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Mat Nawi Hussin (right) watching his son clean a water inlet pipe at his fish pond in Kampung Lepan Jaya, Gua Musang, yesterday. PIC BY RAMLI IBRAHIM

Fish breeder rues potential losses of RM500,000

GUA MUSANG: A fish breeder in Kampung Lepan Jaya, near here, could incur losses of more than RM500,000 if the hot and dry weather prolongs.

Mat Nawi Hussin, 60, said he had been rearing 100,000 different types of fish for 26 years.

According to him, this was the first time he was facing such a situation.

"Since the drought started more than a month ago, the water level in all eight ponds has receded by 0.5m.

"What's worrying is that if the

situation persists, it can cause 9,000 ikan kelah to die.

"The fish are primed for sale. Each weighs between lkg and 3kg, and can fetch a price of RM200 per kg," he said here yesterday.

Besides ikan kelah, Mat Nawi also breeds 40,000 tilapia, 30,000 catfish and 20,000 tongsang.

He said he was at his wits' end to find ways to overcome the problem of his ponds drying out.

"I hope the authorities can help me resolve this problem."