup>. Access to high-quality oil palm seedlings can be challenging in some regions, where

obtaining disease-resistant and genetically improved seedlings is crucial for successful replanting efforts, as inconsistent seedling quality can compromise the overall productivity and health of newly established palm trees <sup>[14]</sup>.

Moreover, traditional replanting methods can have detrimental environmental impacts, including air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from burning old palm trees and deforestation leading to habitat loss and biodiversity decline <sup>[14,42]</sup>. Soil erosion and nutrient loss, particularly on steep terrains, can adversely affect soil fertility and long-term plantation productivity <sup>[43]</sup>. Additionally, replanting causes temporary disruptions in palm oil production, affecting revenue and supply chains, while also creating risks of disease spread to healthy trees <sup>[44]</sup>.

Limited technology adoption in traditional approaches hinders optimization and may lead to sub-optimal outcomes, necessitating the incorporation of modern agricultural technologies and best practices. Furthermore, the lack of knowledge on replanting and proper training can hinder the successful implementation of innovative strategies, with growers facing challenges in adopting advanced techniques and understanding the benefits of sustainable practices <sup>[14]</sup>.

Replanting initiatives may bring social challenges, particularly job displacement for laborers during the transition period, affecting affected communities economically and socially. Addressing these challenges requires developing sustainable and efficient replanting strategies that consider environmental, economic, and social aspects to ensure the long-term viability of oil palm cultivation. Collaborative efforts between stakeholders are essential in overcoming these limitations and promoting responsible and sustainable practices in the oil palm industry.

## 6. Innovative replanting strategies for maximizing yield and sustainability

Innovative replanting strategies for oil palm that aim to maximize yield and sustainability involve a combination of advanced agricultural techniques, technology adoption, and sustainable practices. Here are strategies that can help achieve both high yields

and sustainability.

**Advanced Breeding:** Advanced breeding techniques involve the systematic selection and cross-breeding of oil palm varieties with desirable genetic traits. This includes traits such as high oil yield, disease resistance, improved fruit quality, and tolerance to environmental stresses. By carefully selecting parent palms with these advantageous traits and using advanced genetic analysis, breeders can develop superior oil palm varieties that outperform conventional ones<sup>[45]</sup>.

**Clonal Selection:** Clonal selection involves identifying and propagating superior oil palm individuals through vegetative propagation, such as tissue culture or bud grafting. This ensures that genetically identical, high-performing individuals are reproduced, maintaining the desired traits in the next generation<sup>[46]</sup>.

**Selecting High-Yielding Palm Varieties:** Choose improved oil palm varieties that have been bred for high oil yield, disease resistance, and adaptability to specific growing conditions<sup>[47]</sup>. These varieties can significantly impact the overall productivity of the plantation.

**Precision Agriculture and Technology Integration:** Embracing precision agriculture practices and integrating cutting-edge technology, including IoT devices, drones, and sensors, revolutionizes data-driven decision making in oil palm cultivation<sup>[48]</sup>. Real-time monitoring of soil conditions, weather patterns, and plant health allows for targeted resource management<sup>[48]</sup>. This precision application of inputs optimizes irrigation, fertilization, and pest control, resulting in heightened efficiency, reduced waste, and responsible resource conservation<sup>[49,50]</sup>.

**Sustainable Land Use Planning:** Responsible land use planning is paramount in maximizing oil palm yield sustainably<sup>[51]</sup>. Identifying suitable areas for replanting, preserving high conservation value areas, and adhering to best practices ensure that land is used efficiently and responsibly, safeguarding biodiversity and environmental integrity.

**Agroforestry Integration:** Integrating oil palm plantations with agroforestry systems fosters envi-

ronmental resilience and productivity<sup>[52]</sup>. By interplanting oil palms with compatible crops and native trees, agroforestry promotes biodiversity, soil health, and ecosystem services, contributing to sustainable and balanced cultivation practices<sup>[52,53]</sup>.

**Soil Health Management:** Prioritizing soil health through practices like cover cropping, mulching, and organic matter incorporation enhances nutrient availability and soil structure<sup>[3,54]</sup>. Improved root development and nutrient uptake lead to higher oil palm yields, promoting long-term sustainability.

**Integrated Pest and Disease Management:** Implementing integrated pest and disease management techniques reduces reliance on chemical pesticides<sup>[55]</sup>. Employing biological controls, beneficial insects, and pest-resistant varieties effectively manages pests while preserving the natural balance of ecosystems<sup>[56-58]</sup>.

