BUILD SMART VILLAGE THROUGH FARMERS' ASSISTANCE IN TUNGGUL FARMERS GROUP TO INCREASE FARMERS' WELFARE

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Abstract

Rice is one food crop that has a role in increasing food security. The advantages of rice farming can be obtained by implementing proper management and efficient use of production factors. Gebang is one of the villages in Patrang District, Jember Regency, which has an active and sustainable farmer group for rice farming accompanied by Field Agricultural Extension Officers (PPL). However, during the assistance, the farmer group has never been directed to calculate profits systematically, so it is unknown whether the rice farming carried out is profitable. The farmer group in discussion is the Tunggul Farmer Group member of the Sahabat Farmers Group Association (Gapoktan). The model of this service activity is counseling and assistance in farming bookkeeping. They carried out the service activity in one of the houses of members of the farmer group, namely Mr. Hanan on Teratai Street, Gebang Village, Patrang District, Jember Regency. The participants who attended were 21 people and enthusiastically participated in the counseling. The outreach activities ran smoothly throughout the event. Farmer group members are encouraged to keep books related to their farm income and expenses. This habit is expected during mentoring. The extension material delivered includes the purpose of bookkeeping or recording farming and how to calculate revenue, costs, and profits.

Keywords: Farm Income, Farmer Assistance, Farming Costs.

INTRODUCTION

Agricultural development, especially food crops, aims to increase production. This is useful for meeting domestic food needs and increasing income, the standard of living, and the welfare of farmers. One of the food crop commodities that have a role in increasing food security is rice (Handayani 2017). The high consumption of rice in Indonesia is caused by the assumption of most Indonesians that rice is a staple food that cannot be replaced (Juliet et al. 2013).

According to Kariyasa (2010), lowland rice farming is a source of income and job opportunities for rural communities. The use of inefficient production factors in lowland rice farming will result in low productivity and high costs, which in turn reduces farmers' income. For farmers, farming activities are carried out not only to increase production but how to increase income through the use of production factors, because it is often the case that

additional production factors do not provide the income expected by farmers.

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD

The model of this service activity is counseling and assistance in making farming bookkeeping. Mentoring is a model of community service activities carried out as a continuation of counseling activities accompanied by guidance and direction activities on targets. The method that will be used in this activity is training in making farming books at the Tunggul Farmer Group, Gebang Village, Patrang District.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This service activity was carried out in one of the houses of members of the farmer group, namely Mr. Hanan on Lotus Street, Gebang Village, Patrang District, Jember Regency. The participants who attended were 21 people and enthusiastically participated in the counseling. According to the Head of the Tunggul Farmer's Group, Mr. H. Sanemo, so far the members of the poktan have never received knowledge about profit and loss analysis so this service activity which includes counseling and mentoring is very beneficial for farmers.

The outreach activities ran smoothly throughout the event. Before the presentation of the material began, members of the poktan got acquainted with us, academics from the Muhammadiyah University of Jember and we explained our fields of knowledge which consisted of agribusiness, agrotechnology, and agricultural industrial technology. Poktan members are given the freedom to ask anything about agriculture because our field of knowledge is also in agriculture so they can help provide solutions to problems experienced by farmers.

Poktan members are encouraged to keep books related to their farm income and expenses. Even the smallest income and expenditure must be recorded in the ledger that has been given. If farmers are diligent in writing in the ledger, they will get used to being neat in bookkeeping. This habit is expected during mentoring service activities. Recording in the general ledger can be used to calculate profit and loss or the success of farming.

In addition to recording finances, the ledger can also be used to write material from PPL on the back page. Other important information related to farming is expected to be collected together with financial records. One book will be a complete book for farmers because usually farmers do not want to be complicated in the recording.

After the counseling was over, it was followed by lunch. The atmosphere was warm when the poktan members and we enjoyed the meal. The lunch was deliberately held because the members of the Poktan were indeed at the same time a monthly social gathering, so every month there was a meeting agenda to exchange information and strengthen the relationship.



Figure 1. Submission of materials to the Tunggul Farmer Group Source: Author's documentation



Figure 2. Lunch together after the discussion session to increase intimacy Source:

Author's documentation



Figure 3. Documentation after the series of events is complete Source: Author's documentation

The extension material delivered includes the purpose of bookkeeping or recording farming, and how to calculate revenue, costs, and profits or income. The ratio between

revenues and costs will determine the success of farmers in achieving profits. Farming is said to be profitable if the revenue is higher and costs are getting smaller. We do not emphasize to farmers to be able to drastically reduce costs, but adjust to the conditions of their farming, so all costs should be taken into account so that profits are optimal.

There are two types of farm income, namely total farming receipts and farm cash receipts. Total farm revenue (total farm revenue) is the value of money received from the sale of farm products plus the value of use for family consumption. Farm cash receipts are defined as the value of money received from the sale of farm products (Soekartawi 2002).

In general, farming expenses are also divided into cash expenditures and non-cash expenses or costs are calculated. Expenditures or cash costs are the amounts of money spent on the purchase of goods and services for farming. Meanwhile, non-cash costs are expenses that are not paid in cash, such as the depreciation of equipment and family labor costs (Soekartawi 2002).

As the owner of the labor that has been devoted to farming, the farmer should receive at least the same amount of wages as if the farmer had worked on another farmer's farm. Likewise, as the owner of capital, it is appropriate for the farmer to receive several services or interests which are at least as large as if the capital funds were deposited in a bank (Kamiliah in Hidayat 2013).

CONCLUSION

Extension activities and farmer assistance related to the analysis of farming profits can add new insights and knowledge for farmers. So far, farmers have been able to calculate their farming profits, but they have not been detailed and neat in the recording. For a more professional calculation, farmers can try to enter the costs that should be taken into account. If farmers can analyze cash profits and total profits, the results of the analysis that take into account cash costs can be for self-evaluation and the results of the analysis that take into account all costs can be for consideration for external parties who want to run the same farm.

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