

**COMMODITIES**

# Crude palm oil standard set

Univanich Palm Oil Plc (UVAN) will export its first shipment of crude palm oil (CPO) under sustainable standards next month.

The consignment of 1,000 tonnes will be shipped to Europe from its Krabi port in mid-July under strict sustainability standards set by the Round Table for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), Thailand's largest palm oil producer and CPO exporter said in a statement yesterday.

Managing director John Clendon said the shipment will be Thailand's first sale of RSPO-certified palm oil for export, representing another milestone for the Thai palm oil industry.

This international recognition of SET-listed Univanich's ability to meet stringent RSPO sustainability criteria

and the premium price this certified oil can achieve in world markets augur well for Thailand being recognised as a source of premium sustainably produced palm oil, he said.

Univanich's board said the sale is particularly significant for the 160 members of the Univanich-Plaipraya Community Enterprise Group, which was recently recognised as one of the world's first groups of independent small farmers to achieve RSPO certification of its palm oil production.

The sale will encourage other small farmers supplying fruit to the company to seek RSPO certification too, Mr Clendon said.

Shares of UVAN closed yesterday on the SET at 12 baht, up 20 satang, in trade worth 6.44 million baht.