

## Social economic conditions of farming community in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District

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### ABSTRACT

Purpose of this study was to determine and describe the socio-economic conditions of the lowland rice farming community in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District. This study used descriptive qualitative method. This study used 15 community respondents who work as farmers. Collecting data using observation, interview, and documentation techniques. The data analysis technique uses descriptive analysis and is presented in a diagrammatic table. The results of this study indicate that the age of farmers ranges from 40-49 years (53%) including the productive age, the last level of education taken by farmers who graduated from Elementary School (SD) 73%, regarding health facilities according to respondents is feasible (67%), the social interaction between farmers is well established without any obstacles, the income from farming that is obtained in one planting season is around Rp. 10,000,000 - Rp. 15,000,000 (73%), while the total expenditure of farmers, both for farming capital and for their daily needs, ranges from > Rp. 5,000,000 (20%) and Rp. 600,000 - Rp. 1,000,000 (60%) and the number of dependents as many as 3 people.

### KEYWORDS

Socio-Economic Farmers Rice

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### 1. Introduction

The wheels of the Indonesian economy move in various sectors, one of the most dominant sectors is the agricultural sector. The agricultural sector in Indonesia is mostly found in rural areas. According to Sjamsir (2017: 20) "several reasons underlie the importance of agriculture in Indonesia, namely: (1) the potential of its resources is large and diverse, (2) the share of national income is quite large, (3) the large number of people who depend on this sector for their lives. and (4) become the basis for rural growth." "The agricultural sector is one sector that has a major contribution to regional development and the community's economy" (Nganji, et al. 2018). The most important food crop commodity for the Indonesian people is lowland rice. "The commodity of lowland rice is one of the food crops that is very important and has a strategic position as a source of supply of basic plant needs, namely rice" (Puspita, 2019). "Rice is a staple food for more than 90% of the population" (Dahar and Winskayati, 2018). Burano, et al. (2019) explains the definition of a farmer as "a person who is engaged in the agricultural business primarily by managing land with the aim of growing and maintaining rice plants, with the hope of obtaining results from these plants for their own use or selling them to others". Samsudin, (1982 in Pangi et al, 2020) expresses the understanding of farmers as "those who temporarily (temporarily) or permanently (permanently) control a plot of agricultural land, control a branch or several branches of farming and work on their own, either with themselves or hired workers". Rice farmers in Salek Jaya Village manage agricultural land with a rainfed rice system. Rainfed rice fields are rice fields whose water supply depends on rainfall, namely during the rainy season which occurs between October-April. Thus the level of productivity on the land is lower than that of rice fields with irrigation systems. Another problem faced by farmers is the decline in the selling

price of rice. "The selling price of rice at the farmer level is very low while the price of rice in the market is very high" (Listiani et al, 2019). In addition to the decline in the selling price of rice, other problems experienced by rice farmers are capital, sometimes erratic weather conditions and disease or pest attacks. The selling price of expensive pesticides and fertilizers in the market is uncertain so that the production costs incurred by farmers are very expensive. Not a few costs incurred by farmers are higher than net income resulting in a low economic level of farmers so that it affects the socio-economic conditions of rice farmers. "Sometimes the costs incurred by farmers are higher but the net income earned is lower so that most farmers have a low economic level" (Listiani, et al. 2019). "Socio-economic conditions seen from income have an impact on welfare" (Hanum & Safuridar, 2018). In order to increase the level of welfare of rice farmers, it is necessary to study the socio-economic conditions of the community. "Social economics is the position or position of a person in a human group which is determined by the type of economic activity, income and level of education, type of work, and wealth and health possessed" (Abdulsyani, 2002 in Yahya, et al. 2018). For this reason, the researcher describes the Socio-Economic Condition of the Rice Field Farmer Community in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District, which is seen from age, education, health facilities, social interaction, income, expenses, and number of family dependents. From the above background, the author will conduct a study entitled "Socio-Economic Conditions of the Rice Farmers' Community in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District".

## 2. Method

This research was conducted on rice farmers in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District, Banyuwangi Regency. The object of this research is the rice farmers who live in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District, Banyuwangi Regency. In this study using a qualitative descriptive method. Data collection techniques in this study used observation, interviews, and documentation techniques. Interviews were conducted on 15 respondents who were selected using the Random Sampling method, namely the sampling technique of the study was carried out randomly.

## 3. Results and Discussion

### 3.1. Age

"The productive age category is from the age of 15-54 years and the rest are in the non-productive age category" (Soeharjo and Patong, in Yusmel, 2019). The results of the interviews showed that the age of rice farmers in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District, from the results of interviews where there were 27% aged 30-39 years as many as 4 respondents, 53% aged 40-49 years as many as 8 respondents, and 13% aged 50-59 years. as many as 2 respondents and there are 7% aged 60-69 years with 1 respondent.

### 3.2. Education

The level of education of farmers is seen from the last formal education taken by farmers. The latest level of education taken by respondents of lowland rice farmers in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District, that there are 11 people (73%) of the respondent farmers have elementary school education, 3 people (20%) have high school education and only 1 person (7%) has junior high school education. The education level of rice farmers in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District is still relatively low, namely elementary school graduates. The average education taken by the respondents is 11 people (73%) of the respondent farmers have elementary education, 3 people (20%) have high school education and only 1 person (7%) has junior high school education. However, this is not a barrier for rice farmers to increase their farming productivity.