**Efficient Water Management:** Employing efficient water management practices, such as drip irrigation and water recycling, optimizes water usage and ensures equitable distribution, particularly in regions facing water scarcity. This responsible approach contributes to water conservation, sustainable cultivation and an increase in yield<sup>[59]</sup>.

**Continuous Research and Innovation:** Fostering ongoing research and innovation in oil palm cultivation is essential for continuous improvement<sup>[60]</sup>. Advancements in techniques, technologies, and best practices enable growers to optimize their replanting strategies, fostering productivity and sustainability in the industry<sup>[61-63]</sup>. Collaborative efforts between stakeholders, including researchers, governments, and industry players, drive progress and promote a resilient and thriving oil palm sector<sup>[25]</sup>.

**Intercropping and Multilayer Farming:** Introduce intercropping and multilayer farming practices to make efficient use of available land and resources<sup>[64,26]</sup>. For example, planting leguminous crops or covering crops between the oil palm rows can improve soil fertility and moisture retention.

**Tissue Culture Propagation:** Use tissue culture propagation techniques to produce high-quality, disease-free planting materials<sup>[60,62]</sup>. Tissue culture ensures uniformity in the new palm population and

minimizes the risk of introducing diseases from the old plantation.

**Regular Pruning and Thinning:** Pruning and thinning the oil palm canopy helps improve light penetration and air circulation within the plantation, leading to better fruit development and lower disease incidence <sup>[25,26,65]</sup>.

**Enhancing Pollination:** It is imperative to actively encourage pollinators to visit the oil palm plantation. By doing so, we foster improved pollination, which directly translates into better fruit sets and ultimately higher oil yields <sup>[66]</sup>. Employing eco-friendly practices and preserving natural habitats around the plantation can further enhance pollinator populations, benefiting the entire ecosystem.

**Climate-Smart Agriculture:** Adapt to changing climatic conditions by implementing climate-smart agriculture practices. This might include adjusting planting schedules, using drought-resistant varieties, or employing shade management techniques <sup>[25,26]</sup>.

**Data-Driven Decision Making:** Utilize data and analytics to monitor and optimize various aspects of plantation management, from pest and disease monitoring to yield forecasting. Data-driven decisions can lead to more efficient resource allocation and increased productivity.

## 7. Overcoming barriers to adoption

### 7.1 Addressing economic, regulatory, and technical challenges

**Economic Incentives:** Overcoming economic barriers to adoption requires providing incentives to farmers and plantation owners to invest in innovative practices. This may include offering financial support, tax incentives, or subsidies for adopting advanced breeding, precision agriculture technologies, and other sustainable replanting strategies <sup>[8,67]</sup>.

**Access to Finance:** Access to affordable financing is crucial for smallholder farmers and plantation owners to adopt innovative practices. Establishing accessible credit and financing schemes tailored to the specific needs of oil palm growers can facilitate the transition to more sustainable and productive re-

planting methods <sup>[8,67]</sup>.

**Capacity Building and Training:** Addressing technical challenges involves providing training and capacity-building programs for farmers and workers to effectively implement sustainable innovative practices <sup>[68]</sup>. Embracing certification and enhancing technical knowledge and skills empowers growers to confidently adopt new technologies and approaches <sup>[69]</sup>.

**Regulatory Support:** Governments can play a vital role in overcoming regulatory barriers by creating a supportive policy environment. Streamlining approval processes, providing clear guidelines, and promoting sustainable practices through regulations can encourage the widespread adoption of innovative replanting strategies <sup>[25]</sup>.

**Research and Development Investment:** Investing in research and development (Research and Development) is essential for addressing technical challenges and fostering innovation. Governments, private sectors, and research institutions can collaborate to develop and disseminate knowledge on effective replanting techniques and technologies <sup>[1]</sup>.

### 7.2 Strategies for encouraging widespread adoption of innovative practices

**Demonstration Plots and Farmer Field Schools:** Establishing demonstration plots and farmer field schools allows farmers to witness the benefits of innovative practices firsthand. Hands-on learning experiences and knowledge sharing through these platforms can build confidence and encourage wider adoption <sup>[70]</sup>.

**Knowledge Exchange and Extension Services:** Facilitating knowledge exchange between successful adopters of innovative practices and other farmers can inspire and motivate broader implementation. Utilizing extension services to disseminate information, provide technical support, and facilitate learning networks can promote adoption at the community level <sup>[10,25,71]</sup>.

