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**KUALA LUMPUR:** A raid on New Year's day brought down a ketum processing plant that had been operating for three months.

On Jan 1, narcotics policemen from Wangsa Maju raided a house in Setapak, where they found 96kg of ketum leaves, together with processing equipment.

The group running the operation, dubbed the "Ayah Non" syndicate, was also apprehended during the raid on the rented house.

Four men aged between 21 and 56 were arrested. Three of them were the "cooks" who processed the leaves into ketum water.

The mastermind is believed to have six previous convictions, including for processing ketum.



**Big haul:** Datuk Mazlan showing a packet of ketum water during a press conference at the Kuala Lumpur police contingent headquarters. — Bernama

It is believed the group sold the ketum water in 1kg packets, priced at about RM10 each.

Sources said the group mainly received their supplies from Kedah.

City police chief Comm Datuk Mazlan

Lazim said the estimated value of the seized drugs was RM6,376.

"The four suspects have been remanded until Jan 7," he said.

The case is currently being investigated under Section 30(3) of the Poison Act 1952.