The reality in the field is that most of the lowland rice farmers obtain farming knowledge from personal experience or information from fellow farmers.

### 3.3. Health

"The level of health vulnerability of farmer households can be calculated based on the frequency of treatment in one year" (Selfina, et al. 2019). From the results of interviews with

respondents regarding alternative treatment if they are in an unhealthy condition, most of the paddy rice farmers seek treatment at the midwife or at the Puskesmas.

Based on the respondents' interviews, it can be seen about the health facilities in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District, according to respondents that 10 respondents (67%) said it was feasible, 4 respondents (27%) said it was quite feasible and 1 respondent (6%) said it was not feasible. According to Cx (45 years old) "If I get sick or if my family member is sick, I go straight to the midwife. Because it is ready to serve people who are sick at any time. And in my opinion, the health facilities in this village can be categorized as decent"

### 3.4. Social Interaction

The social interaction that exists in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District, shows that the social interaction that exists between fellow rice farmers and with other communities is well established. From the results of the interviews showed that respondents interacted very well as many as 6 respondents (40%), and respondents with good social interactions were 9 respondents (60). And none of the respondents had bad interactions.

Social interaction between farmers and other communities is well established and there are no barriers to communication. The form of social interaction between rice farmers and the community can be seen from mutual cooperation activities, weddings, and so on.

### 3.5. Income

The income obtained by respondent farmers from farming is to meet the needs of life, both for daily needs or other needs. The results of the interview show that the income level of respondents of lowland rice farmers in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District with a total income of < Rp. 10,000,000, there is 1 respondent or 7%. Total income between Rp. 10,000,000 – Rp. 15,000,000 a total of 11 respondents or 73%. And the amount of income > Rp. 16,000,000 as many as 3 respondents or 20%. The difference in the income of the respondent farmers is influenced by the area of arable land owned.

According to Dx (45 years): "My income from harvests is around Rp. 10,000,000 with a small area of land. In contrast to other farmers who cultivate a large area, the yields will also be large." The same thing was expressed by Gx (46 years old) "The income from farming is around Rp. 10,000,000, it is also still deducted from production costs, fertilizers, pesticides and seeds with a relatively narrow land area, different from other farmers whose incomes are also large".

### 3.6. Expenditure

The level of expenditure of lowland rice farmers in this study is for the cost of farming capital, namely for production costs ranging from plowing the land to the harvesting process and meeting the daily needs of farmers. From the interview, it is known that the respondent's expenditure level for agricultural business capital in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District, is < Rp. 3,000,000 with a percentage of 7%, farmers' expenditures of Rp. 3,000,000 - Rp. 5,000,000 as many as 11 people with a percentage of 73%, and farmer expenditure > Rp.5.000.000 with 3 respondents or 20%. According to Ax (50 years old) "The capital I spend for business capital to plant rice every planting season is around Rp. 2,000,000. The capital is used to pay for plowing the fields, buying pesticides and fertilizers." According to Kx (33 years old) "I spend around IDR 7,000,000 for the initial capital for my farming business. I usually pay after harvest time for plowing fees and Combine-Harvester fees. In addition, for the cost of pesticides and fertilizers. Lowland rice farmers' expenditure for farming capital is at least < Rp. 300.000 as many as 1 respondent (7%) while the largest capital is > Rp. 500.000 as many as 3 respondents (20%).

Meanwhile, for the fulfillment of daily needs, the level of expenditure of respondents to fulfill daily needs in Salek Jaya Village, Air Saleh District, which is Rp. 100,000-Rp. 500,000 totaling 6 respondents or with a percentage of 40%, and 9 respondents with an expenditure of Rp. 600,000-Rp.1,000,000 with a percentage of 60%. According to Hx (31 years old), "Every month to meet daily needs, around Rp. 800,000 is used to fulfill shopping for groceries, snacks for children, transportation equipment. Enough is not enough to be enough." For the fulfillment of daily needs

there are 9 respondents (60%) with expenses of Rp. 600,000-Rp. 1,000,000, while the other 6 respondents (40%) with expenses of Rp. 100,000-Rp. 500,000.

### 3.7. Family Responsibilities

The number of family dependents consists of wives and children who have not been able to earn their own income and are still the responsibility of the head of the family. The results of the interview show that the characteristics of the number of dependents of the family of rice farmers from 15 respondents with the maximum number of dependents are 3 people as many as 10 respondents with a percentage of 67%. Respondents with 4 dependents were 2 respondents with a percentage of 13%. Likewise with respondents with 2 dependents as many as 2 respondents with a percentage of 13%. While the number of dependents is at least 1, namely 1 respondent with a percentage of 7%.

## 4. Conclusion

Based on the results of research and discussion, it can be concluded as follows:

### 1. Social

The social condition of rice farmers in Salek Jaya Village is quite good. In terms of age, rice farmers in Salek Jaya Village are classified as productive age. The average level of education of farmers is only elementary school graduates. The health facilities in Salek Jaya village are classified as decent, this is indicated by most of the respondent farmers seeking treatment at midwives or puskesmas. The social interaction between fellow farmers is very well established, the mutual cooperation nature of them is still attached.

### 2. Economy

The average income level of lowland rice farmers in Salek Jaya village is Rp.12.600.000,- /planting season. The average expenditure for farming capital is Rp.4,500,000,-, while for meeting daily needs the average is Rp.706,000,-. The number of dependents of farmer families is mostly 3 people.

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