

## **Cooperation of IPB and National Shallot Council**

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IPB signed cooperation with National Shallot Council in the Meeting Room of IPB Rector, Darmaga Campus, (15/5). In his speech, Rector, Prof. Dr. Herry Suhardiyanto said that it is an honor for IPB to work with the Council because it relates to IPB's consistency - to be a solution to the problems of food and agriculture. Further Rector said that the case of shallot has become more important as some time ago Indonesia was hit by the problem of high prices of shallot in the market. It really makes us aware so that no more higher prices happen in the future.

"For this reason, we have to work together to manage a number of aspects starting from seed, cultivation, post-harvest technology and marketing. The cooperation agreement should be followed up by actions to create a superior red onion, manage proper cultivation, protect crops from plant pests and potential crop failure, including post-harvest handling and right storage technology," said Rector.

In addition, Chairman of the National Shallot Council, Sunarto Atno Taryono said that with the direction of the Minister of Agriculture, the National Shallot Council should immediately work together with IPB. The council hopes that in the import-export period of next year it will be involved in making policies. It is an attempt to make Indonesian farmers prosper. Meanwhile, Head of Fruits and Horticulture Research Center IPB, Prof. Dr.Sobir said that in this partnership IPB will help onion farmers to voice their interests to the government. (Mtd)