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Malaysia keen to tap lucrative agarwood mart

MALAYSIA is keen to tap the lucrative agarwood market as it has the potential to contribute significantly to the country's economy, said Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar.

"The international trade in agarwood involves hundreds of tonnes worth millions of US dollars annually," he said at the second International Scientific Symposium on Agarwood yesterday.

Wan Junaidi said the Forest

Research Institute Malaysia, an agency under his ministry, has actively conducted research, development and commercialisation of agarwood as well as the needs of the industry to determine the way forward for the industry.

"While the trade and businesses of agarwood create products that benefit users, it also creates jobs that support the livelihood of people both in urban and rural areas," he said.

— *Bernama*