

Visit of University of Twente Academics to TPL: Aligning Science and Operational Practices

PT Toba Pulp Lestari, Tbk (TPL) once again reaffirmed its commitment to supporting academic collaboration by welcoming a visit from Assoc. Prof. Thomas Groen, Senior Lecturer from the University of Twente, Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation, along with Ms. Lyande Eelderink, M.Sc. This visit was also accompanied by Dr. Anita Zaitunah from the University of North Sumatra.

The visit began with a briefing at the TPL Mini Exhibition, where the guests were introduced to the company's profile and operational processes. This session provided an overview of TPL's role as a pioneer in the pulp industry, integrating modern technology with sustainability principles. The introductory session concluded with a shared lunch, fostering a warm and friendly atmosphere between the academics and TPL representatives.

The agenda continued with a visit to TPL's Central Nursery, the eucalyptus nursery that plays a crucial role in the company's production chain. At the site, the guests were welcomed by the Central Nursery Manager, Kristine Sitompul, who provided a detailed explanation of the nursery process. The academics were guided through each stage, from the introduction of mother plants, cutting techniques in the cutting room, seedling care in the mist house, to mature seedlings in the open area.

"We conduct this process meticulously to ensure that the seedlings produced are of the highest quality before being planted in our operational sectors," explained Kristine. During the tour, interactive discussions took place, allowing the guests to gain deeper insights into TPL's operational practices and the modern techniques implemented.

This visit not only provided new insights for the academics but also opened up discussions on the application of scientific knowledge in supporting the forestry-based industry. The guests expressed their appreciation for TPL's efforts in balancing production needs with environmental conservation.

TPL hopes this visit aligns with the company's vision to continue fostering strong relationships with both local and international academic institutions. Collaborations like this can create a better mutual understanding of the importance of sustainability in the industry. Moreover, TPL aims to build a knowledge bridge that benefits both parties.

Through this visit, TPL demonstrates how synergy between industry and academia can be a key factor in achieving innovative solutions for environmental sustainability.