**Public-Private Partnerships:** Collaborations between governments, private companies, NGOs, and research institutions can accelerate the adoption



of innovative replanting strategies. Public-private partnerships can leverage resources and expertise to drive the development and dissemination of sustainable practices.

**Certification and Market Incentives:** Certification schemes that recognize sustainable replanting practices can create market incentives for growers. Sustainable palm oil certifications, such as RSPO (Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil), provide market access and premium prices for certified products, encouraging wider adoption of sustainability practices<sup>[72]</sup>.

**Awareness and Advocacy:** Raising awareness about the benefits of innovative replanting strategies and their positive impacts on the environment, society, and economic outcomes can garner support and advocacy from various stakeholders, fostering broader adoption of these practices.

**Voluntary Agreements and Commitments:** Encouraging voluntary agreements and commitments from industry players to adopt sustainable replanting practices can drive change across the sector<sup>[8]</sup>. Engaging key stakeholders in setting and meeting sustainability targets reinforces a collective effort towards widespread adoption.

## 8. Implications of replanting

Oil palm replanting constitutes a multifaceted endeavour with far-reaching implications encompassing economic, environmental, social, and sustainability dimensions. It offers smallholder farmers a pivotal opportunity to bolster the productivity of their plantations, thus narrowing the yield gaps that often exist when compared to plantations managed by larger companies. This surge in productivity holds the potential to translate into augmented incomes for smallholder households, a significant socio-economic benefit<sup>[14,73,74]</sup>. Moreover, oil palm replanting can serve as a platform for plantation redesign, thereby introducing more efficient layouts and practices. Despite the controversial reputation of oil palm cultivation, it has demonstrated its capacity to contribute to poverty reduction in certain contexts<sup>[2,14]</sup>. This economic aspect emphasizes the importance of strategic replanting initiatives. Environmental concerns

also loom large in the realm of oil palm replanting. The expansion of oil palm plantations can impact biodiversity, contribute to deforestation, influence soil quality, and affect water quality. These consequences necessitate careful consideration and sustainable practices to mitigate negative ecological effects. Socially, the process of oil palm replanting can bring about various changes. It may influence employment patterns, potentially leading to shifts in labor demand. Additionally, it can result in community displacement and raise issues related to land tenure and ownership. Within the ambit of sustainability, oil palm replanting opens doors for the adoption of eco-friendly agricultural practices and the pursuit of certifications that validate sustainable production methods. This avenue offers a potential pathway for harmonizing economic development with environmental and social responsibilities, aligning with the broader goal of sustainable palm oil production.

## 9. Conclusions

This review has shed light on the importance of innovative replanting strategies in maximizing oil palm yield sustainably. The main findings indicate that advanced breeding and clonal selection play a pivotal role in developing high-yielding and disease-resistant oil palm varieties, leading to increased productivity and reduced environmental impact. Integrating precision agriculture technologies enables data-driven decision making, optimizing resource management, and minimizing waste. Sustainable land use planning and agroforestry integration emerged as key strategies to balance productivity with environmental conservation. Despite the valuable insights gained, this work has certain limitations. The scope of the study focused on replanting strategies, and additional research may be needed to investigate other aspects of oil palm cultivation, such as post-harvest practices and market dynamics. Furthermore, the applicability of the findings may vary across different geographical regions and farming systems, necessitating further studies to account for regional variations. Future research in this field should continue to explore the potential of advanced breeding techniques and preci-

sion agriculture technologies in maximizing oil palm yield. Investigating the long-term impacts of sustainable land use planning and agroforestry integration on biodiversity and ecosystem services is crucial for comprehensive sustainability assessments. Additionally, examining the socio-economic implications of adopting these innovative strategies can contribute to a more holistic understanding of their feasibility and potential benefits. The broader impacts of this work extend beyond the oil palm industry. Other sectors of agriculture and land use can draw valuable insights from the successful adoption of advanced breeding and precision agriculture practices. The knowledge gained from sustainable land use planning and agroforestry integration can be applied to other crops and contribute to landscape-level conservation efforts. Policymakers and agricultural stakeholders can leverage the findings of this research to develop policies and initiatives that promote environmentally responsible and economically viable agricultural practices.

## Author Contributions

Ahmed Abubakar: Conceptualization, data collection and analysis, writing the original draft. Susilawati Kasim: Supervision, methodology design, critical review and editing. Mohd Yusoff Ishak: Data interpretation, manuscript revision, and validation. Md Kamal Uddin: Research design, literature review, and manuscript refinement.

## Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest related to this research work.

## Data Availability Statement

The data and materials presented in this manuscript are available upon reasonable request from the corresponding author

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